

# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3



Students in Stages 2 and 3 spent 3 weeks looking at life in Antarctica and busting Antarctic myths. Students zoomed with experts, conducted experiments, found out about animals and their adaptations, how Antarctica is governed and what life is like in Antarctica.

# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3

## Alexandra Stage 3

**Name:** Shinso Aizawa

**Position:** Energy manager

**Day:** 5 **Date:** 4/8/2001

Me and my cat.

**11:40 AM:** I was sitting at my desk sipping my coffee and writing yesterday's journal entry when my friend Denki strided in. He told me to check the energy box as some lights in the kitchen were flickering. I was not too worried until head director "Hawks" walked in. We call him that because he seems to see everything, even if he isn't interested in it. Hawks started to complain about the bathroom lights being shut down. I thought they were playing a prank on me as they usually do until I peered round the corner and saw for myself that the lights were indeed down. I told them i would go check once my new snow monitor report had finished printing but Denki said he could grab it while i went out. I agreed and headed away with my gear.

**11:51 AM:** I was trudging through the unusually thick snow thinking if Denki could properly get the report without ruining it when I heard a yell. I spun around and saw Tenya (Our safety manager) standing on top of a sinking box. "Ironic" I muttered before I rushed towards him and he gave me a rope. I was trained on what to do in these situations but I hesitated. What if I missed? What if I couldn't save him? What if he sunk? All of these thoughts spun around in my head, after all I had bunked off a few days of the course. It's a miracle I passed but what if I did something wrong? Unfortunately i had no more thinking time because he was now going to sink if i didn't do something soon. I tried to pull him back but I was dragged along because I wasn't strong enough. I was having a silent meltdown when I felt hands on my shoulders pulling me back. I didn't know who it was but thank the anime gods they were there. We both successfully got Tenya to safety. I turned around and it was Denki! He gave me the sheets and I looked at them. I knew some things now so I rushed to the energy box. If that information was true then the power plant may also need work. I ran over to the energy box leaving Denki and Tenya to go tell Hawks about what happened.

**12:01 AM:** I was at the energy box when I noticed some cables had been fried. Looked like they were dipped in water or something like that. I made some calculations and got my tools. I put the wires together with some mechanical tools. I figured that would hold it for now before we could get some new ones. I got up and went to the power plant where I might be able to get some extra energy. On my way I noticed some penguins and some people coming to them. "Lucky" I thought. I wish I got to work with penguins but then I reminded myself that this was a very important job and headed off.



# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3

**12:10 AM:** I finally made it to the power plant. I met my co-worker Jackson. I explained to him that because of recent test results we had to up the work of the power plant. He said he was a bit tired and would help as soon as he had lunch. I dragged him back by the ear explaining to him he just had lunch and pointed to his sandwich box. He laughed nervously and we got to work.

**13:04:** Jackson had to leave because he needed to rest and I couldn't blame him. It was hard work turning cranks, getting oil all over you and tightening things. I wanted him to keep helping but he was already out, this meant I was now gonna have to do it alone. That was fine by me as telling people to do things isn't my strongest skill. Though a bigger thing we had to do required 2 people so I'm not sure how I was gonna pull this one off. Luckily Shoto, our ice researcher was walking by and he said he could give me a hand. I thanked him and we got to work.

**15:00 PM:** I have been working at the plant for the past 3 hours and me and Shoto decided we needed a break when my friend Holly came over. She said that she was going to go sit down as she needed a break and offered me to come with her. I said yes only for seconds later to be called to the kitchen by Denki. It turned out that Hawks was stuck in the ceiling. Pretty usual afternoon as Hawks was always getting stuck in stuff. Denki suggested that we could cut a hole in the ceiling but I reminded him that my office was just above the kitchen.

**15:57 PM:** After about an hour of stupid ideas Hawks fell down from the ceiling straight onto Lilly, our Scatologist. She was helping Holly set up for dinner. Luckily she was ok and only suffered minor bruising. We were all laughing about it until Lilly threw her shoes at Hawks so they would be "even" but I don't think that her bruising was worse than his at the end of the day. After a while we all sat down for dinner and I don't think I've ever had something THIS good!

**20:00 PM:** After a couple hours I decided to go to bed so I could have a refreshed day tomorrow. I said goodnight to everyone and went off. I was in my bed and suddenly realised that I never thanked Shoto for helping me out today. I got up and walked over to his office only to discover that he had spilled his coffee all over some broken cables and started a fire. I noticed the fire extinguisher and immediately sprayed the fire out. He thanked me and I slapped him. "Yeah yeah I get it," he immediately said, rubbing his face. He grabbed the cables with wires and we both left the office. I jumped back into bed, said goodnight to Denki and fell asleep.

**SIDE NOTE:** Never sleep next to Denki again or you will wake up with a splash of cold water all over your face. He may be your best friend but man is he annoying.





# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3

## Journal: By Lucinda Stage 3

*Today is 2nd of April 2001, my name is "Holly Numbet" and my job is a chef.*

### 5:00am:

I woke up with a shock, from that dumb alarm. I had to get up early to prepare some breakfast for all 150 people here. WOW that's a lot of people I thought. I walked down a dark corridor leading to the kitchen. I got straight to work making breakfast. But when I was in the middle of making breakfast my friend "Jeff Jackson" walked by and said "hi" I said "hi" back. But the whole time I was just thinking he must have woken up early too, I wonder why.

### 10:00am:

When I was getting changed into my normal outfit I realised it was warmer than usual due to my feet not being freezing like they always are. I checked and it was -18 degrees. Since it was so warm I did not have suitable clothing for this temperature so I was extra warm. It was a little irritating but sometimes you need to just deal with it.

### 2:00pm:

Since I am a chef I mostly stay inside making food but I got an invitation to go with a guy called "Berg", to go check out some penguins. I was so excited but questioned why he chose me, it's fine I should be grateful. We left by the back door which I have never been to but it was super creepy. We made it out and went to this small snowmobile, it was yellow with white stripes, it had 2 seats and a long track.

### 2:48pm:

It was taking a long time to get there so I started a conversation, he said that the penguins were named "Gentoo penguins" and their scientific name was *Pygoscelis papua*. We were on the vehicle for longer than he said and when I asked he said he thought they were here but they were not so he had to keep looking.

### 3:00pm:

It took an hour but we finally made it and found the Gentoo penguins. I thought they were so adorable. I looked around and saw Jeff Jackson and Shinsod Izowa, they were friends of mine and were fixing a power plant. I sat down at a rock while Berg went to take photos and notes. While he was doing that I waved over to Jeff and Shinsod and they replied with a wave back.

### 3:50pm:

Berg came back up to tell me that he finished, it was good timing because I had to make lunch at 4:30pm and finish by 4:50pm. I got up to go back to the vehicle and left the penguins behind but one feathery friend followed us to the snowmobile and got into the passenger seat. Berg realised and had to get it out so he threw some penguin food in front of the vehicle so that the penguin would go to it. It worked and it jumped out to get the food while I hopped in the seat and shut the door. We left off without hurting the penguin back to base.

# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3

## **4:25pm:**

We got back a little early but I started cooking anyway. I ran to the kitchen opening at least 7 doors. I needed a break so I took a small amount of time to catch my breath then got straight to work. I found Lilly Chabra helping out (she is a friend of mine). I saw that we are surviving frozen tacos or at least cold tacos that's new, I can't wait to taste this out. After 37 minutes of running around making 150 tacos we are done. I tried one and it was good but very cold but not cold enough to make it hard to chew.

## **4:50pm:**

People started to line up, so I quickly got the tacos ready and began to hand them out. In the middle of handing out food I saw Jeff. The problem was that I could not talk because I had a lot to hand out so all we did was smile at each other. After I finished handing out all the food a man came up to me saying that "there is hair in my food", I said "well it can't have been me I am bald". I took off my chef to show him my head. He just looked confused and walked away. That was weird.

## **5:00pm:**

I sat down and talked with my friends while eating the tacos I made and some chocolate. I sat down with Lily, Jeff and Shinsod. We had a nice conversation and we talked about what we did. Lily was putting trackers on whales and collecting seal droppings, Shinsod had to help Tanya lida from sinking into the ocean and Jeff was just fixing a power plant the whole day.

## **6:00pm:**

After an hour of talking I went to my room to call my family and friends. I got to see my daughter, her name is Cherry and she is 8 years old. She was so happy to see me I was too. We talked for 20 minutes but she had to go to sleep and so did I so we said bye. I got ready to go to bed early to make breakfast tomorrow.

## **11:00pm:**

I woke up freezing, I did not have enough clothes so I walked down to the lockers for some more clothes. It was pitch black I could; On the way I think I woke up some people but who cares. I got back to bed and took a nap.

-Holly Numbet



# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3

## Journal Writing - Hannah Stage 3

**Maud Morrison**

**19/06/2020**

My portable alarm went off, making my head spin like crazy. I threw on my usual five layers of clothing, of course different to the day before; the laundry services only happen once each week, plus my snow jacket was slathered with snow and scratches from yesterday's storm-tossed weather. After that I put on my promising thick insulated rain pants plus my pricey helmet, goggles, gloves, scarf and boots. I am ready for the day.

I take a single step outside and a ferocious gush of wind slaps my face, almost making me fall back. It's much colder than I expected, maybe  $-5^{\circ}$  or  $-6^{\circ}$  degrees. Or  $-20^{\circ}$ , I'm not really sure in my thick clothing. It could be  $-1000^{\circ}$ , for all I know. Nah that would be impossible.

There were two penguins outside, Pelly and Otto are their names. How did I know? The penguins have little tags, including their species (both Emperor Penguins), their given names (Pelly and Otto), and their ID numbers (10482427103 and 73472016382). I delicately pat Otto.

Just then I heard a buzzing from my earpiece. I jerked away and listened to what my boss, Dr. Tuttle, had to say. "Meet me at AQ. I'll tell you your mission for today."  
"Yes, Doctor." I replied, and headed off.

As my boots thudded in the heavy snow, I thought of Shackleton's mission and all of the challenges his crew and himself would have faced without modern technology and communication devices to contact people back home.

When I reached AQ, Dr. Tuttle announced our mission: to measure the Ross Ice Shelf. The last measurement had been recorded in 2013. The area was recorded to be around 480,000 square kilometers, and today we would record the new measurements for the shelf.

The pilot, Eric, was standing outside the helicopter. We made our way to the helicopter, and Eric handed us special masks to wear on our mission. They were thick and white, with little 'AQ' logos on them. I asked for two, one to wear on our mission and one to show my daughter when I got home. The helicopter was quite cramped, but I didn't care. There were about 10 seats. I sat in the second one, next to my colleague Patrick.

About 30 minutes later, we had reached the giant shelf. Eric pressed a few buttons on the built-in computer system, and then declared "Okay. The start is marked. Lets go."

# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3

About 4 hours later, we reached the end of the Ross Ice Shelf. Emme, one of our workers, took out her phone and its portable charger and snapped a photo of the view. It was incredible. Eric pressed another button and there was a slight buzzing sound.

"The end is marked. Let me see the results..." Eric said.

"That is... 510,000 square kilometers. Rounded down."

We speeded back to our office. Our AQ helicopter is pretty epic. We discussed our results. The Ross Ice Shelf had somehow.. Grown? We decided to study that another day.

As I was walking home wearing my head torch, I called Jemima, my wife. We call weekly. I discuss how life has been going, and how I would see her and Olivia, our daughter, in just 3 months.

One I get home, I unstrap my headtorch, and take off my mask, goggles, helmet, boots and gloves. I change into full- on fleece clothing and sit down at my laptop. Hotspotting off my phone, I send the results to Google. I post the incredible pictures on FaceBook, then shut my laptop, smiling.

My homemade dinner is stir fry, made especially for this climate. I gobbled it up, then flopped onto my bed and instantly fell asleep.

It's sooo cold.



## **Aarav M Stage 3**

**8th of December 2020**

**Journal entry of Jimmy Long**

Woke up a little late today, after having to help Jake and Rajesh 10kgs of penguin and seal poo in the night (I couldn't imagine where they found all of it).

When I woke up the temperature was around -12 degrees celsius. While I was walking to get breakfast I noticed some penguin poo on the floor "must have dropped it" I said to myself. For breakfast I had porridge and fried fish (I had gotten used to the weird flavour combinations by now).

After breakfast I went straight to the lab to test the stools. In the seal faeces I found something very interesting there had been a drop in the amount of krill they were eating. I asked John Lo to bring me a sample of the water to see if there was a drop of krill in the water as well, he said he would give me the sample after lunch.



# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3

For lunch I had cheese on toast and then everyone was given their chocolate. After lunch I asked John for the sample, he said it was frozen but in peak condition. I went to my lab to separate the krill from the water, then I compared it to data collected previously and I found there had been a drop in the amount of krill in the water as well. Lucas thinks it's because of global warming.

For dinner we had Rajesh's fish curry (it's a little spicy but very tasty) I could see Lucas on the other side of the table choking and asking Jake for some ice-cream (he has no spice tolerance). after dinner I went straight to bed (I was still very tired) and fell asleep.



## Emmylou Stage 3

**Diary of Vanessa Casstelvi - Doctor in Antarctica**

**Date: 7th of June 2009**

Today I woke up at around 7:45 and it was so cold. According to the weatherman, it was -21°C! By the time I had managed to get on my socks, my feet were freezing. On the breakfast menu, today was porridge with berries and brown sugar and for drink hot chocolate and coffee.

My breakfast was short when Jonh rolled his ankle going to seconds. That was the third time this week. He's been complaining about the pain for a while now, and I am going to keep him relaxing and on crutches for at least two weeks. I don't want him to do it again. Besides he's always complaining about the icy wind and bitter cold. Maybe a break will do him some good.☹

Today I was asked to go out with the field team over near a mini crevasse field. They are bringing me as a precaution in case one of them falls in. I am taking a different vehicle to them because if any of them get seriously injured my van has beds and medical equipment. But that means that other than the patient I am the only one that can fit.

As if by magic just as I arrived one of the field team members had fallen into a crevasse. The worst thing I have ever dealt with here in Antarctica was having to amputate 3 fingers but never something like this. While we pulled her out I got more and more worried because the closer she came the worse she looked. From the swelling, in her lower leg, she had most likely broken it. But the even more concerning thing was that she was also very dazed and passed out as we got her halfway up. The rope tightened as she fell further and further away. Eventually, we had lost two more people down the crevasse. Neither of them was as hurt as Ingrid and so they were able to help her out.



# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3

Finally, we got them all up and Ingrid was put in the bed while the others sat in some chairs. I got someone else to drive while I checked Ingrid's vital signs. She looks okay but I don't have much equipment that will be sustainable for long so we have to hurry home.

The even better news is that now I am back at Scotts base there has been an outbreak of food poisoning. Some cases are worse than others. I have now given everyone tablets for the poisoning and Ingrid is taking up a lot of my time and I have to take her into surgery tomorrow for her leg. So no dinner for me. (sigh)

You know, I don't think that I am earning as much money as I should be. I think I'm gonna hire an assistant. While I'm at it I think that I'm going to hire an interior designer as well. The hospital at the moment is just a big room with a couple offices, beds and medical equipment.

xx Vanessa



## Joshua M Stage 3

**The Diary of Caleb Sanders (2, a remake) 8/24/20**

I woke up today wondering what I would be doing, as I swap roles with a bunch of my mates, and I was hoping I would get something to do with the whales, because they are my "spirit animals" as such. I immediately looked for Commander Heather, but I wasn't able to find her until breakfast, at the other side of the base. The base is painted green, and it actually calms some people, as it's the only greenery that exists in the cold white continent. Apparently, she was helping to cook a special breakfast, because it needed her expertise.

At breakfast time, I headed over to the breakfast hall, and there were a lot of people already there and waiting. When breakfast was ready and came out, I was extremely happy! It was scallops, which I didn't even know was possible for breakfast in Antarctica! Everyone heartily dug in, and we all seriously enjoyed the amazing seafood dish. Afterward, Commander Heather made a special announcement. She said that they knew we were going through some tough times, and they were feeling sorry. That's why they were going to make this day the best day for everyone as much as they could! Everyone was so excited, and we were ready to start the day. They decided to not make us go to our pods, and instead assign us to our jobs right there! I knew that I would get to work with whales, so I was hoping I would get the studying assignment out of all the others.

About 5 minutes later, they came to me, at the back of the hall and told me what to do, where to go, and that I was studying whales! "I know how much you like studying whales" Commander Heather said. I couldn't have been more thankful, and I headed off to base sector 34, room 8. This was the only part of the day that I didn't really appreciate. Even though the room was nice, painted like a beach with sand and the sea, and even though I liked the organisation, all the sectors were always so far away from each other, meaning no good communication if anything went wrong with the organisation. I also get the impression that it's a stressful job to organise it, because the organisers are always extremely on-edge, and stressed. I was immediately sent off to

# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3

work with whales (to my enjoyment) with a bunch of my friends, named Alexander, Jack and Joshua. Our task for today was to check up on the whales' diets and see if there was any drop in the krill. If there was/wasn't, we would take action on what was happening and try to read up and study what would happen in the future. My friends were going to take a big role in this, they were going to be helping me record and send it back to base with a hard drive at around 12:00, which is very expensive and a rare model.

We left base with our vehicles, and about half an hour later the ocean was in view. We started off in the ocean, using a special device to check the faeces of whales to see how much of their diet is made up of krill. If it isn't as much as usual, we would need to report to base immediately and find out why it was low. In fact, it was low, and we reported to base and started observing the oceans looking for strange animal patterns, which would be a good place to start looking.

We saw the weddell seals acting strangely at about 11:00, and we went over for a closer look. It looked like they were going crazy, doing backwards and forwards everywhere, dancing around the seabed, so we suspected that the weddell seals might be eating krill. We brought out our faeces checking device again and slotted some seal faeces into it, which are easy to see in the ocean compared to the seabed and water. We found something interesting; they were not eating krill. They were eating undiscovered animals, and they were the ones eating the krill. We reported to base immediately, leaving Alex to make sure nothing changes and to attempt to collect some of the strange creatures. Commander Heather immediately came with the top "ologists' of each profession, and we set out to look for the place Alex was staying at.

We came back, and instantly remembered that he was going to have to get in the water, and it was -17.2 degrees outside. We round the mountain next to the ocean, look into the ocean, and after a bit of scouring, we see him, mildly wet with a huge grin on his face. I rushed over, and he told me that he caught some of the animals, and we were all ecstatic. We rushed back to home base, and quickly had an amazing lunch. The lunch at 2:00 (a late lunch) was a dish called 'Gratin Dauphinois', which is made out of milk, cream, potatoes, meat of your choice and vegetables. Commander Heather announced our find, and everyone cheered! We were all going to head out to the lab, and find the findings and see what they look like, their eating habits, and other things about them. We discovered some intriguing findings, and most people wanted to help search more. Commander Heather asked us to go back and get more samples, if possible, and we quickly agreed and rushed out. We couldn't find any more at first, but eventually we found a whole swarm of them. We collected lots of samples, and even found a bit of the faeces (supposedly).

We headed back to base and found a huge crowd of people. We wondered what was going on, and Commander Heather said "Congratulations Caleb, Alex, Jack and Joshua! You have found a new form of sea life, which has answered many questions about krill and the consistency of it. Now it's time for you to name it, if you would like to!" This was at about 5:00, and I was tired, so I looked to confer with my friends, and we decided to name it Acinkost bluthira, or sea cat. We were quite happy with the decision, and we decided to tell the rest of the world about our discovery. We first told the governments, then the news agencies (which would tell the citizens) and then almost everyone will know. It was time for dinner now, and we were told we were going to have homemade pizza, which is the best type of pizza. The chefs did not disappoint, and brought out the tastiest pizza you have ever seen. It was seafood pizza with smoked salmon over the top, and we all ate heartily. We really enjoyed it, and were able to eat every single pizza, 1 per person. We were wondering when our family box of chocolate would come out, because it would normally come out right after we finished dinner, but it was 10 minutes after and there was no sign of the chocolate. We decided to wait, and it's good that we did, because there was a huge

# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3

surprise coming up very soon. We saw Commander Heather came out of the kitchens, and looked very excited. That was because the kitchens had made an amazing fondant chocolate cake, and that followed her out! We were all very excited, and when they placed it down on the table, I did not hesitate to cut it for everyone, and nobody objected. We all really enjoyed it, because it was like molten chocolate in the middle, which we didn't even see as possible. Afterwards, we were told that we would be doing something special in the night, and oh boy were we. We were going to go outside and organise the base, which was our favourite chore to do (we all had to do 1 chore every day after dinner, to help the base run smoothly). We really liked it because it was fun to be looking through due to the effortlessness of it, and sometimes we see something interesting. It certainly beats shining the silverware, which is most of our least favourite chore. We stayed organising until 9:30 (about 2 hours!), at which time we went to have showers, and eventually got into our bunk beds at 10:00. It was one of the long days (days here can range from a 6am - 9am start, and a 8pm - 11pm finish) but a good day overall. I'm looking forward to tomorrow, who knows, it might be another surprise day!



## Isadora Stage 3

### Journal Writing-Antarctica 1

It was 2016, we were walking through the coldest place on earth! Then the crew and I realised we were on the Ronne Ice Shelf. We found a mother penguin that has lost her baby. So we got out our compasses in case we would get lost and searched along with icy caves and tall mountains. We found the baby penguin happily with her mum again. On my daring journey with my crew as we continued, some of us got snow blinded so luckily we had the rope to lead each other.

When we got to the cabins, we had frozen vegetables. I was a bit annoyed! Soon we put on our goggles and our gloves and went skiing! We saw some penguins on the way up the mountain and eventually got to the tip of the mountain. It took ages to get up and down the mountain. After I and my crew went on thin ice without noticing so I fell in although they got me out in time and so I twisted my ankle?!

When my ankle got better, we decided to hike on the icebergs and went for a treasure scavenger hunt, with a compass and a map, FUN! Then we met a new person called Rob. He actually knew a lot about Antarctica. (UNEXPECTED?) He joined our crew and had a bonfire with marshmallows! A penguin asked to join us and then went back to his family. CUTE! The next day we travelled to a place called Palmer Land. We had the BEST fun ever.

Isadora signing out for now.....

# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3

## Journal Writing-Antarctica 2

Hi again, me **Isadora**. So far we've been working on the animals in Antarctica. When we were walking through the crystal it started to get gusty. The wind felt like it was swirling right in front of us. So we travelled back to our cosy tents and had Frozen milkshakes! When the wild blizzard was over we saw other crowds looking around but then 1 of the people fell in the delicate ice so we helped the person get out in time and comforted them.

The next day we went hiking on steep mountains and went skiing with our sizzling goggles and gloves. I think it was about -32 degrees or -95 degrees for all I care. The deadly wind whipped me so hard again but still made it up the mountain. Although realizing it took 1 hour to get up the mountain and took ½ an hour to get down the mountain by SKIING! It was so tiring but fun.

Back at the tents, we played *cold* games as in running but still cold. We went fishing at the lake. The frozen lake to be sure. Only because we ran out of food because the rest all froze!!! When we were fishing, Rob fell in the icy water! Well, almost. Only his legs got in but saved himself luckily. We wanted to run away from the Emperor Penguin that was chasing us! ANNOYING! It even got one of the fish we caught. Don't worry, we're all fine. The fish was yummy and the whole trip was an amazing experience!

See you for now...



## Issac B

### Monday 14th of August 2019

Crikey! I wake up to a chill down my spine. I checked the thermometer, it's -12 Degrees. I put on my three layers (not including the thermal) and went downstairs for breakfast. I arrived in the kitchen and the smell of baked beans flooded my nostrils. Sammy (the cook) greets me as I go up to the counter. I walk to the paleontologist table and sit down. I am greeted by my fellow colleagues, "Morning Banjo!" they all say cheerfully. "Morning" I replied. I take my first bite of the beans, they are warm and it's like sunshine going down my throat. "Man, breakfast is good this morning" says Henry (one of my colleagues). "Come on guys, we need to be at the dock by ten" I tell them. They ignore me and keep eating.

After breakfast, my team and I headed to the dock (We arrived on time) to sail to a new found iceberg. It's believed to have preserved some remains of animals dating back to the ice age! We all board the ship at 10:15. I ask the captain how long the journey will take. "Roughly 1 hour" he replies. I head back to the team. "It's going to take roughly one hour." I told the team. We arrived at the site at 11:15. We all hopped out of the ship and walked to the digging site. We started work at 11:30. After half an hour of solid digging, we hadn't had



# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3

any signs of fossils. We had lunch at 12:00pm. For lunch was a vegemite sandwich and some salad. We got back to work at 12:15pm. At 12:45pm I started to see something deep in the ice. I alerted the team and they all came over and started digging. At 1:20 pm we had gotten closer to the animal and saw that we had only uncovered roughly less than half of it. By 2:00pm we had uncovered about half of it. We left the site at 3:00 pm. We boarded the ship at 3:15.

We arrived at the dock at 4:15. We came inside and got changed out of our gear. At 4:30 we had gym class. It was really hard .Gym class finished at 5:30. At 6:00 was the free period. At 6:30 was dinner. For dinner was spaghetti bolognese. I was starving. It's important that we eat a lot of carbs so we don't get sick and we have lots of energy. Dinner finished at 7:00. We had wind down time until 8:00. We got to write down notes about the mission until 9:00 lights out.



## Journal of Rebecca Baldini - Michaela Stage 3

Scientist in Antarctica

19/7/09 -21°C

Dear Journal,

Today was a freezing day in the middle of winter. I rugged myself up and took a deep breath. Today was the day of the arrival of the ice test results. We had sent the ice sample to a laboratory in Britain 2 weeks ago. The results could tell us how much pollution was in the air before we settled here.

On the way to the lab, I bumped into Greg, My super annoying lab assistant. He had slipped on some ice a week ago and could now "Not sit at a desk doing tests all day" but he could complain a lot. ☹️Now he just limps around, generally being a nuisance.

When I got to the lab everyone was crowded around a letter on the table. Trembling, I stepped forward and opened it up. It said the results were 80 percent less! There was a lot less pollution in Antarctica before we arrived. Our hypothesis was correct!

At dinner, we had a massive celebration and everyone ate their chocolate bars, grinning happily. I was ecstatic! We now knew that we had to reduce our carbon footprint to see if we can get it back to when we first got here. What a brilliant day full of important scientific discoveries.

Goodnight journal! ☺️



# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3

## Journal Writing - Stage 2

### Kurt

**Day 3.** I went to Ross Ice Shelf in our ford van pickup truck. We almost fell in a crevasse we had to shelter down on the coms. Jim said a storm was coming. We hunkered down during the storm it was so cold it was -30 degrees. The storm is over, let's get back to base. With the ice shelf moving slightly that was a long night let's go to bed.



### Imogen

**Day 1.** I cannot believe I am here in Antarctica! I collected bacteria in the ice and we did lots of research. The weather report is -23c. I am also working on ice cores and what we have found is amazing! We have found the top is near to present, the middle in World War I, and the bottom was the past. Today was fun! We found some fossils of plants that dinosaurs ate on Panga and Gwandana. P.S. It was my birthday. We had some cake and sang Happy Birthday. We had a snowball fight. It was fun until someone (me) threw yellow snow at someone else. They threw one back! Best birthday ever!



### Eiki

Zoom Zoom! The deflatable boat was going really fast. We were going to track whales today. We were hoping to find a baby whale but we couldn't find any. Instead we found a blue whale. It had a greyish, blue body and a big mouth and small black eyes. We put a tag on it while it was logging. It was freezing today. I wore a lot of layers to keep me warm. It was minus 20. We went back to shore and ate lunch. We had a delicious lunch which was cheese and ham sandwiches. Then we went to the penguin's area and picked up the penguin poo to see what they ate. We bought the penguin poo back to the lab so the lab people can study what they eat. Afterwards we went to see the baby seals. We took videos to record the sounds of the baby seals. We used the GoPro and put it in the water to take a video. We also study the Sea Lions. We also pick up the Sea Lions poo to see what they eat. Sea Lions can get aggressive and angry. We bought the Sea Lions faeces back and headed back to the tents.



# Antarctic Wrap Up

LLV STAGES 2 & 3

## Ellen

I research Weddel seals, a type of seal that lives in Antarctica. I was sitting behind a rock, looking at a group of seals. One cub came right up to me. It started trying to eat my coat. It was 4 weeks old. Next, I observed the adult seals catching fish in the freezing water dotted with ice. A mother seal waddled out of the sea and was carrying a cod fish in her mouth. I watched as a mother seal fed it's young cub. It was a large seal, at least 405 kilograms. It lay on the ground with its cub sucking at it. I crept up to it, careful not to make noise. I quickly slipped a tag onto its tail and crept back to my rock. "Brrr it's chilly!" It's only minus 15 I was wrapped up in bundles of coats, plus thermals as well.

I take a look at their swimming and migration patterns and how they reproduce. Humans have a lot to learn about Antarctica and its inhabitants. I sometimes have to do stuff like approach a leopard seal to clip on a tag to monitor it's behaviour and location, or collecting poop samples to see what seals eat.



## Charlie

I woke up at 3:45 AM to start a hard day's work. It was so -12c so I put my layers on, and ate breakfast. After breakfast, I gathered my crew to collect the equipment that we would need to study penguins.

After I had gathered my crew and we had the equipment that we would need, we hopped in the snow truck and set off to find some penguins. After what felt like three hours we found a MASSIVE waddle of them! There must've been HUNDREDS! My crew and I set the cameras up to record the footage. Our purpose of researching penguins is to work out what they eat and why they eat it.

About five mins later a massive leopard seal leapt out of the water and came crawling towards us. The penguins waddled away, and so did we. Luckily, leopard seals are really slow on land so we had time. I snapped a shot and continued to back away. "Wow what a magnificent creature," I said to myself.

A couple of hours later and we found the same waddle of penguins, this time they came right up to us, they had no problem with us clipping tags onto them. In fact they even followed us when we were leaving!

