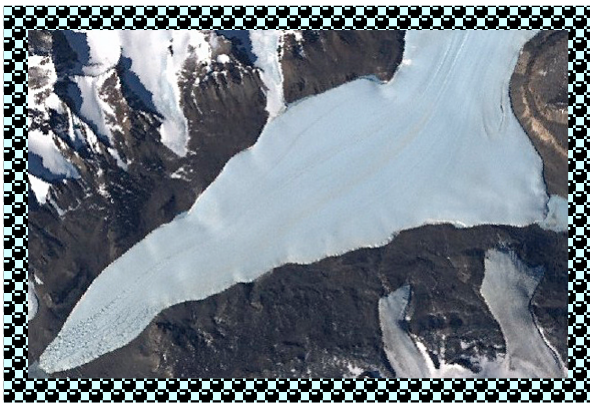


THE TAYLOR GLACIER

By: Bianca, Nate, and Savita

The Taylor Glacier is an Antarctic glacier that is roughly 31 miles (54 kilometers) in length. The Taylor Glacier covers a vast amount of area. To us, it seems as if it is wedged between collections of mountain ranges, slowly creeping onward. Its peculiar shape is revealed because of the way the collection of mountains and valleys are naturally arranged, and the glacier falls right in the gaps and patches. The snow blanketing the surface of the glacier is blown off and will eventually evaporate, depicting a layer of ice tinged with blue.

Below are various images of the Taylor Glacier:
(L-R: Aerial view & side aerial view)



This tough glacier flows from



the plateaus of Victoria Land in

Eastern Antarctica to the western boundary of the Taylor Valley; this is north of the Kukri Hills. Its exact location is $77^{\circ} 44.1'S$, $162^{\circ} 10.7'E$.

Taylor Glacier is here:



There are many reasons why this ice feature is interesting. The first reason is that the mountains are still moving closer together today. Another reason is that the mountains fit together naturally. The last reason is that the snow on the surface of the glacier will eventually blow off, revealing a layer of blue tinged ice.

We think that before the Ice Age, Antarctica was a much warmer place, and water filled the area between the mountains and valleys. Then, the Ice Age started, and that water froze.

Ever since, Antarctica has been too cold for that glacier to melt.



We should continue to further investigate this area for many reasons. We could find out more about the blue tinged ice and how it is caused. Also, we could find out how the mountains and valleys surrounding the Taylor Glacier are moving closer together and how it will affect the well-being of the Taylor Glacier. Finally, we should study exactly how long the Taylor Glacier will last before the mountains and valleys crush it.

**Franklin Regional Middle School
Murrysville, PA**

