By: Jesse, Dakota, Matthew, David Wren Middle School, SC



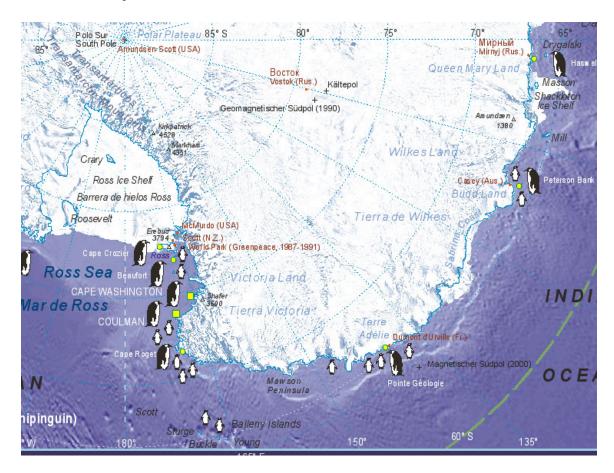
Ross Ice Shelf

Ross Ice Shelf is the biggest Antarctic ice shelf. It is located in the Ross Sea: 81°30'S 170°00'W. Ninety percent of the floating ice shelf is under water. It was claimed by New Zealand, and was named after Captain James Clark Ross. He had discovered it on January 28, 1841.

Some of the reasons it is interesting is because it is the biggest piece of floating ice in the world, and it is about the size of France. We think there is much to learn about this massive piece of ice. It was originally named the Ice Barrier, because it blocked people from sailing further south. It is between 15 and 50 meters above the surface of the water.

The glaciers are melting away, and they are accumulating and freezing together to form ice shelves like the Ross Ice Shelf. Over time it has built up to form a massive ice shelf.

We think our research should be funded because the Ross Ice Shelf may collapse at any time and cause a dramatic affect on sea levels. It has collapsed before and it could collapse again. So if more people work to prevent this, it might have a prominent affect on global warming. But if nothing is done about it, global warming will continue to raise sea levels over 200 feet just from the Ross Ice Shelf itself.



Citations

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ross Ice Shelf

http://www.commondreams.org/headlines06/1201-01.htm
http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/510126/Ross-Ice-Shelf