

ANTARCTICA DAY 2011



ANTARCTICA DAY – DECEMBER 1ST was inaugurated in 2010 to celebrate the 1 December 1959 signature of the *Antarctic Treaty*, which was adopted "*with the interests of science and the progress of all mankind.*" Antarctica Day was initiated by the *Foundation for the Good Governance of International Spaces* (www.ourspaces.org.uk) as an annual event to build global awareness of this landmark institution, celebrating this milestone of peace in our civilization with hope and inspiration for future generations.

With a vision for young people to be aware of how countries can build on their common interests – Antarctica Day is an opportunity to demonstrate how diverse nations can work together peacefully, continuously using science as a global language of cooperation for decision making beyond national boundaries.

Launch a Virtual ‘Peace’ Balloon – As with Antarctica Day 2010, launch a virtual ‘peace’ balloon so that we can see who is celebrating Antarctica Day worldwide (<http://apecs.is/antarcticaday/>).

Plan Antarctica Day Activities for Your Classroom, School or Community – Build your own map of Antarctica; draft a ‘peace’ treaty for your school; discuss the importance of polar science; showcase polar library books; adapt your playground as the Southern Ocean teeming with whales, seals and other marine life; or discuss an episode of the recently-released *Frozen Planet* series from the BBC (http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b00zj1q5/Frozen_Planet_To_the_Ends_of_the_Earth/).

Check Out Teaching Resources – Teaching resources about the Antarctic Treaty and the south polar region are available on many websites, including the: Association for Polar Early Career Scientists (<http://apecs.is/education-outreach/antarctica-day/resources/>), the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (<http://www.scar.org/about/capacitybuilding/antarcticeducation/>) and each of the 48 national Antarctic programmes (http://www.ats.aq/devAS/ats_parties.aspx?lang=e).

Learn from International Experts – Watch videos, listen to speeches and read comments from experts around the world who shared their insights at the golden anniversary celebration of the Antarctic Treaty at the Smithsonian Institution on 1 December 2009 (<http://www.atsummit50.aq/>), celebrating the first fifty years of the 1959 *Antarctic Treaty*.

Join a Live Interactive Antarctic Day Event on December 1st from Antarctica!! – To join this special webinar, register through PolarTREC (<http://www.polarrec.com/polar-connect>).

