

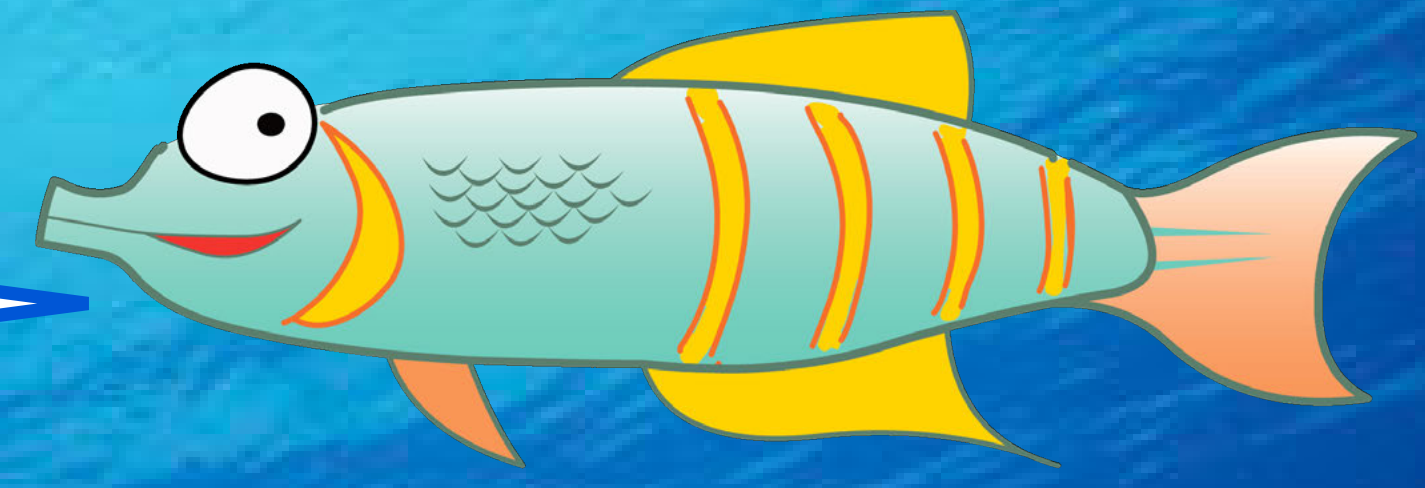
Under the Sea

Learning Objective:

To find out about the geographical features of oceans.

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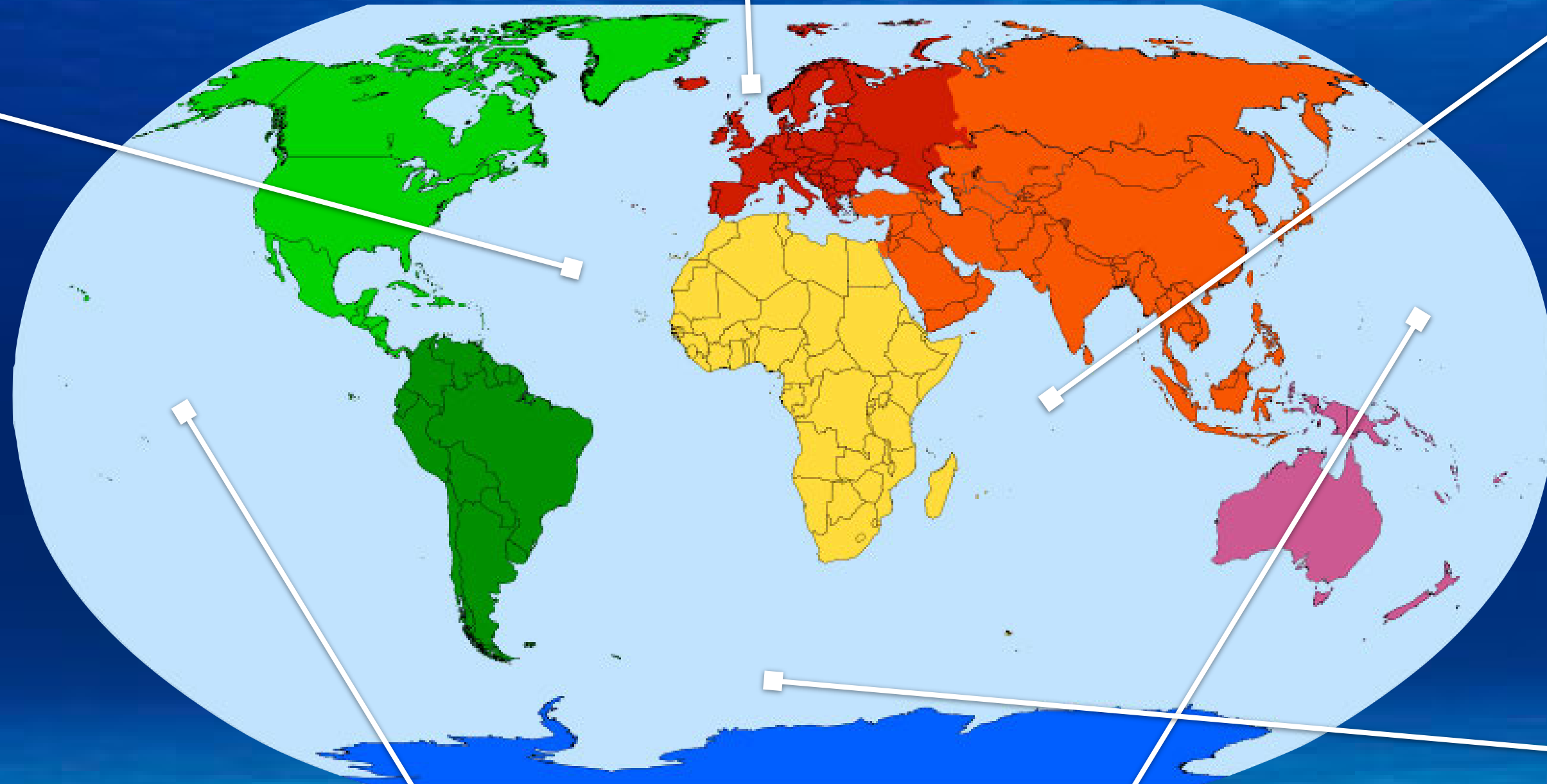
Can you remember the names of the 5 oceans and where they are in the world?



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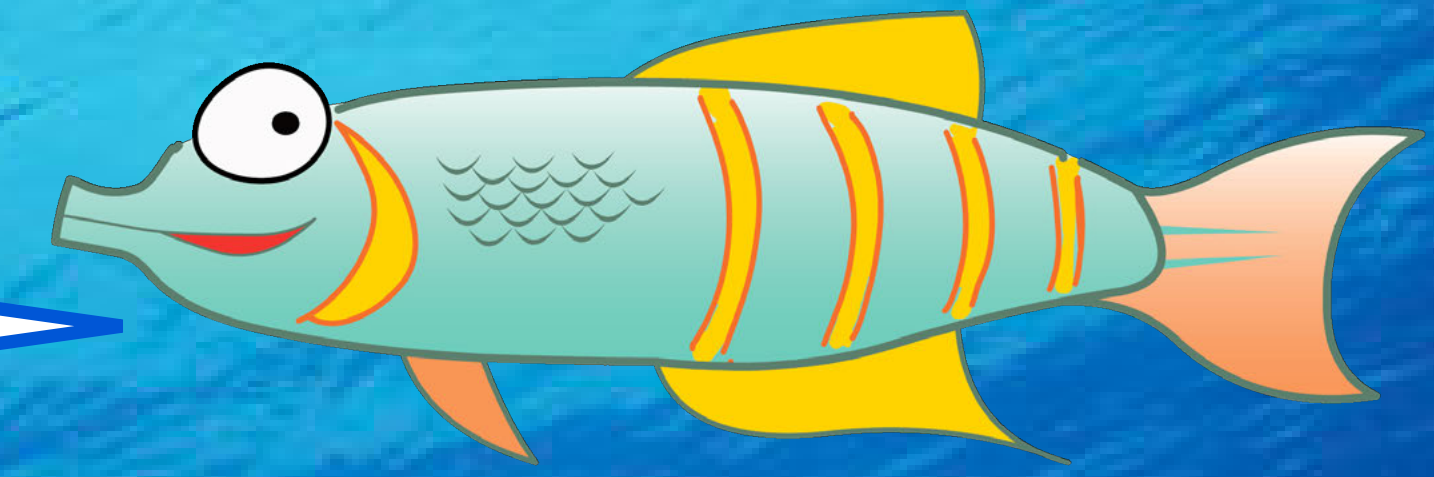


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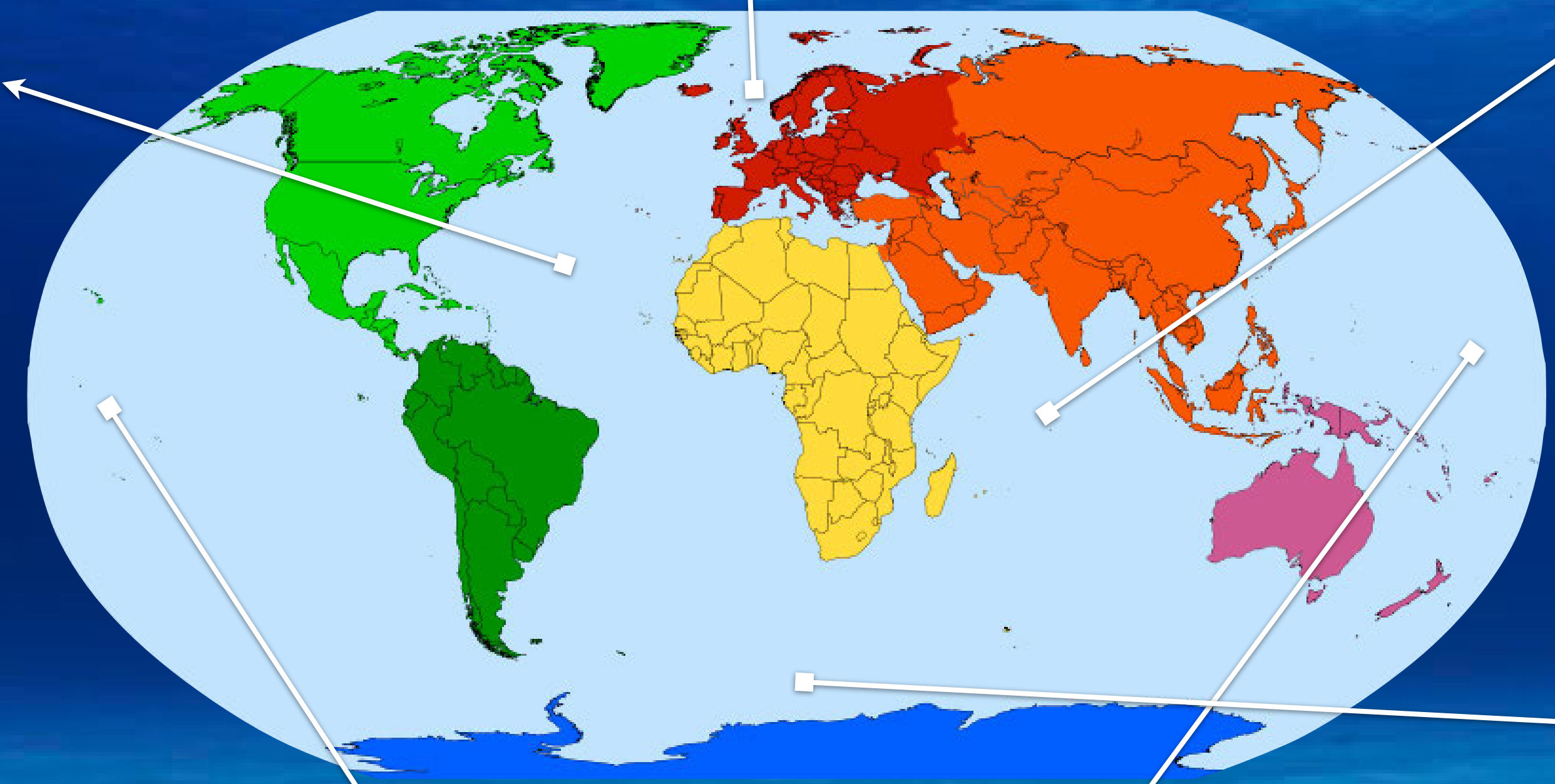
Were you right?!



Arctic Ocean

Indian Ocean

Atlantic Ocean



Southern Ocean

Pacific Ocean

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The average temperature of the world's oceans is around 17°C but the surface temperature of the water depends on where in the world it is. The world is split into the northern and southern hemispheres by an imaginary line called the equator.



The equator is the warmest point on earth. As you get further north or south from the equator the temperature cools.

Which oceans do you think will be the warmest?

Which oceans do you think will be the coldest?

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The Pacific Ocean

The Pacific Ocean is the largest ocean in the world and has an area of 165.2 million km². If you put all the land in the world together, the Pacific Ocean would still be bigger!



The equator divides the Pacific into the North Pacific and the South Pacific. The Mariana Trench is the deepest point in the Pacific Ocean and has a depth of 10,911m. That is the same as nearly 2000 double decker buses!

Water temperatures in the Pacific can vary from freezing (0°C) where the Pacific meets the Arctic to around 30°C at the equator.

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The Atlantic Ocean

The Atlantic Ocean covers about 20% of the Earth's surface and makes up about 26% of the water in the world. It has an area of 106.4 million km².



The deepest point of the Atlantic Ocean is the Puerto Rico Trench which is 8,800m deep. This is the same as around 2666 African elephants standing on top of each other! The Atlantic is the saltiest ocean in the world because of the low rainfall and high temperatures in tropical areas.

Water temperatures in the Atlantic Ocean can vary from -2°C to around to around 30°C near the equator.

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The Indian Ocean

The Indian Ocean covers an area of around 73.6 million km² and accounts for 20% of the water on the Earth's surface. At its widest point, the Indian Ocean stretches nearly 10,000km.



The Indian Ocean is the warmest ocean in the world with the minimum temperatures being 22°C and reaching around 32°C. The monsoon climate of the Indian Ocean means that there are often bad storms, especially during the summer.

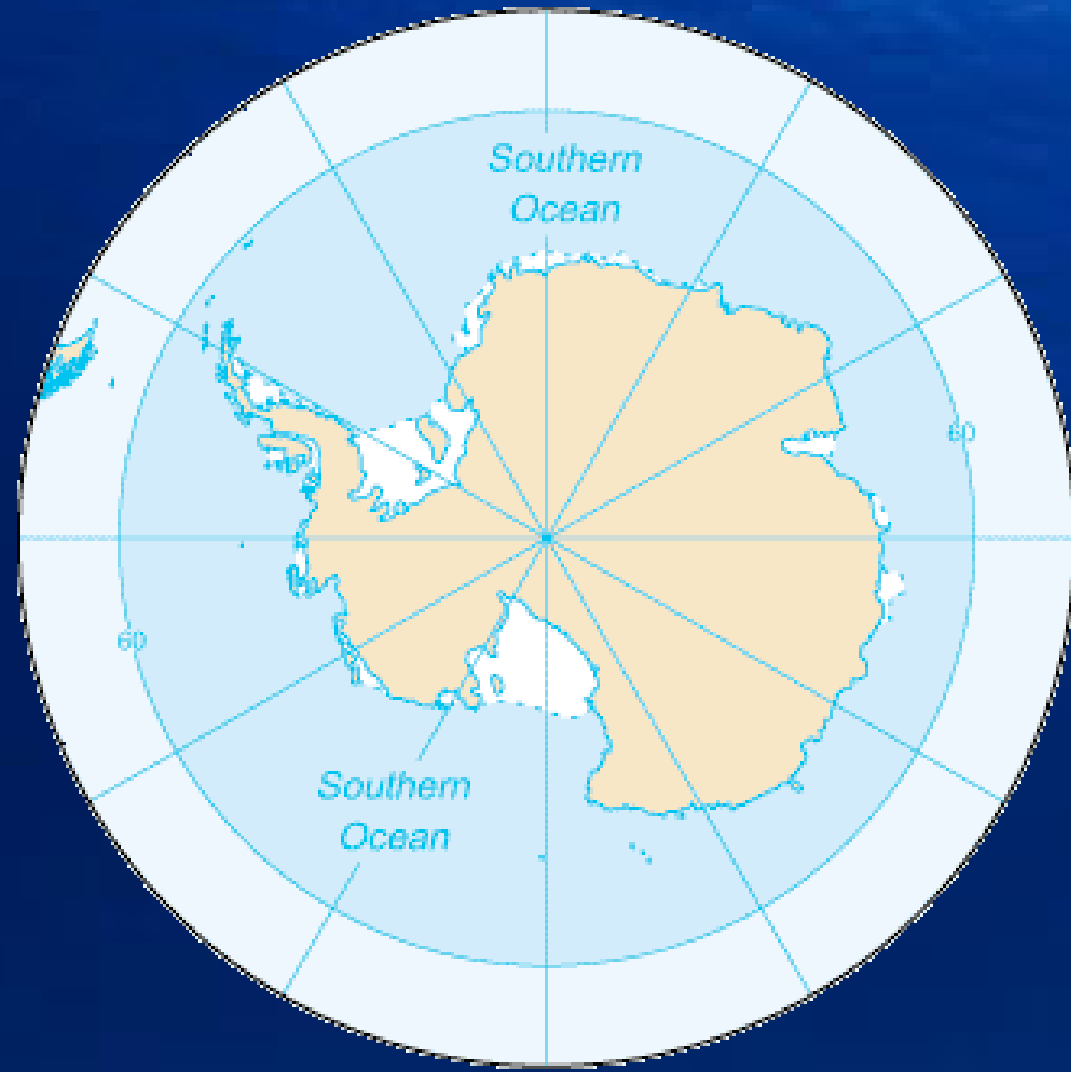
The deepest point of the Indian Ocean is the Java Trench which is 7724m deep. This is the same as 24 Eiffel Towers!

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The Southern Ocean

The Southern Ocean, sometimes known as the Antarctic Ocean, covers an area of 20.327 million km² and completely surrounds the continent of Antarctica.



The Southern Ocean is a deep ocean and has very few shallow areas. The deepest point of the Southern Ocean is 7235m at the southern end of the South Sandwich Trench. This is the same as 1249 giraffes standing on each other's heads!

Temperatures in the Southern Ocean vary from -2°C to 10°C. The low temperatures mean that there are often icebergs in the Southern Ocean.

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The Arctic Ocean

The Arctic Ocean covers an area of 14.056 million km² and is the smallest of the oceans. Some people don't even consider it as an ocean in its own right but call it the Arctic Sea.



The deepest point of the Arctic Ocean is the Arctic Basin which is 5625m deep, the same as 41 London Eyes! Because the Arctic Ocean is the most northern ocean it is very cold and a lot of the water is covered by ice for most of the year.

Temperatures in the Arctic Ocean do not vary as much as they do in most other oceans but stay around the freezing point.

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A chart showing the areas of the 5 oceans

Arctic Ocean	Atlantic Ocean	Indian Ocean	Pacific Ocean	Southern Ocean
14.056 million km ²	106.4 million km ²	73.6 million km ²	165.2 million km ²	20.327 million km ²

Can you order the oceans from largest to smallest?

Largest



Smallest

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



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