**Animal Antipodes**

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Guided Reading Level J

Lexile 351; Grade Level Equivalent 3; Grade Level Interest 1-5

Next Generation Science Standards: 3-LS2 Ecosystems: Interactions Energy, and Dynamics; 3-ESS2 Earth's Systems; 3ESS3 Earth and Human Activity

Teks Grade 2, 110.13, 112.13; Grade 3 110.14, 112.14; Grade 4 110.15, 112.15

CCSS skills: Literacy, Foundational, Writing; CCSS strands RF3,4,5,6, RL3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4.3.5, 3.6, 3.9, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.9, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.9, W3.3, 4.3, 5.3, 6.3

**Some facts about antipodes:**

The distance between any two opposite points on earth is 10,800 nautical miles or 20,000 kilometers.

Most antipodes are oceans. Only 15% of any land area has an antipode that's also on land. The biggest atipodal land regions are the Malay Archipelogo, which is the antipode of the Amazon Basin, eastern China and Mongolia, which are the antipodes of Chile and Argentina, and Greenland and the Canadian Arctic Archipelago, which are antipodes of East Antarctica.

Most of Africa has antipodes in the Pacific Ocean. Most of the United States has antipodes in the Indian Ocean. Most of Europe has antipodes in the South Pacifc Ocean, off the coast of Australia. East Asia and South America are the regions with the most land antipodes.

Just as antipodes are opposites on the globe, they're opposites in time and seasons, so noon in one place is midnight in its antipode, and midsummer in one is midwinter in the other (except in the tropics). Sunrise and sunset are not quite opposites due to the refraction of sunlight, but they're pretty close.

Antipodes comes from the Greek and means literally “opposite feet.” The concept was first described by the ancient Greeks, or by one famous ancient Greek, the philosopher Plato in his dialogue “Timaeus.” Aristotle, Strabo, Plutarch, and Diogenes Laertius all write about antipodes. Medieval artists thought this meant that people living on the opposite side of the world had feet growing out of their heads.

**Non Fiction Narrative:**

Themes: Day and night, seasons, life science, behaviors, characteristics, predator and prey

How are the themes introduced and developed in the book? Break down each page and describe what it shows. What are the facts that are introduced?

What do you learn about the planet Earth?

What do you learn about the seasons? About day and night?

What do you learn about different environments?

What do you learn about animals' adaptations to their environments?

Did you see your antipode? Where is it?

Format: How does the unique format of places work when you have to turn the book upside down to read?

**Antipodes Activities:**

Where can you find maps of antipodes?

Where can you find lists of them?

Which countries have land antipodes?

Find the antipode of where you live and draw a picture of it.

Pick a pair of antipodes and research what animals live there.

Are there animals that live in only one place on earth, like the freshwater Baikal seals?

Do any animals live in opposite places?

Draw your own pair of antipodal places for this book based on your research.