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Life in the Ice

Scientists studying glaciers in the Arctic have been surprised by the variety of lifeforms they have discovered there. Thought to be almost lifeless ice blocks it's now been discovered that they are teeming with microscopic life.

These icy ecosystems can contain thousands of different species of bacteria, algae, viruses and fungi that are dormant through the frozen winter and come to life as the glacier ice melts in the summer.



Glaciers are huge blocks of ice that gradually move towards the ocean.

What is a glacier? **Glacier Ecosystems** **The importance of glaciers**



Singapore's Green Plan is an ambitious initiative to combat climate change.

The Singapore Green Plan

Singapore is a small island country in Southeast Asia with the third highest population density in the world. In the last 30 years it's population has doubled to just over 6 million.

Despite its high population Singapore is determined to become one of the 'greenest' countries in the world and the government has set out an ambitious 'Green Plan' to get them there by 2030.

Singapore officials have learnt the lessons from the past when parts of the country were very polluted and there was a severe lack of natural resources available.

About 30 years ago work began to clean up water supplies, develop sewer systems and start replacing trees that had been lost in the past.

Since 2008 'green building' practices have been mandatory, vertical and rooftop gardens are the norm and ambitious tree planting programmes have been very successful.



Vertical gardens are a way to create green spaces in heavily populated areas.



All building in Singapore is regulated by green building acts.

Singapore's Green Plan

Becoming Greener

There have been suggestions that Singapore's green plan isn't as sustainable as it suggests. Critics have accused Singapore of 'greenwashing'. What can you find out? What do you think?

Think about where you live. How 'green' is it? What could be done to make it greener? Whose responsibility is it to make decisions about our environment? How could you influence those decisions?