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Under the Ice



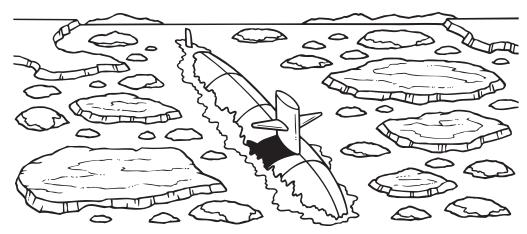
It was July 22, 1958. Anderson was a captain. He was in the navy. He looked at the ice. It was not even. It was ragged. It looked mean. Still, Anderson did not turn back. He told his men, "Go."

The men were in the Arctic Ocean. The Arctic Ocean is the smallest ocean. It is very cold. It is so cold that the top freezes. The top becomes a sheet of ice. The ice sheet floats on the water. It is thick. It covers the North Pole.

The Arctic warms up a little bit in the summer. Some of the ice melts. It gets thinner. The ice sheet breaks up. It breaks up into big pieces. The pieces drift. They drift apart. Rivers form between the pieces. Lakes form between the pieces. In the winter, they freeze into one big sheet again.

Anderson was captain of a navy submarine. He and his men were going under the ice. They were going to go under the North Pole. They had tried before. They had to turn back. Now, they were going to try again. No one had ever gone before. It took days. The days were full of danger. They had to thread their way. They thread their way through the ice. They could not let the ice hurt the submarine.

The ice was not even. It was ragged. Some ice went 8 feet down into the water. Some ice went 80 feet down! The captain used sonar. Sonar works by using sound waves. The sound waves bounced off of the ice. It told the men where the ice was. The captain and his men made it! They were the first to go under the North Pole. They were the first to come out the other side.



Under the Ice



After reading the story, answer the questions. Fill in the circle next to the correct answer.

- 1. This story is mainly about
 - (a) ice
 - (b) the Arctic Ocean
 - (c) Anderson and the navy
 - (d) going under the North Pole
- 2. What is true about the Arctic Ocean?
 - (a) It is the warmest ocean.
 - (b) It is the smallest ocean.
 - © In the winter, some of the ice melts.
 - d In the summer, big ice pieces freeze into one sheet.
- 3. Think about how the word *thick* relates to *thin*. What words relate in the same way?

thick: thin

(a) ice : melt

(b) captain : man

c ragged : even

(d) sonar : sound

- 4. How far did some ice go down?
 - (a) 6 feet
 - (b) 68 feet
 - © 80 feet
 - (d) 680 feet
- 5. From the story, you can tell that
 - (a) ice is even
 - (b) the North Pole is not on land
 - (c) the men did not like Anderson
 - d submarines cannot go under ice