

All About

Modern Explorers

Edited by Mrs Smith



Ellen MacArthur

Ellen MacArthur is a British sailor. She was born in 1976, in a small village in Derbyshire. Her first experience of sailing was when she was just a child – she went out to sea on her aunt's boat. From then on, Ellen wanted to get her own boat. So, she saved her school dinner money for three years and finally managed to buy her first boat.

After Ellen had finished school, she worked at a sailing school in Hull. At 17 years old, she bought another boat called Iduna.



Sailing Alone

In 1995, aged 19 years old, Ellen sailed around Great Britain on her own.



Around the World

In 2004, Ellen set off on an even bigger adventure.

She sailed around the **whole world** on her own!

After 71 days, Ellen had sailed 26,000 miles and became the fastest person to sail around the world on their own.



Think
About
It

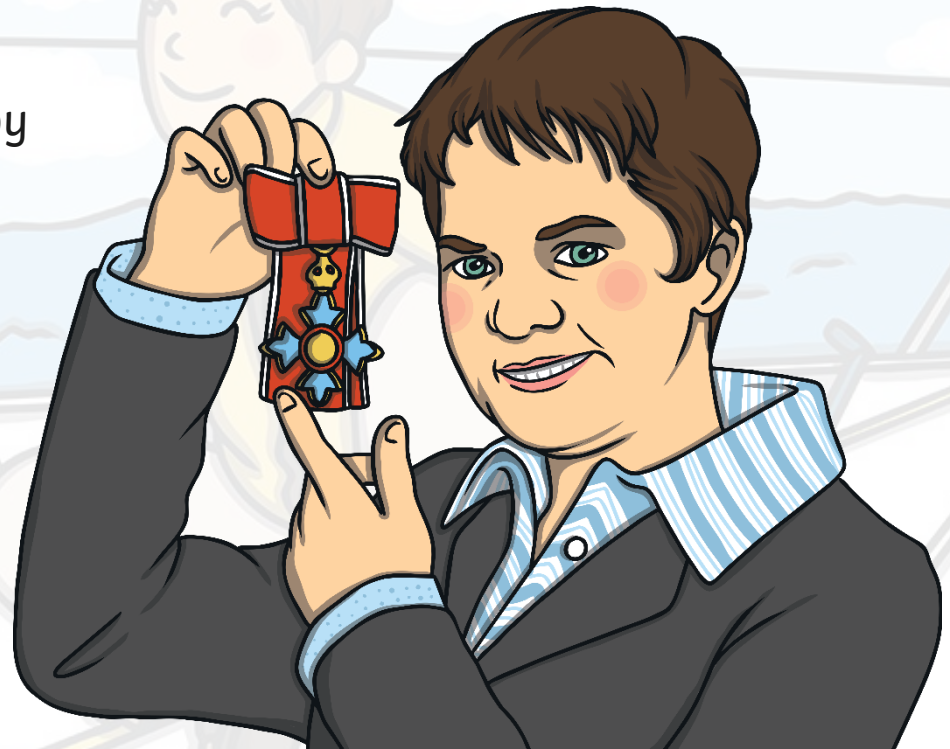
What sort of things do you think Ellen had to deal with while she sailed around the world with no one to help her?

Dame Ellen MacArthur

In 2005, Ellen was knighted by The Queen.

Ellen became **Dame Ellen MacArthur**.

Ellen has retired from professional sailing now.



David de Rothschild

David de Rothschild is an explorer who works hard to raise awareness about environmental problems.

He was born in 1978.

In 2006, David became the youngest British person to reach both the North Pole in the Arctic and the South Pole in the Antarctic. He spent 100 days crossing the Arctic in extremely cold weather.



Think
About
It

What do you think travelling across the Arctic was like?

Greenland

David was part of a team – they held the record for crossing the Greenland ice caps in the quickest amount of time.



Think
About
It

Which animals do you think David might have seen in the Arctic?

Plastiki

David de Rothschild is very interested in recycling and how plastic is affecting our planet.

In 2012, David made a trip in a type of boat called a catamaran, which was named Plastiki. Part of it was made from 12,500 recycled plastic bottles. The batteries were powered by solar energy (energy from the sun) and even the glue used on the boat was made from cashew nuts and sugar.



He and the rest of the crew spent two months sailing the boat from America to Australia, telling people all about the importance of recycling plastic and looking after our planet.

Think
About
It

Why is it important for us to look after our planet?