1 Read and match the people and the pictures.

1 Roald Amundsen was the first explorer to reach the South Pole in 1911. In 1926 he went to the Arctic. He was the first explorer to fly over the North Pole.

2 James Cook was a great explorer. In 1768 he explored the Pacific Ocean and the Far East. He used science and mathematics to help him. He made maps of the oceans and the seas.

3 Valentina Tereshkova was the first woman in Space. In 1963 she orbited the Earth for more than three days.

2 Use the information in activity 1 to complete the timeline.

James Cook explored the Pacific Ocean and the Far East.

1700 1800 1900 2000

1768
Subject: History

Famous explorers

Objective: Famous explorers
Vocabulary: The North Pole, The South Pole, Pacific Ocean, Arctic Circle, Antarctic Circle, space

Introduction
Discuss exploration with the pupils. Explain to them that much of the world has already been explored but there are still areas which we know very little about, like, for example, the oceans and space. Ask them to think about what kind of people explorers are. Explain that there have been many women explorers as well, although they are not usually as well known.

Warm up
- Write the following words on the board: The North Pole – Arctic Circle, the South Pole – Antarctic Circle, Pacific Ocean, space
- Ask the pupils to imagine they are going to explore each of these places and ask them about the equipment they would need to take with them.

- Explorers usually need to navigate. Ask the pupils if they know what explorers use to navigate (compass, map and, these days, GPS).

Activity 1
- Pupils read the texts and match them to the pictures.

Answer key
1-A; 2-C; 3-B

Activity 2
- Pupils extract information from the texts and write it on the time line.

Answer key
1768. James Cook explored the Pacific Ocean and the Far East.
1911. Roald Amundsen reached the South Pole.
1926. Roald Amundsen flew over the North Pole.
1963. Valentina Tereshkova orbited the Earth.

Project ideas
- Research another famous person.
- Choose a century and find out how many famous people you know were born then.
- Put them on a time line.