

Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



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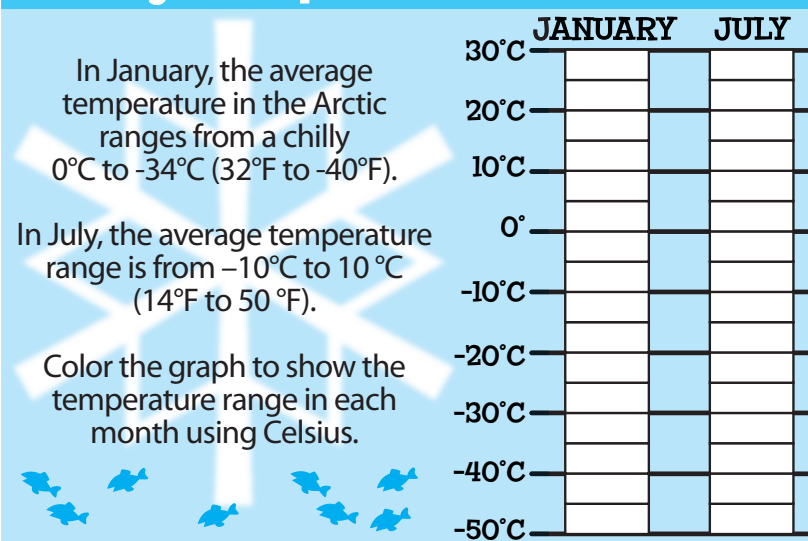
POLAR BEARS

Big and white, fluffy and furry, these are adjectives that describe a polar bear!
Can you think of other adjectives that would describe this animal?



Polar bears love fish! How many fish can you catch on this page?

Average Temperatures in the Arctic



Polar Bear Fur is NOT White!

Each hair shaft is transparent with a hollow core that scatters and reflects visible light, much like what happens with ice and snow, giving it a bright white appearance.

How Polar Bears Stay Warm

Polar bears live on ice near the North Pole in the Arctic, which is covered in ice and surrounded by very cold water. But that doesn't bother a polar bear.

In each box, write the letter that comes before the letter at the bottom of each box to find a couple of cool ways these fluffy fellows stay warm.

G	A		A	O	D
B	U		B	E	
G	V	S			

Polar Bear Paws

Polar bear paws can grow to be 12 inches across (31 centimeters) and help distribute weight when treading on thin ice.



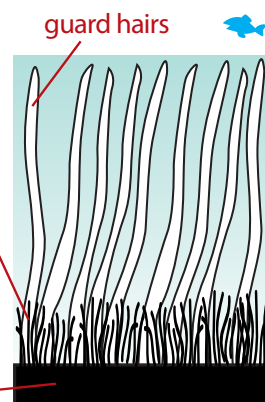
When swimming, their broad forepaws act like large paddles and the hind paws serve as rudders for steering.

Black footpads on the bottom of each paw are covered by small, soft bumps known as papillae. Papillae grip the ice and keep the bear from slipping. Tufts of fur between their toes and footpads may help with purchase as well as can their claws.

Very Special Fur

Polar bears have two types of fur: long oily guard hairs and short insulating hairs.

The long, oily guard hairs are tiny, hollow tubes that trap warmth and hold it close to the skin. Their oily surface keeps polar bears dry.



Under the guard hairs is a layer of dense, short, soft hairs that trap heat close to the skin, like thermal underwear.

What's another name for a polar bear's layer of fat? The letters along the correct ice path reveal the answer.

Extra! Extra!

Verbs and Adjectives

Look through the newspaper and find five adjectives that describe a polar bear. Then find five verbs that describe how a polar bear moves. Write one or more sentences about a polar bear using your adjectives and verbs.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Write the answer here: L E

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Polar Bear True or False

These statements are either all true or all false. Check your answers by adding up the numbers next to each of your answers. If the total is 33, you've got it right!

Polar bear young are called cubs.
 TRUE (10) FALSE (8)

Polar bear cubs are born without hair and are blind and deaf.
 TRUE (16) FALSE (7)

A polar bear's nose can smell a seal on the ice 20 miles away!
 TRUE (5) FALSE (9)

Polar bear skin is black.
 TRUE (2) FALSE (12)

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

REFLECTS
FOOTPADS
THERMAL
HOLLOW
ARCTIC
POLAR
BEARS
LAYER
WHITE
GUARD
HAIRS
DENSE
TUFTS
OILY
PAWS

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

C	P	O	E	S	N	E	D	L	S
I	A	R	L	A	M	R	E	H	T
T	B	E	A	P	A	W	S	R	C
C	O	S	S	U	W	H	I	T	E
R	T	I	G	O	B	A	A	U	L
A	A	Y	L	E	W	I	A	F	F
R	M	L	A	Y	E	R	A	T	E
L	O	R	O	W	A	S	Y	S	R
H	S	D	A	P	T	O	O	F	S

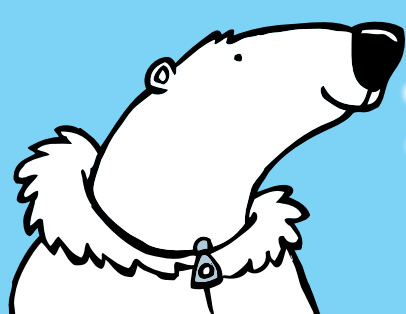
Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

News Article Mix-Up

Cut out an article from the newspaper. Cut the article into four pieces. Give the pieces to a friend to see if he or she can put the article back together in the right order.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.



Why do polar bears have white fur coats?

ANSWER: Because they'd look kind of silly in Hawaiian shirts!

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