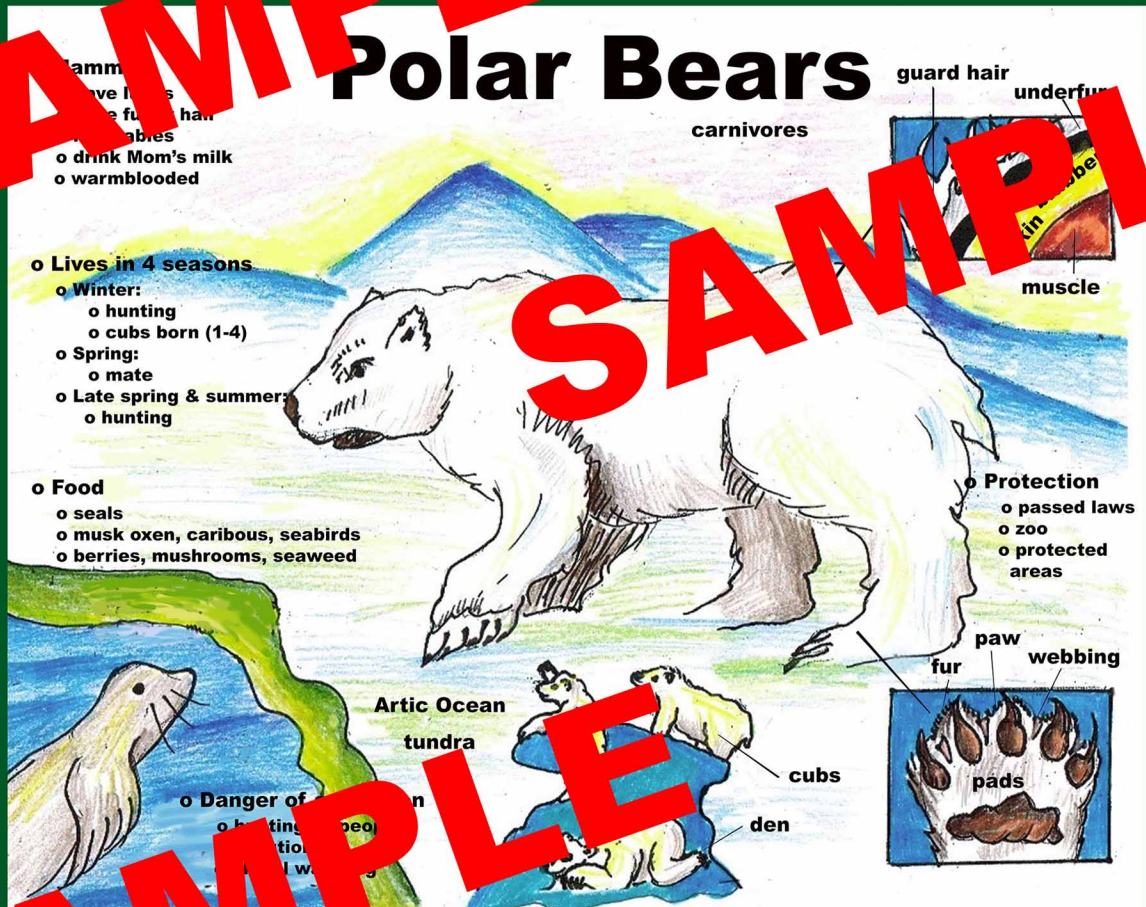


Close Reading

Plus Writing Activities

Polar Bears by Gail Gibbons



Teaching Animal Science through

Reading, Comprehension, Vocabulary,
Posters, and Reflection

Qiang Ma



Polar Bears

© Qiang Ma

- o Mammals
 - o have lungs
 - o have fur or hair
 - o live babies
 - o drink Mom's milk
 - o warmblooded

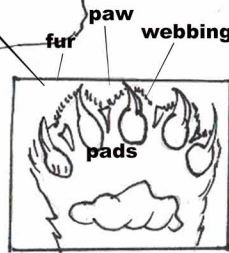
carnivores



- o Lives in 4 seasons
 - o Winter:
 - o hunting
 - o cubs born (1-4)
 - o Spring:
 - o mate
 - o Late spring & summer:
 - o hunting

- o Food
 - o musk oxen, caribous, seabirds
 - o mushrooms, seaweed

- o Protection
 - o closed laws
 - o zoo
 - o protected areas

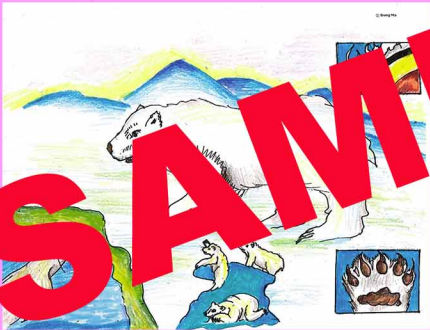


Arctic Ocean
tundra

cubs

den

- o Danger of extinction
 - o hunting by people
 - o pollution
 - o global warming



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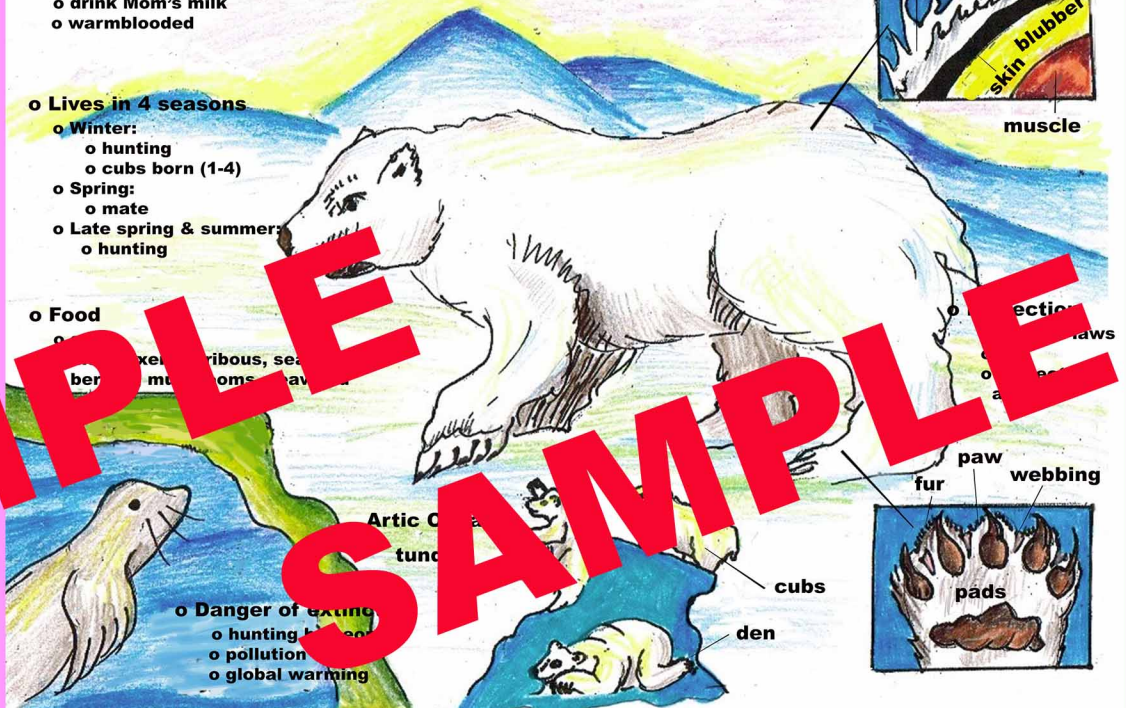


Arctic Ocean
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Polar Bears Close Reading Organizer

Title: _____

Things to remember

- Colors to mark the passage:
- Highlight the title in yellow.
 - Underline topic sentence in green.
 - Circle the important words about polar bears in red.
 - Use close reading symbols throughout text.

- CLOSE reading symbols:
- Check Mark(✓) – understands story
 - Star (*) – something is important
 - Exclamation mark (!) – something new, something that is surprising
 - Question mark (?) – unsure, don't understand it

The main idea of this passage is to _____

You learn about polar bears?

Polar Bears Close Reading Organizer

Title: Polar Bears

Things to remember

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The main idea of this passage is to introduce polar bears

What have you learned about trees?

I learned that polar bears have black skin under their fur to take in heat from sunlight.

(3) Polar Bears

Baby polar bears are born during winter. The mother n to four cubs. At birth their eyes are closed; they can't hear; ti thin coat of fur; and they weigh a little over one pound (450 g cubs suckle their mother's rich milk. They snuggle deep in the and sleep. Outside the den the winds howl and the temperat cold. By the time the cubs are three weeks old they can hear week later their eyes open. During the first month the cubs g times larger than their birth size.

Now the cubs are two months old. They can walk and r the den. The cubs play together and with their mother too. are furry.

When the cubs are about three months old they leave the den, but stay close to it for the first week. They want to get used to their new outside world. Now the cubs look like small fluffy dogs.

Soon the mother takes the cubs out on the ice to learn about hunting. They watch her get food. She will protect them from any danger.

The cubs stay with their mother for about two years until they are almost full grown. During that time, they learn how and where to hunt, how to protect themselves and how to dig dens. Then they go off on their own. Eventually the females will raise their own cubs.

(3) Polar Bears

Baby polar bears are born during winter. The mother may have one to four cubs. At birth their eyes are closed; they can't hear; they have only a thin coat of fur; and they weigh a little over one pound (450 g). The cubs suckle their mother's rich milk. They snuggle deep in the mother's fur and sleep. Outside the den the winds howl and the temperature is very cold. By the time the cubs are three weeks old they can hear. A week later their eyes open. During the first month the cubs grow to be four times larger than their birth size.

Now the cubs are two months old. They can walk and run around the den. The cubs play together and with their mother too. They are furry.

When the cubs are about three months old they leave the den, but stay close to it for the first week. They want to get used to their new outside world. Now the cubs look like small fluffy dogs.

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✓ ☆ ! ?

3.Text Dependent Questions

Describe the polar bear cubs at birth.	
Describe the growth of polar bear cubs in the first three months.	
How do cubs learn hunting?	
Why do the cubs stay with their mother for about two years?	

3.Text Dependent Questions

Describe the polar bear cubs at birth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> They can't hear. Their eyes are closed. They have only a thin coat of fur. They weigh a little over one pound. They suckle their milk from their mother.
Describe the growth of polar bear cubs in the first three months.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Week 1, they are born blind and deaf, and they grow to be three times larger than their birth size. Month 2, they can walk and romp, play together in the den. Their bodies are furry. Month 3, they leave the den, but stay close to it for the first week.
How do cubs first learn hunting?	The cubs first learn hunting by watching their mother hunting on the ice.
Why do the cubs stay with their mother for about two years?	The cubs stay with their mother for about two years because they need to learn how and where to hunt, how to protect themselves and how to dig dens.

(4) Polar Bears

Polar bears are big and powerful. People are the For thousands of years people living in the Arctic hunt their meat and fur. Later, people came from far away polar bears for sport. Many bears were killed.

Around 1970, there was concern about the polar survive. There were only about 5,000 left. Laws were nearly all the hunting. Because of their beliefs and he native peoples are still allowed a limited hunt. Today, there are 20,000 to 40,000 polar bears.

Other dangers to polar bears are pollution, drilling for oil and gas in arctic areas, and global warming. These dangers are concentrated in the Arctic.

Today, scientists keep track of the great white be know more about them. Some are seen at zoos. O protected areas. If enough people care, polar bears w long time.

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Today, scientists keep track of the great white be know more about them. Some are seen at zoos. Others live in protected areas. If enough people care, polar bears will be around for a long time.

✓ ☆ ! ?

4.Text Dependent Questions

Who are the main enemy of polar bears? Why?	
What do people do today to help the survival of polar bears?	
Why are some native people still allowed to hunt polar bears?	
What other dangers (apart from hunting by people) do polar bears face?	

4.Text Dependent Questions

Who are the main enemy of polar bears? Why?	People are the main enemy of polar bears because the Arctic people hunt polar bears for their meat and fur for thousands of years and the people from far away places hunt polar bears for sport.
What do people do today to help the survival of polar bears?	People pass laws to stop nearly all hunting to help the survival of polar bears.
Why are some native people still allowed to hunt polar bears?	Some native people are still allowed to hunt polar bears because of their traditions and heritage.
What other dangers (apart from hunting by people) do polar bears face?	<p>Other dangers polar bears face are pollution and global warming.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pollution from drilling for oil and gas: Dangerous chemicals travel by wind to the Arctic from industrial areas. Global warming: If global warming continues, there will be less Arctic ice and therefore less area for the bears to hunt.

Vocabulary

communicate	
ocean	
tundra	
survive	
heritage	
protect	
concern	

Vocabulary

communicate	Share information, news, or ideas.
ocean	Large body of salt water.
tundra	A vast, flat treeless, frozen Arctic region.
survive	Continue to live or exist despite difficult conditions or danger.
heritage	Traditions, beliefs, or achievements that are passed down from previous generations.
protect	Keep safe from harm or injury.
concern	Worry.

Getting Started: Polar Bears

1. It is suggested to get the following items ready.

Items needed	Teacher	Student
The Book <u>Polar Bears</u> by Gail Gibbons	V	
Lesson Plan	V	
Vocab Poster	V * Teacher can blow the original black and white sample into a poster.	
Info Organizer	V	V
Blank Paper for Drawing on Day 1	V	V
4 Reading Passages	V	V
4 Text Dependent Questions Sets	V	V
Vocabulary	V	V
2 Polar Bear Black and White Drawings (with & without labels)	V	
1 Polar Bear Color Drawing with Labels	* Teacher can blow the original black and white sample into a poster and color it.	* Students may create the poster in groups by using teacher's sample. It is a great open house project.
Teacher Finished Sample Package: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polar Bear Color Drawing with labels • Vocab Poster with Post-it notes • Info Organizer completed • 4 Reading Passages with marks • 4 Text Dependent Questions Sets with answers • Vocab Sheet with answers 	* I type for you to read easily. In real time, you are going to hand write to model for your students.	
Sharpie	V	V
Crayon/Markers	V	V
Post-It	*	

V: must, *: optional

2. Read the lesson plan.
3. Look at the finished sample works included.
4. Photocopy 11 page package (1 Empty page, 1 Info Organizer, 4 Reading Passages, 4 Text Dependent Questions Sets, and 1 Vocab Sheet) for students. Make an extra set for the teacher to use.
5. The lesson is designed as cross curriculum among ELA, Science/Animal/Mammal/Polar Bear, and Fine Arts using close reading and GLAD strategies.

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Credits

I draw all the clipart myself for all the products in my store.

Thank you so much and I hope you enjoy this lesson.

