

# The Polar Bear

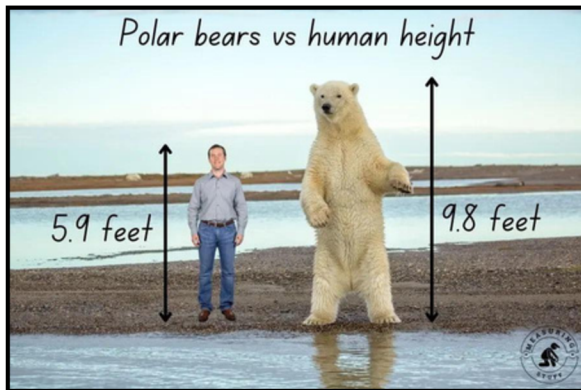
The polar bear is a very big white bear. We call it the polar bear because it lives inside the Arctic Circle near the North Pole. There are no polar bears at the South Pole.

The polar bear lives in the snow and ice. At the North Pole there is only snow, ice and water. There is not any land. You cannot see the polar bear in the snow because its coat is yellow-white. It has a very warm coat because the weather is cold north of the Arctic Circle.

This bear is 3 metres long and it weighs 450 kilos. It can stand up on its back legs because it has very wide feet. It can use its front legs like arms. The polar bear can swim very well. It can swim 120 kilometres out into the water. It catches fish and sea animals for food. It goes into the sea when it is afraid.

People like to kill the polar bear for its beautiful white coat. The governments of Canada, the United States and Russia say that no one can kill polar bears now. They do not want all these beautiful animals to die.

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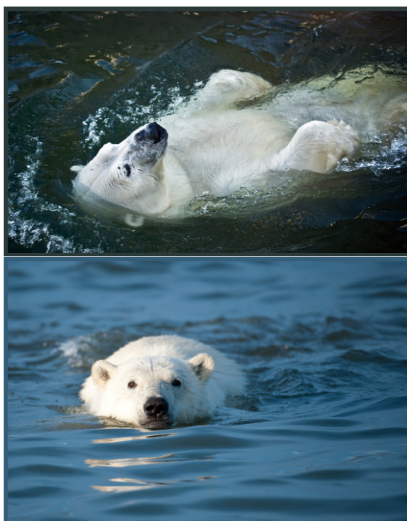
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## Exercise D – Questions

1. Why do we call this bear the polar bear?
2. Why can't people see the polar bear very well?
3. Why does it have a warm coat?
4. How much does it weigh?
5. What does it eat?
6. Where does it go when it is afraid?
7. Why do people like to kill the polar bear?
8. What do the governments of Russia, the United States and Canada say?
9. Can a polar bear live near New Zealand? (\*)
10. Why doesn't a polar bear eat fruits and vegetables? (\*)

The asterisk (\*) means you have to think of the answer.

# The Polar Bear

## Exercise E – Comprehension

1. The polar bear lives \_\_\_\_\_

- a. at the South Pole
- b. in warm countries
- c. near the North Pole
- d. on land

2. At the North Pole, there is no \_\_\_\_\_

- a. ice
- b. water
- c. snow
- d. land

3. You cannot see the polar bear in the snow because \_\_\_\_\_

- a. it has a yellow-white coat
- b. it goes under the snow
- c. it can run very fast
- d. it goes into the water

4. The polar bear \_\_\_\_\_ for food

- a. catches land animals
- b. looks for trees
- c. catches sea animals and fish
- d. looks for fruits and vegetables

5. When the polar bear is afraid, it \_\_\_\_

- a. goes into the sea
- b. goes under the snow
- c. runs away
- d. stands up on its wide feet

6. The governments of Russia, Canada and the United States say that \_\_\_\_\_

- a. the polar bear is beautiful
- b. it has a warm coat
- c. no one can kill the polar bear
- d. it cannot live in the North Pole