



# **Creatures of the Arctic**

## **Polar Bear**

- **Polar bears are the largest carnivorous land mammal**
- **Polar bears can swim in cold seas and walk on slippery ice**
- **They have webbed feet to help them swim and large claws to grip the ice**
- **They have white fur**
- **Their skin is black so they can soak up the sun's rays better**
- **Polar bears eat mainly other Arctic mammals including seals**





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# **Walrus**

- **Walruses are large, social mammals that can swim**
- **They have brown skin and large white tusks**
- **They use their tusks to defend themselves and help pull themselves along the ice**
- **Walruses eat shellfish including clams, sea snails, crabs, shrimp and sea cucumbers**





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# **Ringed Seal**

- Ringed seals are marine mammals
- They grow to 1.5 meters in length
- Ringed seals dive as deep as 45 metres to catch fish
- They can live in areas that are completely covered with ice
- They use their sharp claws to make breathing holes in ice up to 2 meters thick





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## Arctic Fox

- Arctic foxes are mammals and are related to wolves and dogs
- They are quite small, around the same size as a large domestic cat
- They are well adapted to living in icy-cold environments
- Their fur is white and thick in winter and shorter and darker in summer
- The Arctic fox has the warmest coat of any animal found in the Arctic
- They can endure temperatures as low as  $-70^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Arctic foxes eat rodents, birds, and fish







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## **Puffin**

- Puffins are birds that can swim
- They can spend two-thirds of their lives in the sea
- Puffins have colour-changing beaks and white and black coats
- Their beaks are bright red during the summer and grey in the winter
- Puffins eat small fish such as sand eels, hake, and herring





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## **Arctic Owl**

- **Arctic owls are also known as snowy owls**
- **Their feet are covered with feathers to keep them warm from the Arctic cold**
- **The owls mainly live in the Arctic in open, treeless areas called tundra**
- **Most owls sleep during the day and hunt at night, but the Arctic owl hunts during the day, especially in the summertime**
- **They eat lemmings, Arctic hares and rabbits, mice, seabirds, and fish**





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## **Bald Eagle**

- **The bald eagle is one of the largest raptors in the world**
- **It has a white head, brown body, and large hooked yellow beak**
- **It is the national emblem of the United States of America**
- **Its wingspan is 2 meters, and it weighs 3-7 kilograms**
- **It can reach speeds of up to 100 miles an hour when diving**
- **Bald eagles can climb to 3,000 meters in the air and fly at up to 40 miles an hour**





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# **Beluga Whale**

- **Beluga whales are mammals that live in the sea**
- **Unlike most other whales they are white**
- **They make clicks and whistles to communicate with each other**
- **They eat fish and octopus, squid, crabs, shrimp, clams, and snails**
- **A beluga whale eats around 27 kilograms of food per day**







# **Creatures of the Arctic**

## **Orca**

- **Orcas are often called killer whales**
- **Orcas are warm blooded air breathing mammals**
- **They grow to nearly 10 meters long**
- **An orca weighs up to 11 tonnes – nearly as heavy as a double decker bus**
- **They have many teeth**
- **They often hunt in packs called pods and work together to catch their prey**
- **They eat seals, minke whales, fish and squid**





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# **Narwhal**

- **Narwhals are warm blooded mammals**
- **They are large and swim fast**
- **Narwhals have one very long tusk which is actually an elongated tooth**
- **Their tusk grows up to 310cm long**
- **They can dive to 1.5 kilometers and stay under water for up to 25 minutes**
- **They breathe air through a blow hole on the top of their head**
- **They eat fish including halibut, cod, squid, and shrimp**

