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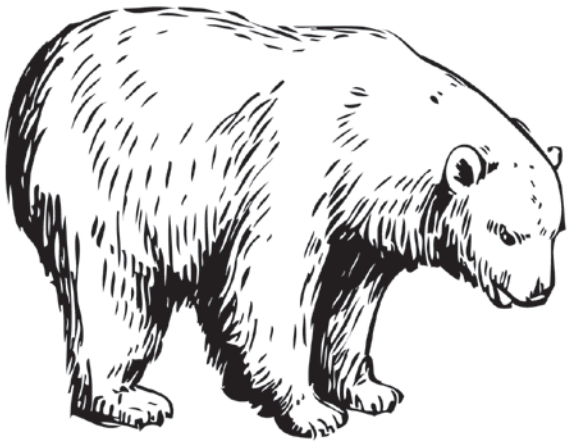

The Arctic and its Animals

The Arctic is the northernmost region of Earth. Despite its cold temperature some animals (and people!) manage to live there. Use this webquest to learn more about the Arctic and its animals.

First, log onto **www.worldbookonline.com**
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Find It!

Find the answers to the questions below by using the "Search" tool to search key words. Since this activity is about Arctic, you can start by searching the key word "Arctic."

Write the answers on the lines provided or below the question.

1. The Arctic surrounds the _____ and includes the northern areas of _____,

   _____ , and _____.

2. The word "Arctic" comes from "Arktos" (bear), the ancient Greek name for what?

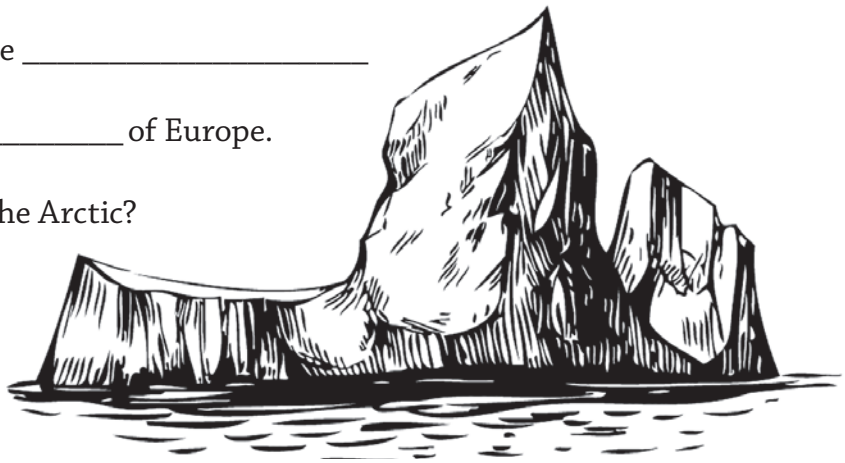
3. What are the three land regions that the Arctic can be divided into:

   (a) _____ (b) _____ (c) _____

4. The native peoples of the Arctic include the _____

   of North America and the _____ of Europe.

5. How cold can winter temperatures get in the Arctic?



***Users of the *Advanced* database can find extension activities at the end of this webquest.**

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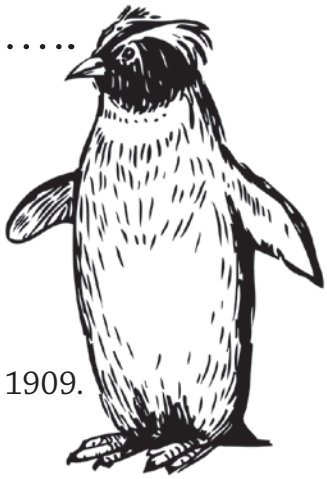
True or False



Write "True" if the statement about the Arctic is correct. If the statement is not correct, write "False" and correct the statement in the space below.

_____6. The Arctic is rich in minerals, natural gas, and petroleum.

_____ 7. John Franklin claimed to be the first person to reach the North Pole in 1909.

_____ 8. The Arctic climate is cold because the area receives relatively little energy from sunlight.

_____9. Many scientists define the Arctic as the northern region with an average July temperature lower than 32 °F (0 °C).

Arctic Animals

Answer the questions below to learn more about some of the animals that live in the Arctic.

10. What color are most Arctic foxes in the summer and in the winter? (Hint: For this question see the "Arctic fox" article.)

11. What is unusual about the narwhal's tusk? (Hint: For this question see the "Narwhal" article.)

12. Caribou and reindeer make up a single species of deer. Where do these animals live? (Hint: For this question see the "Caribou" and "Reindeer" articles.)

    (a) Caribou are native to _____ and _____.

    (b) Reindeer are native to _____ and _____.

13. How do musk oxen defend themselves when they are attacked by wolves? (Hint: For this question see the "Musk ox" article.)

14. What protects polar bears from the bitter cold? (Hint: For this question see the "Polar bear" article.)

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15. How do snowy owls hunt? (Hint: For this question see the “Snowy owl” article.)

16. What color fur do Artic wolves (or tundra wolves) have? (Hint: For this question see the “Wolf” article.)

17. What happens to the lemming population about every four years? (Hint: For this question see the “Lemming” article.)

18. What do Arctic hares do when they are alarmed? (Hint: For this question see the “Arctic hare” article.)

19. How big and how heavy can a pair of moose antlers get? (Hint: For this question see the “Moose” article.)

Map It!

At the top of the “Arctic” article, you will find the map “The Arctic.” Study the map and answer the following questions.

20. Name three countries that have land north of the Arctic Circle.

21. Are the North Pole and the North Magnetic Pole in the same location?

22. The North Pole lies in which ocean?

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Extension Activity 1

Be a researcher! Two of the people groups who live in the Arctic are the Inuit and the Sami. Use a key-word search to find the World Book Encyclopedia article on one of those groups and write a report on them. Among the topics in your report should be: where they live; their language, culture, and traditions; their history; and anything else interesting that you find.

Extension Activity 2

Be a researcher! Choose an explorer mentioned in the "Related Information" tab of the "Arctic" article. Use a key-word search to find the World Book Encyclopedia article on that person. Write a report on that person and his or her accomplishments.

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