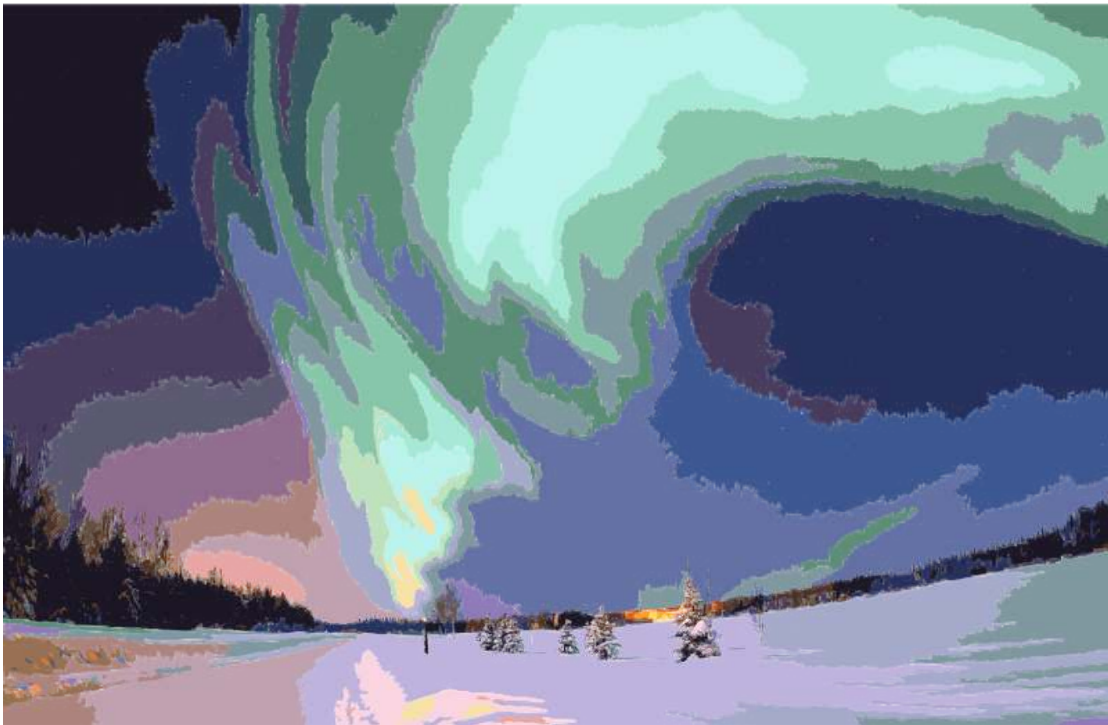


Facts about the Arctic

The Arctic is a very cold place! The winters are long, dark, and cold. The summers are short and cool. This is because the Arctic is at the top of the world! Some places in the Arctic are covered in ice year-round. Even though it is so cold, many animals, some plants, and people live there. People love to look at the Northern Lights in the Arctic. The Northern Lights are beautiful colors seen in the night sky.

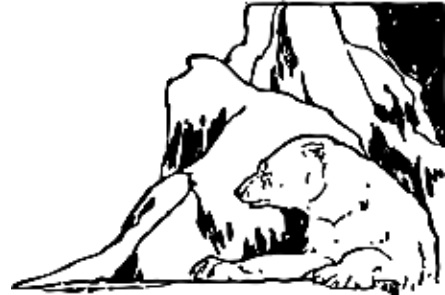


Arctic Animal Facts

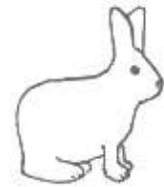
Reindeer have larger and heavier antlers than all other types of deer! Each reindeer's antler is unique. No two reindeer have the same.



Polar Bears are the biggest bear in the world! They have lots of fat called blubber. The blubber keeps them warm in the cold temperatures.



Arctic Hares are a little larger than average rabbits, but they have shorter ears. This is so that they stay warm. Arctic Hares' fur is brownish-grey in the warmer months and white in the colder months. This is so they can camouflage.



Arctic Foxes' fur changes colors to camouflage like Arctic Hares. They have brownish-grey fur in the warmer months and white in the colder months. Baby arctic foxes are called kits.



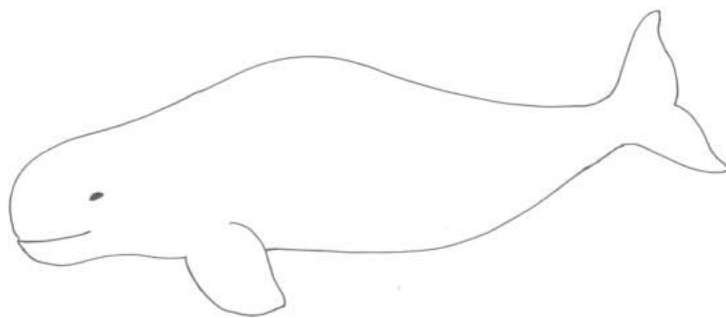
Arctic Owls have lots of feathers. This makes keeps them warm and makes them heavy! Even their feet are covered in feathers. Arctic Owls build nests on the ground. The mom snowy owl sits on her eggs until they hatch. The mom and dad take care of the baby snowy owls until they are old enough.



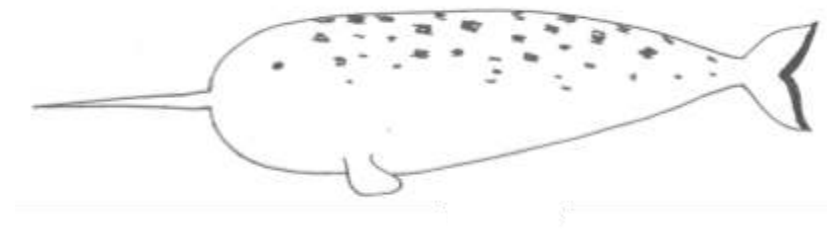
Walrus are huge! They have lots of fat called blubber. The blubber keeps them warm. Walrus swim in very cold, icy water. They also have two big tusks!



Beluga Whales like to sing! They sing to communicate with other beluga whales. The whales are born dark grey, but change to a white color as they mature. Beluga Whales are the smallest of all the whales, but are still really bigger than everyone in your family by a lot!



Narwhals have a large tooth that sticks out from its head. Some people call Narwhals the unicorn of the sea because of the large tooth.



Lemmings are small rodents. They look similar to rats, mice, hamsters, and gerbils except that Lemmings have thicker fur, so that they can keep warm. Lemmings have long claws and sharp teeth to help in eating roots.



Stoats are small animals, but they have lots of energy! They are fast animals! They can run 20 miles an hour. That is faster than most people!



Questions to ask your child:

1. Which is your favorite animal? Why?
2. Which animals do you think are smaller than you? (Arctic Hare, Arctic Fox, Arctic Owl, Lemur, Stoat)
3. Which animals do you think are bigger than you? (Polar bear, Narwhal, Beluga Whale, Reindeer, Walrus)
4. Would you like to visit the Arctic? Why?

Thanks to openclipart.org for the awesome clipart of the globe, Northern Lights, reindeer, and polar bear!!