Animals in Cold Parts of the World



Animals in Cold Parts of the World

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Some animals live in cold parts of the world. These places can feel very, very cold—much colder than anywhere you've been! The ground is often covered in snow and ice all year round.

These animals are special because they know how to live in the freezing cold. They have amazing ways to keep warm and find food.





Talk with an adult: What animals can you see in cold places? Have you ever seen snow?

What Is Cold Weather Like?

Feeling Cold

Cold weather can feel chilly or freezing. It might make you shiver! You need warm clothes like coats, hats, and gloves.



In the coldest places, even the sea can freeze!



Snow and Ice

Some places have snow that falls from the sky, and when water gets very cold, it turns into ice. The ground can be covered in white snow for months!



Talk with an adult: What might it feel like to live somewhere very cold?
What would you need to stay warm?

Cold Parts of the World

Some animals live in very cold parts of the world, like the Arctic and Antarctic. These are the coldest places on Earth!

These places can have long, dark winters when the sun barely shines. Then they have short, bright summers when the sun stays in the sky nearly all day and night.

The temperature can be so cold that it's hard for most living things to survive. But some amazing animals call these icy places home.



Talk with an adult: What do you notice about this cold place? How is it different from where you live?



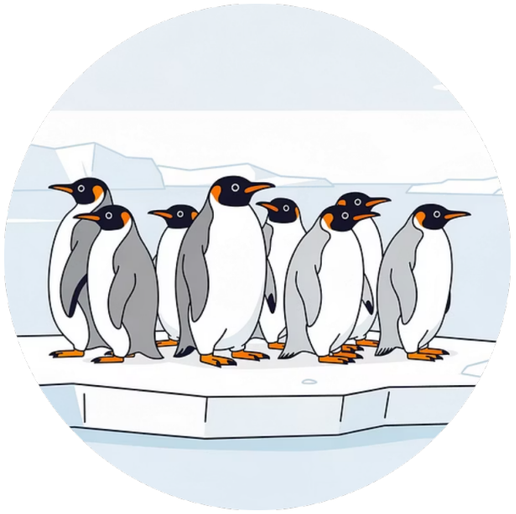
Animals That Live in Cold Parts of the World

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Polar Bears

Large white bears with thick fur that live on ice and hunt seals



Penguins

Black and white birds that cannot fly but are excellent swimmers



Seals

Swimming animals with flippers that live in cold seas and on ice

These animals are used to cold weather. Their bodies are made to help them live in freezing places.

Talk with an adult: Which animal looks most interesting to you? Why?

How Animals Stay Warm

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Animals in cold parts of the world have special ways to stay warm. If they didn't, they would get too cold and couldn't survive!

Thick Fur or Feathers

Fur and feathers trap warm air close to their bodies, like wearing a cosy blanket



Layer of Fat

A thick layer of fat under their skin keeps them warm, like wearing a padded coat



Staying Together

Some animals huddle close together in groups to share body heat



Talk with an adult: How might thick fur or feathers help an animal? Do you have anything that keeps you warm like that?

Animals on Ice and Snow

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Some animals live right on top of ice and snow.
They are very good at moving around in these slippery, freezing places.



Walking on Ice

Animals like polar bears have special paws with rough pads that help them grip the ice so they don't slip.



Sliding and Swimming

Penguins can slide on their bellies across the ice—it's called tobogganing! Seals can wiggle and slide too. They're all excellent swimmers in icy water.



Talk with an adult: What animals can you see living on ice? How do you they move around?

Animals in Cold Water

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Some animals don't just live *on* the ice. Some animals live *in* the cold seas too!

The water in these places is freezing cold, but these animals are strong swimmers.

Seals and Sea Lions

They have flippers instead of legs, which help them swim fast through cold water to catch fish

Whales

Some whales live in cold seas. They have a thick layer of fat called blubber that keeps them warm





Talk with an adult: What do you notice about these animals? How are they different from animals that live on land?



What All Animals Need

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Whether they live in hot places or cold places, all animals need the same basic things to survive. Animals in cold parts of the world have to work hard to find these things!

Food

Animals need to eat. Polar bears hunt seals, penguins catch fish, and some animals eat plants when they can find them.



Water

Animals need water to drink. Some get water from eating snow or from the food they eat.



Shelter

Animals need somewhere safe to rest. Some dig dens in the snow, others find caves or huddle together.



Talk with an adult: What might an animal need to stay safe in a very cold place? Where could it hide from the wind and snow?

Thinking About Animals Who Live In the Cold

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You've learnt about amazing animals that live in cold parts of the world! Now it's time to think about what you've discovered.

An Animal You'd Like to Learn About

Is there an animal from today that you found really interesting?

Or perhaps another animal you'd love to know more about?

What would you like to discover?

You could say:

'I found the ..... really interesting.'

'I would like to learn more about the ..... because .....'

