



Polar Habitats

Polar habitats are at the very top and bottom of the Earth. At the North Pole, and the South Pole. It is very cold and windy there. There is a lot of snow and ice. It is even too cold for trees to grow!

R: What is it like in a polar habitat?

The animals that live here need to stay warm. They have special features to help them. They have thick fur or feathers, and a thick layer of fat on their bodies. This is like us wearing a jumper and a coat. Another way to stay warm is to keep out of the coldest weather. Some animals hibernate (sleep) during the coldest months. Some move to warmer areas during the coldest months. Some burrow into the ground.

R: Name 2 things a polar animal has or does to keep warm.

At the North and South Pole there are only 2 seasons. Summer and winter. Even in summer it is very cold. In the summer, it is light all day and night. The sun stays out all the time. In winter, it is very dark. The sun never rises in winter.

E: Why is it dark all winter?



There aren't many plants in polar areas. Some grasses and moss can grow. It is too cold for anything else. Most animals that live there have to hunt for meat and fish because there are very few plants. There are no trees to live in, so animals have to live in burrows or caves made of snow.

I: Why don't many polar animals eat plants?

V: What word means a hole in the ground that animals live in?