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### **Learn to Draw Polar Animals**

A Common Core Standards-aligned Activity Guide for Kindergarten, First Grade, & Second Grade

#### **Write a Story**

Have students choose one of the animals from the text. Have them use the Arctic as their setting and use their chosen animal to create a character and write a story.

(RI K.1, 1.1, 2.1; W K.3, 1.3, 2.3)

#### **Identifying Characteristics**

So many polar animals have a feature to help them survive in the Arctic. Create a list of the animals and their survival characteristic as a class. Lead the students with the following questions: Which do you think is the most helpful and why? Which characteristic would you want to have if you lived in the Arctic? How would that feature help you to survive? (RI K.10; W K.8, 1.8, 2.8)

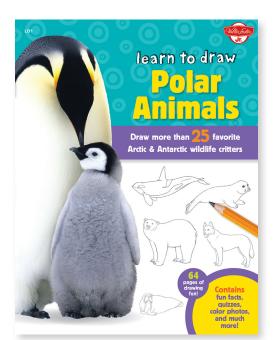




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#### **Compare and Contrast**

Choose one of the following pairs of animals to compare and contrast as a class using a Venn diagram: red fox (page 16) and artic fox (page 56); beluga whale (page 18) and humpback whale (page 34); elephant seal (page 28) and leopard seal (page 48). Have students choose one of the remaining pairs to compare and contrast using their own Venn diagram. (RI K.3, 1.3, 2.3; RI K.10)





### **Organizing Information**

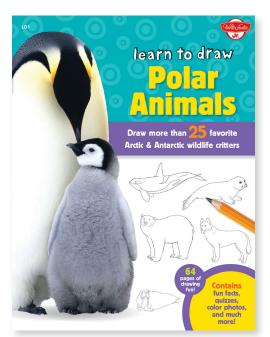
Lead a discussion about the text features of the text, highlighting the information boxes that contain the size and weight of the animals. Provide students with lined paper to choose 3 animals from the text and list them in order from longest to shortest and/or heaviest to lightest. (RI K.3, 1.3, 2.3; RI K.3, 1.3, 2.3; RI Z.5; RI K.10)



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#### **Science: Life Cycles**

(RI K.3, 1.3, 2.3; K.10; W 1.7, 2.7)

Wooly Bear Caterpillar (pgs. 8-9): If students have experienced a science unit on life cycles, this will require less background information. After a discussion on life cycles including examples, provide students with a variety of informational texts on caterpillars. Group students so that each group can be in charge of one step of the life cycle. Students use these resources and the drawing directions on page 9 of the text to illustrate their step of the life cycle of the Wooly Bear Caterpillar. If it is later in the year, students can tackle the task independently and then compare their depictions of the life cycle with each other.



- What is your favorite polar animal, and why is it your favorite?
- (Using a map) Where do the polar animals live?
- How do these animals stay warm in the arctic weather?









### **Word Search**

Can you find the ten *Polar Animals* words listed below? The words may go forwards, backwards, up, down, or diagonal.

Tundra Caribou Temperature Penguin Narwhal Winter Puffin Diet Arctic Fox Albatross

N G U R E F Q K N E K B R Ε K Α T W Α N R F W D N Z B M N X Т N N W B 0 D R B E R U N D R Α K 0 W Т U 0 E E T E Α Z S J D X U F I S W U P F N R U T E E R Α Т R Ε W Ζ F N R Н Α P



