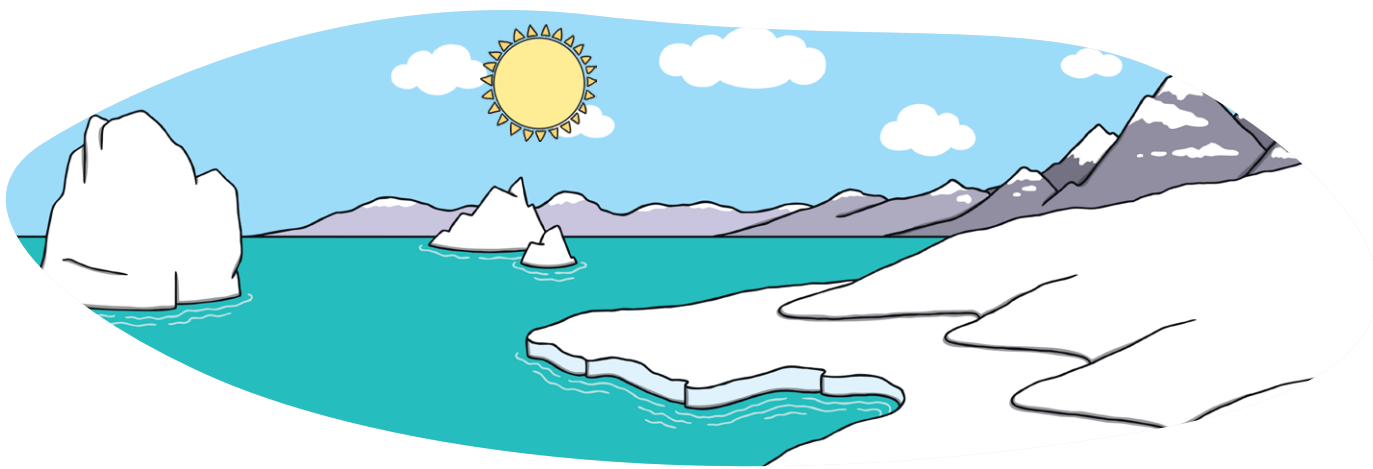


Year 2 Example Text

Information Text: Non-Chronological Report

All About the Arctic

The Arctic is an area of icy land and sea around the North Pole. It is one of the coldest places on Earth. The coldest temperature ever recorded in the Arctic was -68°C ! Even though it is very cold, lots of plants, animals and people call the Arctic their home.



The North Pole

The North Pole is the northernmost place on Earth and it was first visited by explorers in the early 1900s. The North Pole is not a country and it is not *in* a country. It is in the Arctic Ocean.

Lots of people think that the North Pole is on land but it isn't. The nearest piece of land is over 700 miles away. The North Pole is actually covered in a very thick sheet of ice. The ice is so thick that it is possible to walk on top of it.

The sun is in the sky all day and all night during the summer months at the North Pole. The sun rises each year around 21st March and does not set again until around 21st September. This means that the North Pole is sometimes called 'The Land of the Midnight Sun' because the daylight is endless.

In the winter months, there is no sunlight at all at the North Pole. It is completely dark from when the sun sets in September until it rises again in March the following year.

Arctic Plants

Around 1700 different types of plant grow in the Arctic circle even though it is very dark and cold for many months of the year. These plants need to have small roots because the thin layer of soil that they grow in is frozen all year round. They also need to be good at growing in cold weather.

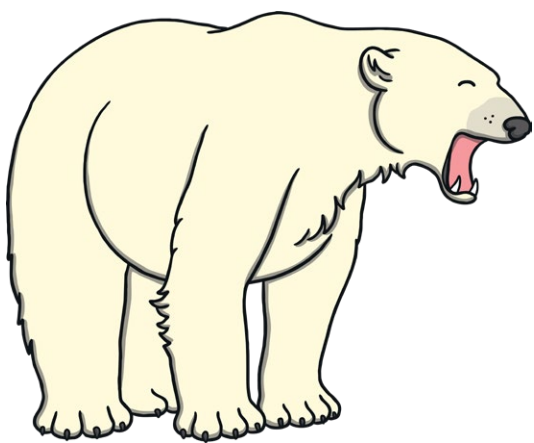


This means that you will see lots of small flowering plants, dwarf shrubs, herbs and mosses in the Arctic but no trees. Trees have big roots and need some warm weather to grow but moss, grasses and lichen do not.

Arctic plants grow close to the ground and close to one another. This is so that they are able to cover each other and resist the harsh, cold weather. The stems, leaves and buds of Arctic plants are often covered in fuzzy 'hairs'. This is to protect the plants from the cold wind.

Arctic Animals

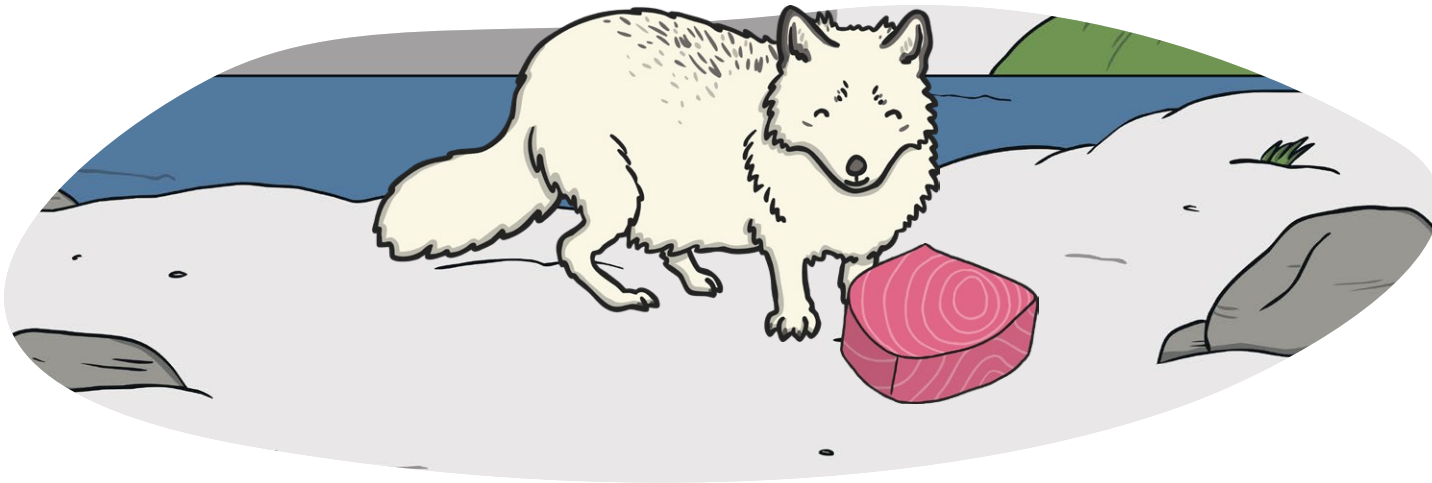
The Arctic is home to lots of different types of animals. Some only live there during the summer months but some animals live in the Arctic all year round. Many of these animals are specially adapted so that they can live in the cold climate.



One mammal that lives in the Arctic is the polar bear. Polar bears have lots of fat under their skin to help them to stay warm. They also have a thick layer of fur.

A polar bear's feet are large and wide and this allows it to travel across the soft snow.

Another helpful adaptation that polar bears have is that their fur reflects the white colour of the snow. This helps them to blend in and stay safe in the wilderness.



Another animal that lives in the Arctic is the Arctic fox. During the winter, their fur is white to blend in with the snow. During the summer, their fur changes to brown so that they can blend in with the plants they hide amongst. Their fur is thick and this keeps them warm in the cold climate.

One way that the Arctic fox survives is that it tries to follow the movement of a polar bear as it is hunting. They are known to eat anything that is left over by the polar bear which means they get to eat a lot of food by doing very little work!