

Polar Animals

January 11th

- Why are polar bears white? Learn about camouflage using a white background (paper, a sheet etc) and realistic plastic or stuffed animals. Which animals are easier to see against the white background? How could being white in a snowy environment protect polar bears? Using the toy animals, Discuss where they live and how they are camouflaged. Make environments for the animals to hide in.
- Make an arctic habitat. In a dishwashing tub or sink add ice (cubes or freeze some in different containers the night before) styrofoam and plastic polar animals. If you don't have polar animals add any you have, this can be a great conversation starter about adaptations animals have for the environments they live in.
- Polar bears have a thick layer of blubber that helps keep them warm. Conduct a simple experiment using two baggies and crisco. Smear a generous layer of crisco inside one bag. Carefully place the other bag in the crisco lined bag. You should have a layer of crisco between the two bags. Have your preschooler put one hand in the bag. Then place both hands in ice water. Does one hand stay warmer? [Watch as Mrs. McIntosh conducts the experiment.](#)
- Polar Bear handprint art -



- Have a penguin race in the snow
- Turn a room in your house into an ice skating rink. Tape paper plates to the bottom of your socks and take off!
- Melting iceberg game. Put an icecube in a bowl. Give your child a cup of warm water, eye dropper and dice. Roll the dice. Count the dots. Using the

eyedropper with warm water, drip that number of warm water droplets onto the ice cube and watch it start to melt.

[The Mitten](#) by Jan Brett read by Mrs. McIntosh

[The Pigeon Wants a Puppy](#) by Mo Willems read by Mrs. McIntosh

[There's a Bear in My Chair](#) by Ross Collins read by Mrs. McIntosh

[Penguin Day: A Family Story](#) by Nic Bishop read by Mrs. Remus

[A Day in the Life: Polar Animals - Arctic Fox](#) by Katie Marsico read by Mrs. Remus

[Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?](#) By Bill Martin Jr. & Eric Carle read by Mrs. Remus

[Are You a Polar Bear?](#) By Andrew Gabriel read by Mrs. Cohoon

[Owl Babies](#) by Martin Waddell read by Mrs. Cohoon

Vocabulary: camouflage, adaptation, environment, blubber, nocturnal, arctic, antarctic,