

North: The Amazing Story of Arctic Migration

A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

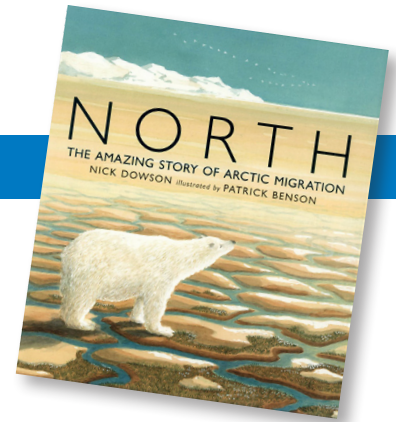
Themes: Polar Animals, Migration, Ecosystems, Climate

Grade Level: 3rd to 5th grade

Book Brief: Follow a variety of Arctic animals as they migrate across thousands of miles to the north for the summer.

Author:
Nick Dowson

Illustrator:
Patrick Benson



TIME TO READ!

Before reading: Ask how many children in your group have ever had to move. What was it like to have to go from one place to another? This book is about animals who move, or *migrate*, thousands of miles every year.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

POLAR BEAR ICE CREAM CUPS (AGES 5-12)

Ingredients: individual vanilla ice cream or yogurt cups, chocolate chips, chocolate kisses, banana slices

Everyone will enjoy making these easy polar bear ice cream cups. Remove the lid from ice cream cup. Place two chocolate chips for eyes and a chocolate kiss (point down) for the nose. Use banana slices for ears.

POLAR PACK IN! (AGES 5-12)

How many Arctic animals could fit in your room? Using tape or rope, make a life-sized representation of a polar bear (7' tall), a gray whale (50' long), and an arctic fox (3' long) on the floor. How many of each animal would fit in the room? Now, measure each animal in units of children.

ARCTIC ART (AGES 8-12)

Materials: white paper, white paint, sponges

Have children draw a polar bear, arctic fox, or snowy owl and cut out their drawing. Have them place their animal on another white piece of paper, anchoring with a drop of glue. Is the animal easy to see? Sponge paint the paper around the animal white. When the paint is dry, peel off the animal picture. Can students still see the outline of their animals? Why is it important for these animals to blend in to their environment?

TECHNOLOGY LINK

Visit www.learner.org/jnorth/gwhale/ for a week-by-week update of the gray whales' journey from Mexico to the Arctic Circle. Track their progress as a group.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS ABOUT ARCTIC ANIMALS

Amazing Arctic Animals: A Rhyming Photo Book, Robin Tookes (2012),
In Arctic Waters, Laura Crawford (2007), *The Arctic Habitat*, Molly Aloian (2006).

TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS

www.rif.org/kids



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