

*Special Ed*

# POLAR BEARS



**ALSO INCLUDES GOOGLE SLIDES**

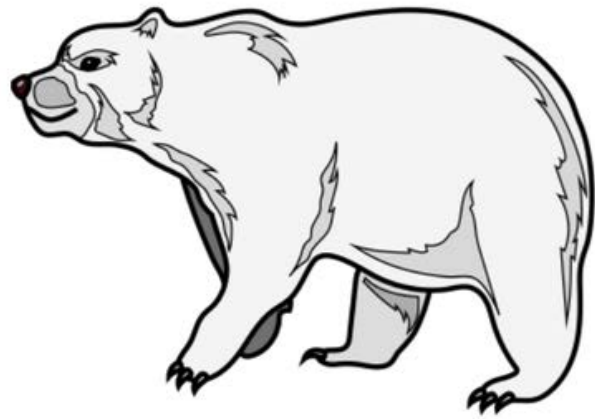
*Special Needs for Special Kids*



*This unit was created with this guy in mind. He has autism and an intellectual disability. He is a non-reader, has a very short attention span, and struggles to sit still. With some support he is able to do this unit, and enjoys the challenge. He is my tester!!*

# Polar Bears

By  
Christa Joy  
Special Needs for Special Kids



Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids  
The Picture Communication Symbols ©1981-2018 by Tobii Dynavox. All Rights Reserved  
Worldwide. Used with permission. Boardmaker® is a trademark of Tobii Dynavox

## Table of Contents

Pages	Activity
4-5	Vocabulary board
6	Fact sheet
7-10	Circle maps
11	Habitat map
12-13	Adaptations
14-17	Venn diagram: polar bears and brown bears
28-22	Cloze worksheets
23-33	Assessment
34-35	Terms of Use

Also included in this resource as separate files:

- Lesson plans
- Links and directions to digital activities
- PowerPoint (**this is the book in the lesson plan**)
- Voice recorded PowerPoint
- Activities in black and white

Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids  
The Picture Communication Symbols ©1981-2018 by Tobii Dynavox. All Rights Reserved  
Worldwide. Used with permission. Boardmaker® is a trademark of Tobii Dynavox

This unit contains almost **100 pages** of material plus **16 google slides**. I have included a detailed lesson plan to help you make the most of everything in this unit including how to add some group activities.

It comes in 2 separate files. One in color and one in black and white.

# Polar Bears Lesson Plan

## Preparation

- Print out a vocabulary board for each student to use throughout unit
  - Laminate or place in page protector
- Book
  - Print out, laminate, and bind
  - Also available as a recorded PowerPoint and video in the directions for digital activities pdf
- Fact sheet
  - Laminate or place in page protector

## Preassessment (do day 1 before starting lesson)

- Use the fact sheet to assess what your students may already know
- I cannot emphasize enough how important this step is. If you want to see growth, this preassessment is so important!!

## Teaching Tips

1. *Color Coding:* this is a really easy way to add more structure to a matching activity. Outline or color in an empty box or sorting label. Outline or color in the corresponding picture symbols the same colors. Becomes a color matching task.
  - a. For more info, read more here: <https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2015/09/05/using-color-coding-for-differentiation/>
  - b. I also have a blog post on differentiating one activity 3 ways: <https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2018/10/22/differentiating-1-activity-3-ways-easily-and-effectively/>
2. *Make your own copies of the activities:* Every day I review the activity we did yesterday. For that reason:
  - a. I often complete the activity myself and often laminated it for easy review that I could use year after year.
  - b. My copies were also helpful as either a model for students who needed more support or as a way for more advanced students to self-check their work.
3. *Options for Use:* Turn any activity into a reusable file folder activity by laminating and adding Velcro.
  - a. For more info, watch this video here: <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Making-File-Folder-Activities-3474240>



The lesson plans contain:

Overall tips for teaching students with significant needs

## Quick Look


Day	Activity
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Fact sheet</li><li>• Vocab board activity</li><li>• Circle map</li></ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Fact sheet</li><li>• Vocab board activity</li><li>• Habitat map</li></ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Fact sheet</li><li>• Vocab board activity</li><li>• Adaptions</li></ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Fact sheet</li><li>• Vocab board activity</li><li>• Venn Diagram</li></ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Fact sheet</li><li>• Vocab board activity</li><li>• Close worksheet</li></ul>
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assessment</li></ul>

*The lesson plans contain:*

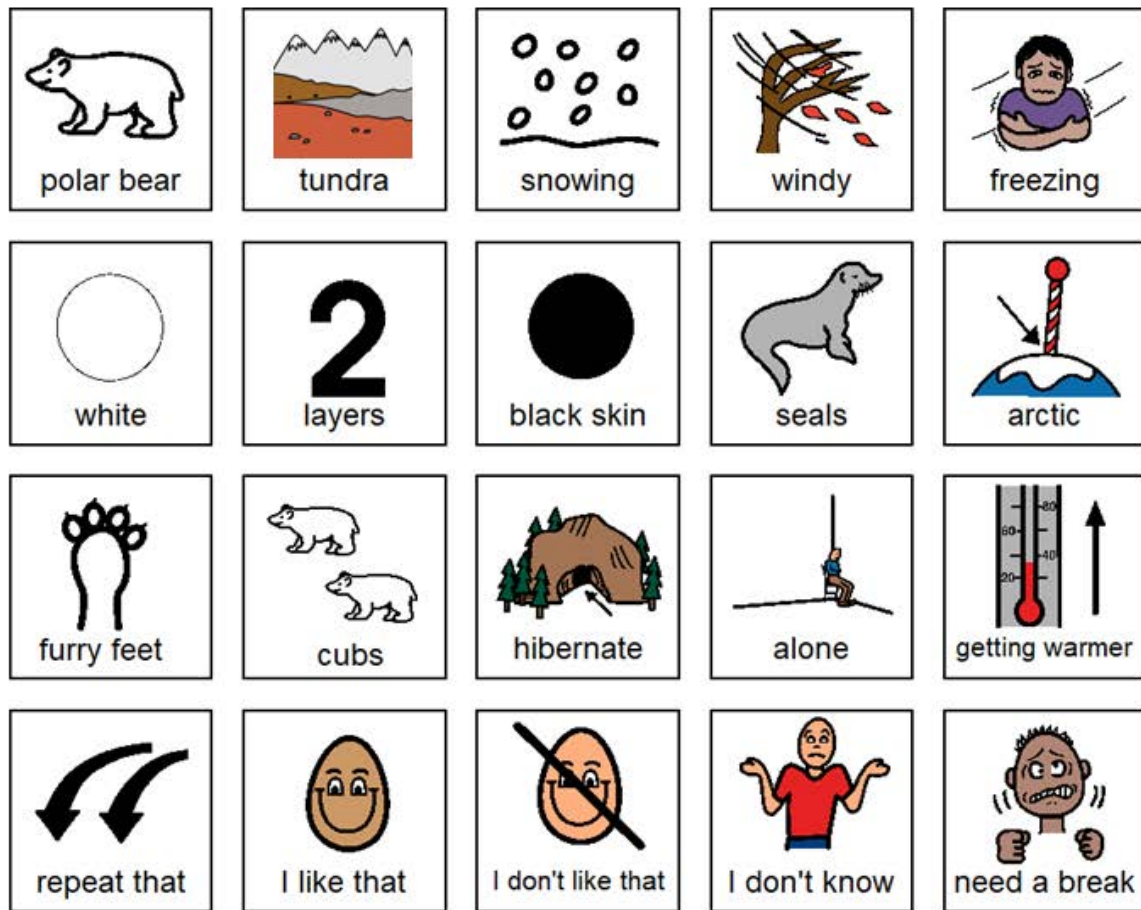
*A quick look at what you  
will do each day*

## Day 5

Activity	Notes	Materials
Read the book: <b>Polar Bears</b> (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read through the story, asking lots of questions</li><li>• Continue to make connections between book and vocabulary board</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocabulary board</li></ul>
Fact sheet (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• As a group read through the fact sheet on polar bears</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fact sheet</li></ul>
Vocabulary <b>Bean Bag Toss</b> (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Glue the cut apart symbols and tape to the paper plates (one on each plate)</li><li>• Arrange them around the room</li><li>• Students toss the bean bag trying to get it to land on a paper plate</li><li>• Students retrieve the paper plate and share the vocabulary symbol they retrieved</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vocabulary board</li><li>• Vocabulary board cut apart</li><li>• Small paper plates (you can also use pieces of construction paper)</li><li>• Bean bags</li></ul>
Close worksheet (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete the close worksheet that reviews the facts from the book</li><li>• Add color coding as needed</li><li>• Review any facts that are missed before assessment tomorrow, or go back and do some re-teaching if needed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• worksheet</li><li>• scissors</li><li>• glue</li></ul>
Sharing (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each student shares their finished map with the group using the communication method of their choice</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Completed worksheet</li><li>• Communication devices</li></ul>



The lesson plans contain:  
  
Detailed instructions on  
how that day's lesson  
should run



ChristaJoy, Special Needs for Special Kids  
 The Picture Communication Symbols ©1981–2019 by Tobii Dynavox. All Rights Reserved  
 Worldwide. Used with permission. Boardmaker® is a trademark of Tobii Dynavox.

This unit comes with a vocabulary board.

Vocabulary boards are great for ALL students to assist with participation and engagement in group discussions.

Tips on how to use in the unit!!

There are no vocabulary CARDS in this unit.

Polar Bears are the largest carnivore (meat eater) that lives on land. They can get to be over 1000 pounds and are twice the size of a lion.



There is a 25-page book with simple text and engaging photos.

It comes in a PowerPoint version as well as a voice-recorded PowerPoint (so you don't have to print it out.)

There is also a movie version you can use in google slides.

Besides the fur, polar bears also have extra wide feet that have fur on the bottom that keep them warm and provide traction on the snow and ice. The toes are slightly webbed as well which help propel the bear through the water.





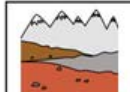

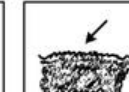

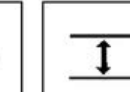
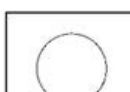




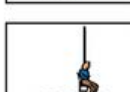




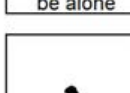
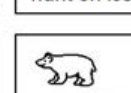



errorless

Cut apart pictures and place in circle map showing facts about polar bears.

 live in tundra	 furry feet	 2 layers of fur	 black skin	 layer of fat
 white	 cubs	 females hibernate	 eat seals	 size of 2 lions
 like to be alone	 hunt on ice	 don't drink water	 good swimmers	 biggest land meat-eater



Cut apart pictures and place in circle map **ONLY IF** they relate to polar bears.

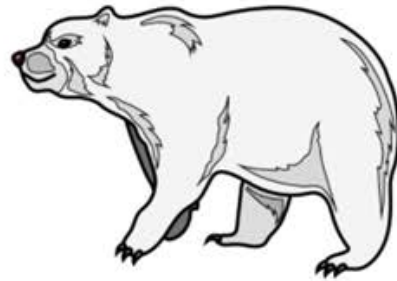
 live in tundra	 furry feet	 2 layers of fur	 black skin	 layer of fat
 white	 desert	 females hibernate	 eat seals	 size of 2 lions
 like to be alone	 hunt on ice	 don't drink water	 feathers	 biggest land meat-eater
 tiny	 cubs	 eat bananas	 good swimmers	 brown

There is a circle map that reviews the main facts from the book.

Circle maps are a great way for students to see the concept at a glance. There are 2 versions:

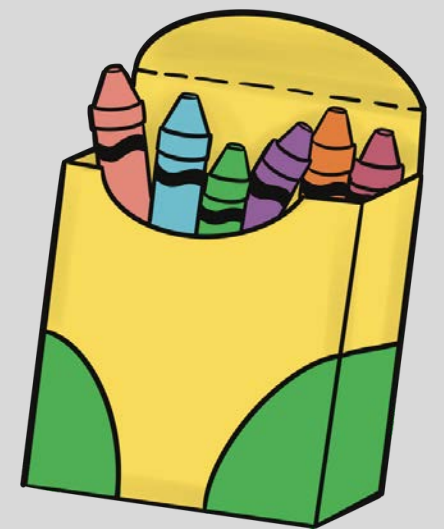
- One is errorless
- One has wrong answers mixed in students will have to set aside

Color in the area of the areas polar bears live.

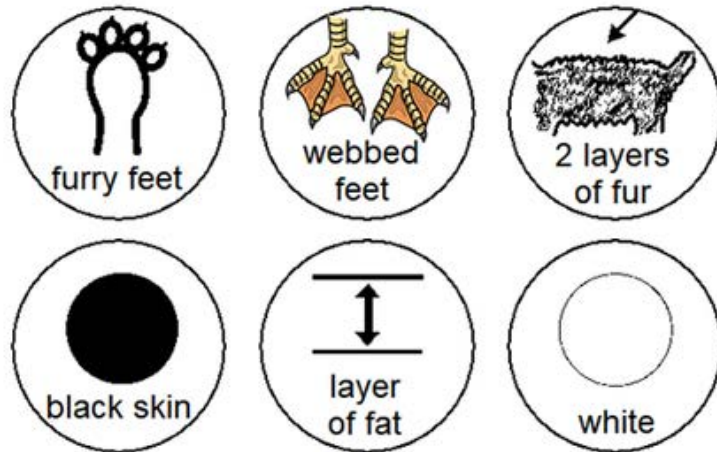
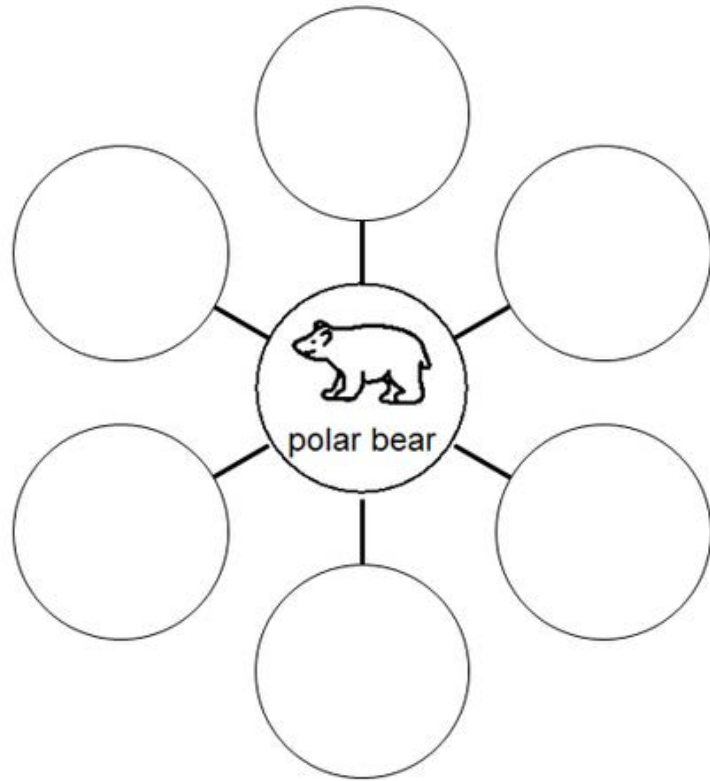


Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids  
The Picture Communication Symbols ©1981-2019 by Tobii Dynavox. All Rights Reserved Worldwide. Used with permission. Boardmaker® is a trademark of Tobii Dynavox

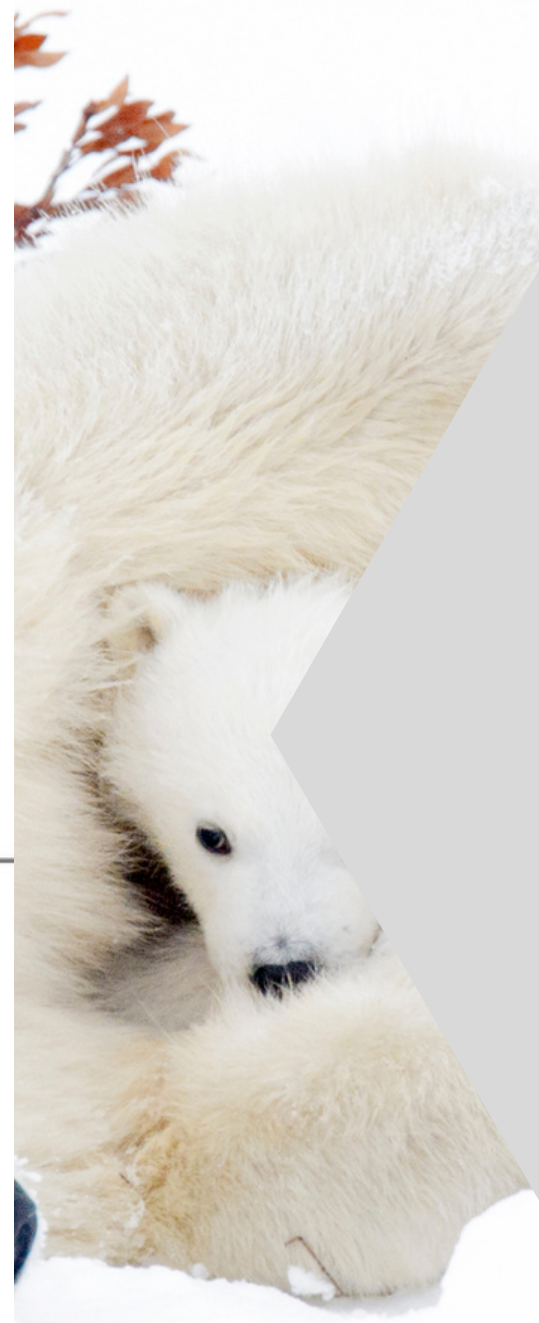
There is a map for students to color in the areas where polar bears live. It is differentiated with the area already outlined.



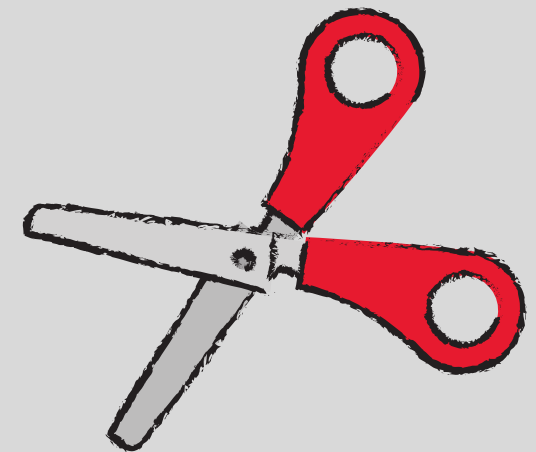
# How have polar bears adapted?

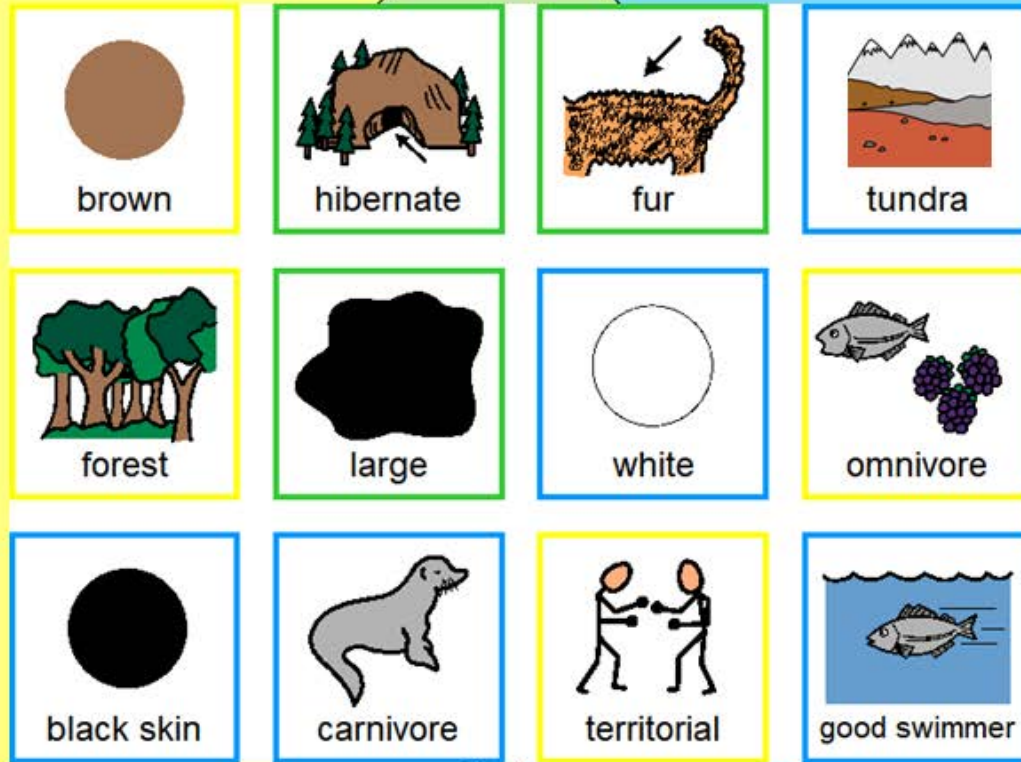
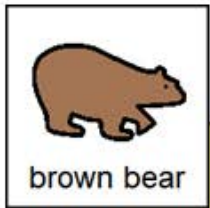


Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids  
The Picture Communication Symbols ©1981–2021 by Tobii Dynavox. All Rights Reserved  
Worldwide. Used with permission. Boardmaker® is a trademark of Tobii Dynavox

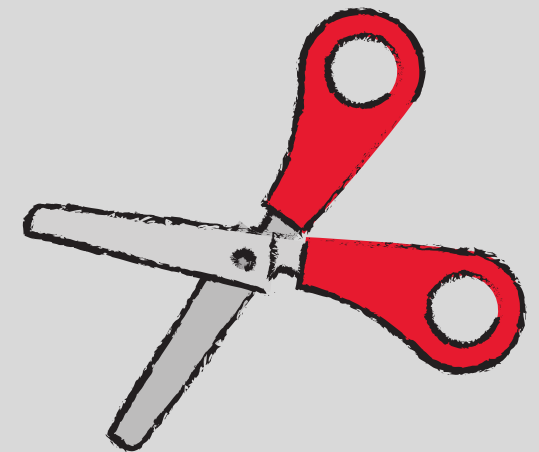


There is a word map to show some of the ways polar bears have adapted to living in the tundra. This is an errorless activity.





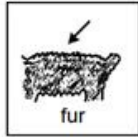
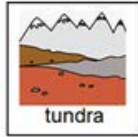
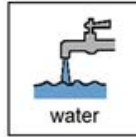
There is a Venn diagram comparing polar bears and brown bears. There is a color-coded version included (shown here) for students who need more support.



## Polar Bears

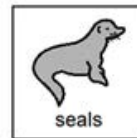
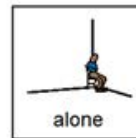
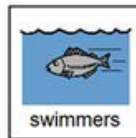
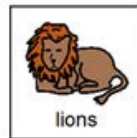
1. Polar bears live in the .
2. Polar bears have  layers of fur to keep warm and dry.
3. Only female polar bears  when pregnant.
4. Polar bears have  on their feet to help grip the snow.
5. Polar bears do not drink .

2

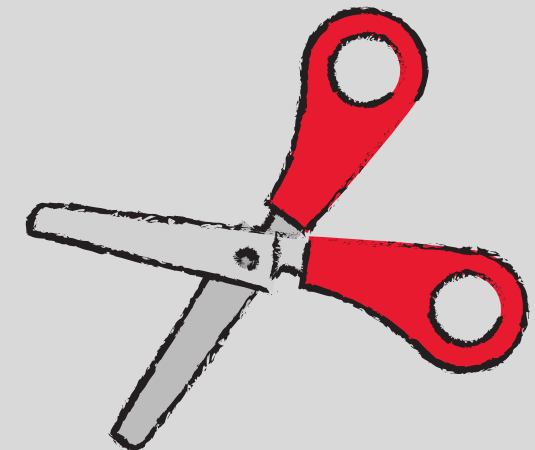


## Polar Bears

6. Polar bears spend most of their life .
7. Polar bears eat mainly .
8. Male polar bears can be the size of 2 .
9. Polar bears are good .
10.  is the main threat to polar bears.



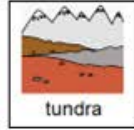
There are 2 fill-in-the-blank worksheets. These allow you to review and find areas that may need to be re-taught before the assessment.



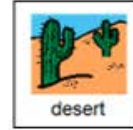
1. Where do polar bears live?



forest

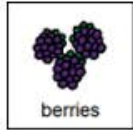


tundra

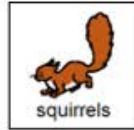


desert

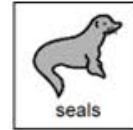
2. What do polar bears eat?



berries

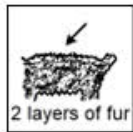


squirrels



seals

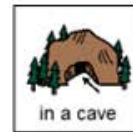
3. How do polar bears stay warm?



2 layers of fur

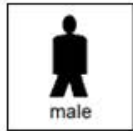


feathers

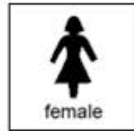


in a cave

4. Are male or female polar bears bigger?



male

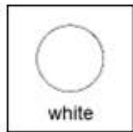


female

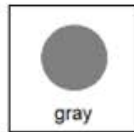


I don't know

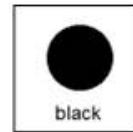
5. What color is a polar bear's skin?



white



gray



black

There is a 10 question assessment.

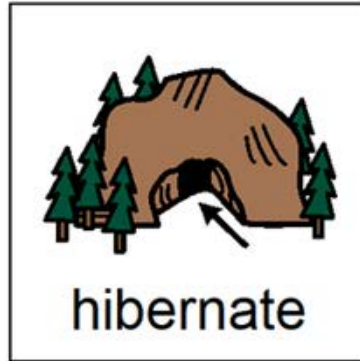
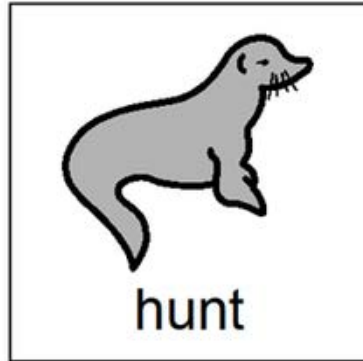
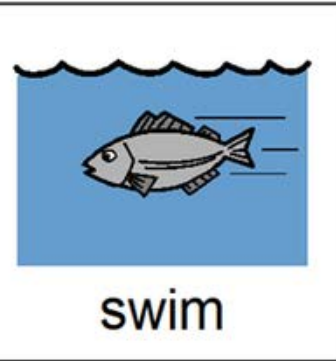
There are 3 versions. This version has 10 questions with 3 picture choices for each question.

Answer key included.

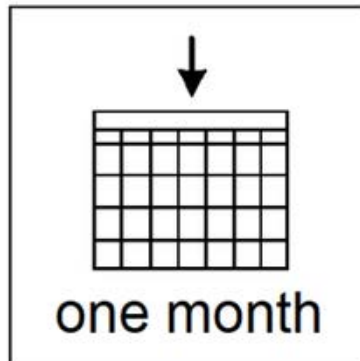
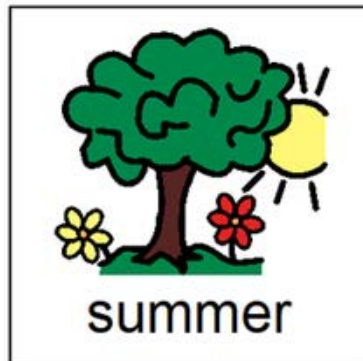


Print onto cardstock or mount on index cards. Cut pictures apart and show student answer choices for each question.

Q 7

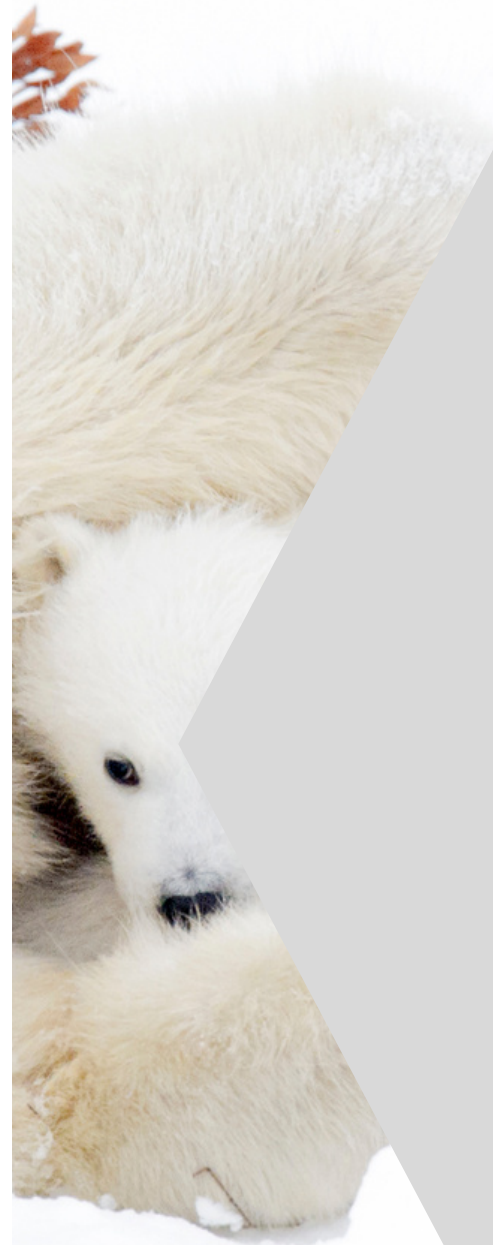


Q 8



With this version, you cut out the answer choices and glue them on index cards. Ask the student the question, and they point to the correct answer.

1. Where do polar bears live?
  - A. Forest
  - B. Tundra
  - C. Desert
2. What do polar bears eat?
  - A. Berries
  - B. Squirrels
  - C. Seals
3. How do polar bears stay warm?
  - A. 2 layers of fur
  - B. Feathers
  - C. In a cave
4. Are male or female polar bears bigger?
  - A. Male
  - B. Female
  - C. I don't know
5. What color is a polar bear's skin?
  - A. White
  - B. Gray
  - C. Black
6. What is the only real threat to polar bears?
  - A. Moose
  - B. Killer whale
  - C. Getting too warm



*This is your traditional multiple choice version. It can also be used as a recording sheet if your students are using the version with index cards.*

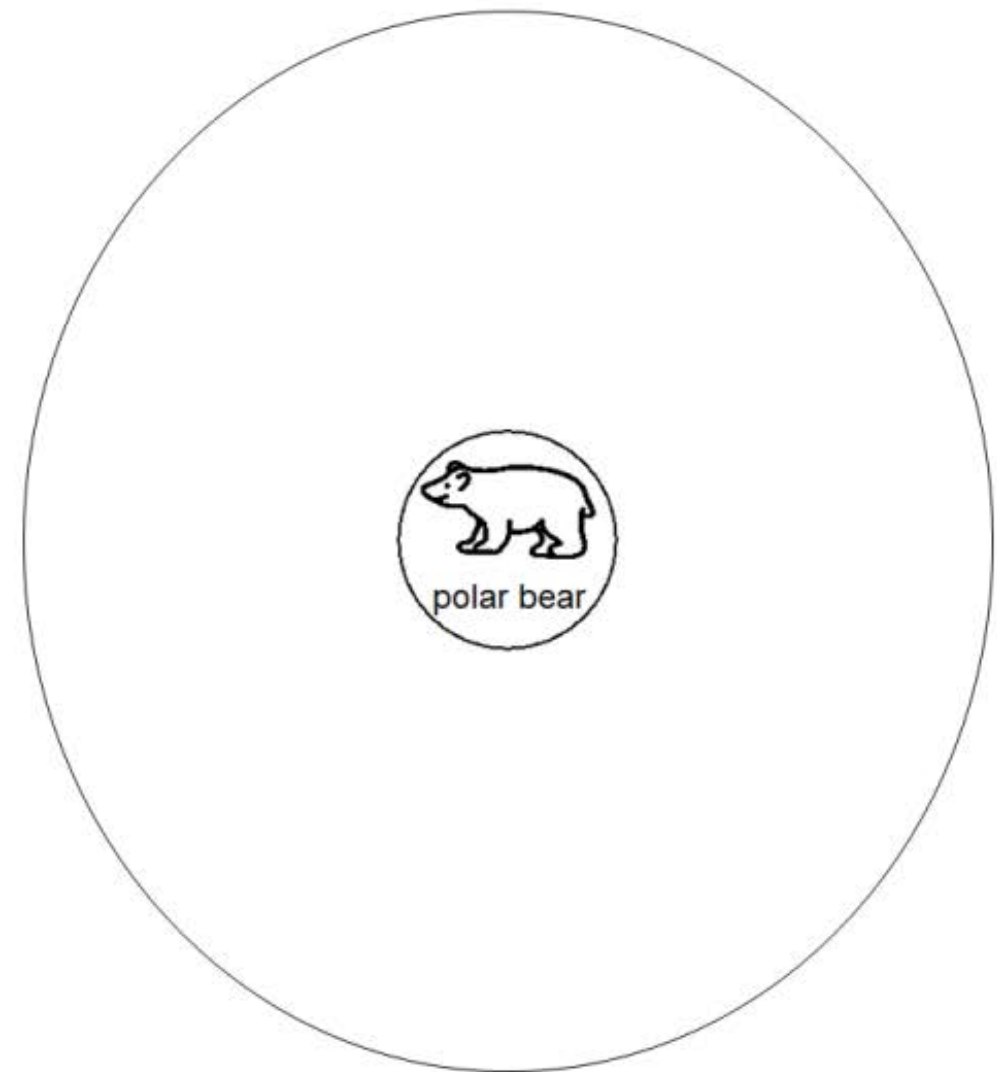


Listen to  
the book  
about  
Polar  
Bears



*This unit also includes digital versions of the activities.*

*Students can watch a movie book version of the book rather than printing it out.*

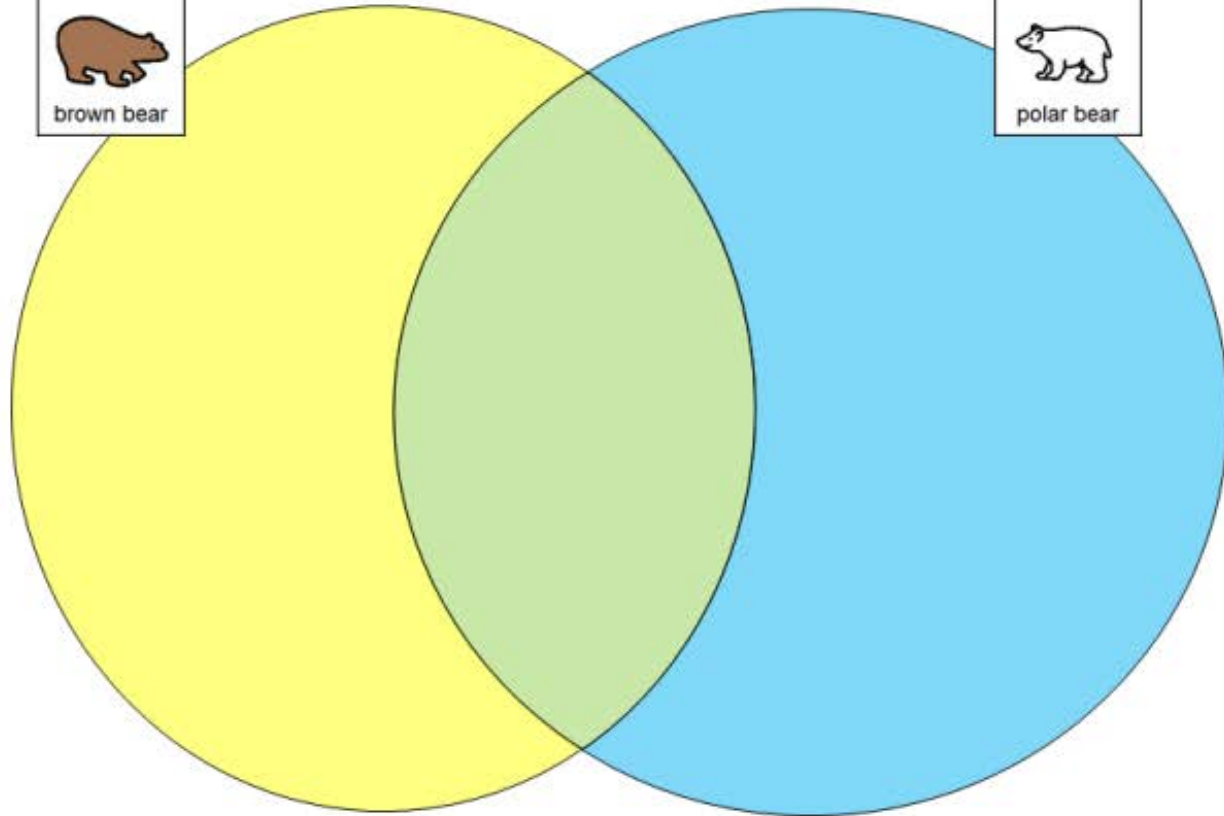
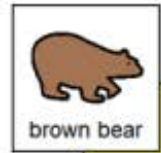


Place the picture in the circle map about the polar bears.




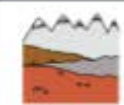








 live in tundra	 furry feet	 2 layers of fur	 black skin	 layer of fat
 white	 cubs	 females hibernate	 eat seals	 size
 like to be alone	 hunt on ice	 don't drink water	 good swimmers	 biggest meat

Each activity is set up so students can click and drag answers. No typing is required.

# Brown bears and Polar bears

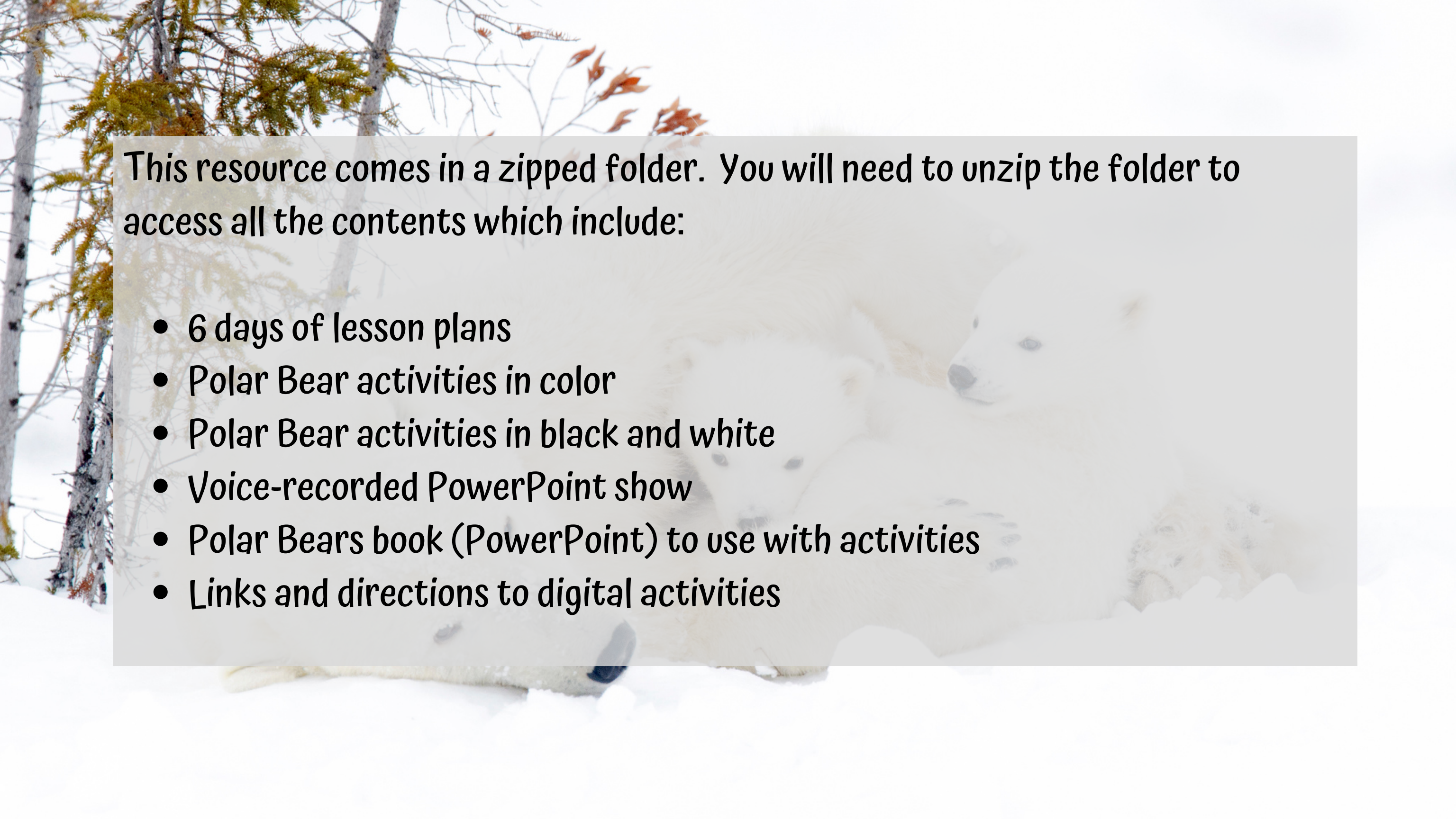


Place in the pictures in the correct location on the Venn diagram.

 forest	 large	 territorial
 tundra	 omnivore	 carnivore
 good swimmers	 white	 black
 brown	 hibernate	 fur

© 2015 ABCmouse.com. All rights reserved. Words and pictures are trademarks of ABCmouse.com.

The second set of slides uses color for differentiation and extra support for students who may need it. Mix and match slides from both sets to make the perfect set for each student.

A polar bear is walking through a snowy landscape. In the background, there are evergreen trees and some bare branches with a few brown leaves. The scene is bright and wintry.

***This resource comes in a zipped folder. You will need to unzip the folder to access all the contents which include:***

- ***6 days of lesson plans***
- ***Polar Bear activities in color***
- ***Polar Bear activities in black and white***
- ***Voice-recorded PowerPoint show***
- ***Polar Bears book (PowerPoint) to use with activities***
- ***Links and directions to digital activities***

I also have a resource that is an overview of the 4 terrestrial biomes

- Forests
- Grasslands
- Desert
- Tundra

**CLICK HERE**



I also have a unit on the Magic Treehouse Polar Bears Past Bedtime

**CLICK HERE**

