

POLAR ADVENTURE DISAPPEARING ICE

Educational Eco Guide



POLAR BEAR

A polar bear once swam for 9 days straight in search of food - the longest recorded swimming distance ever!

Polar bears live in the Arctic and need sea ice so they can travel from place to place. The ice is where they rest, raise their young, and hunt for seals.



SEAL

Some seals can hold their breath underwater for almost 2 hours by slowing down their heartbeat. They can even sleep underwater!

Seals live in the Arctic and the Antarctic. They nurse their pups on the ice, they rest there, and they eat crabs and fish at the edge of the ice.



PENGUIN

While penguins swim, their colors help them hide from killer whales. Their white bellies blend in with sunlight shining from above, and their black backs blend in with the dark ocean depths.

Penguins live in the Antarctic. They need the sea ice to rest, to lay their eggs, and to find food like squid and fish.



ARCTIC HARE

Arctic hares hide in plain sight by changing colors each season. Their fur is earthy brown in the warm months, and snowy white in the winter.

They live in the Arctic. If climate change causes summer to come early, and the snow melts before their fur changes, it will be easier for predators to see the white hares on the brown mud.



WHAT IS CLIMATE CHANGE?

Scientists have observed that the planet is getting warmer. In the last 20 years, we have had some of the hottest years ever recorded.

Much of the Arctic and Antarctic are covered in glaciers and sea ice. As the planet heats up, that ice is melting.

WHAT CAUSES CLIMATE CHANGE?



The climate has been changing because of human activities. To power cars, ships, and factories, people burn oil, gas, and coal. This creates smoke that pollutes the air (this means it makes the air dirty). It creates a gas called carbon dioxide. When there is too much carbon dioxide in the air, it traps heat from the sun and warms up the planet.

YOU CAN HELP!

Here's how you can keep the air clean and the planet cool:

GROW MORE TREES



Trees breathe in carbon dioxide and turn it into nice healthy oxygen, so people can breathe. Each year, 1 tree cleans 48 pounds of carbon dioxide pollution from the air!

- Plant a tree with your family.
- Don't have room for a tree at your home? Check with a local conservation group. Many need volunteers to plant or water trees on city streets or public land.
- Raise money for a nonprofit that protects forests. Sell lemonade, hold a bake sale, or ask your friends and family for donations to help the trees.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE



When factories make new things, they produce carbon dioxide. But if we don't buy so many new things, factories will create less pollution.

- Buy secondhand clothes and toys. Then, when you outgrow them, donate or sell them so another child can use them.
- Buy things you really need. If you do buy something new, choose things made from recycled materials - like this game!

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