

POLAR BEAR ADAPTATION MATCHING

MATCH EACH BEAR FACT BELOW TO THE GRAPHIC ON THE RIGHT THAT BEST ILLUSTRATES THAT FACT.



FACTS

1

Polar bears have developed amazing adaptations for dealing with frigid Arctic weather and a life on the sea ice.

2

Two layers of fur and a thick padding of fat help keep polar bears warm, and the polar bear's compact ears and small tail prevent heat loss.

3

Small pads on the bottom of the polar bear's paws, called papillae, grip the ice and prevent them from slipping.

4

Polar bears rely on sea ice for reaching their seal prey. Hungry bears catch seals at their breathing holes or along ice edges when they come up for air. Without sea ice, polar bears will struggle to survive in many parts of the Arctic. And Arctic sea ice is at risk ...

5

Gases in the atmosphere act like a blanket trapping heat around Earth. When we burn fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas, we pump extra CO₂ into the atmosphere, thickening the blanket and disrupting our global climate. Just as a hot summer day melts ice in a glass of water, a warming planet melts Arctic sea ice.

6

Sea ice losses from climate change are the biggest threat to polar bears—and the reason the bears are listed as Vulnerable on the Red List of Endangered Species. But we can change that by reducing our use of fossil fuels, helping polar bears and people, too!

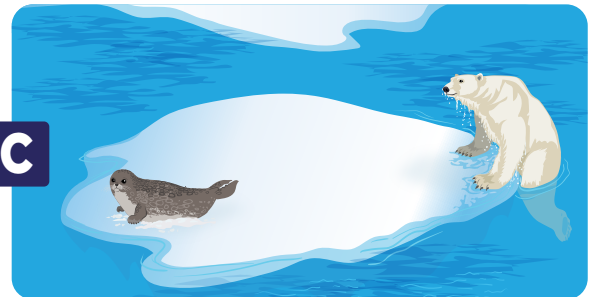
A



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