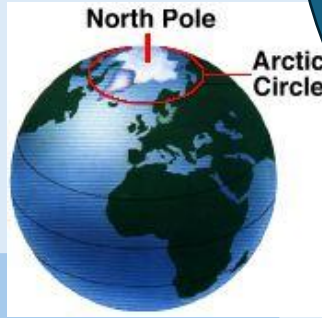


Polar Bears: Majestic Arctic Survivors

Scientific Name: *Ursus maritimus*

Habitat: Arctic Circle (North Pole region)



Did You Know?

- Polar bears are **excellent swimmers**, capable of covering long distances of around 60 miles without rest in the frigid waters of the Arctic Ocean.
- Under their white fur, polar bears have **black skin** that helps keep them warm by absorbing the heat from the sun.
- These magnificent creatures **primarily hunt seals**, using their keen sense of smell to detect prey up to a mile away.



Adaptations for Survival

- **Insulation:** Their white fur and thick blubber keep them warm in temperatures as low as negative 50°F.
- **Powerful Paws:** Polar bears have large, webbed paws that help them swim and walk on ice without sinking.
- **Stealthy Hunters:** Polar bears rely on patience and stealth, waiting near breathing holes to catch seals as they surface for air.

Fun Fact: Polar bears can smell a seal from over 20 miles away!

Conservation Status: **Vulnerable**

Polar bears are threatened by the effects of climate change. As the Arctic warms, sea ice melts, making it harder for them to hunt and find food. This is why it's critical to reduce carbon emissions and protect their fragile habitat.

What You Can Do

- Support climate action and sustainability efforts.
- Educate others about the importance of protecting polar bear habitats.
- Visit your local zoo to learn more about conservation efforts and help support wildlife protection programs.
- Turn off the lights when you leave a room to save energy!

Want to learn more?



Audience:

This exhibition label is designed for a wide variety of zoo visitors including families with young children and adults who are interested in wildlife. The language is simple and easy to understand and is accompanied by fun facts and engaging images, like the pictures of the polar bear swimming and walking on ice, that are meant to capture the attention of both kids and casual visitors. The map helps children and adults develop a better understanding of where polar bears live. The little polar bear footprints add a playful touch to help make the experience more inviting and enjoyable for everyone. The QR code allows visitors that are younger and older to be interactive with the exhibition label and to learn more about polar bears. The conservation message about the polar bear's vulnerable status also targets individuals who care about wildlife and environmental protection.

Purpose:

The purpose of this exhibition label is to educate visitors about polar bears, their special adaptations to the Arctic environment, and the threats they face due to climate change. The label helps people understand how polar bears live and hunt in the wild by presenting fun facts and compelling images. It also emphasizes the importance of protecting polar bears by highlighting their vulnerable status. This encourages visitors to think about the role they can play in supporting wildlife conservation and protecting these incredible animals and their habitat.

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