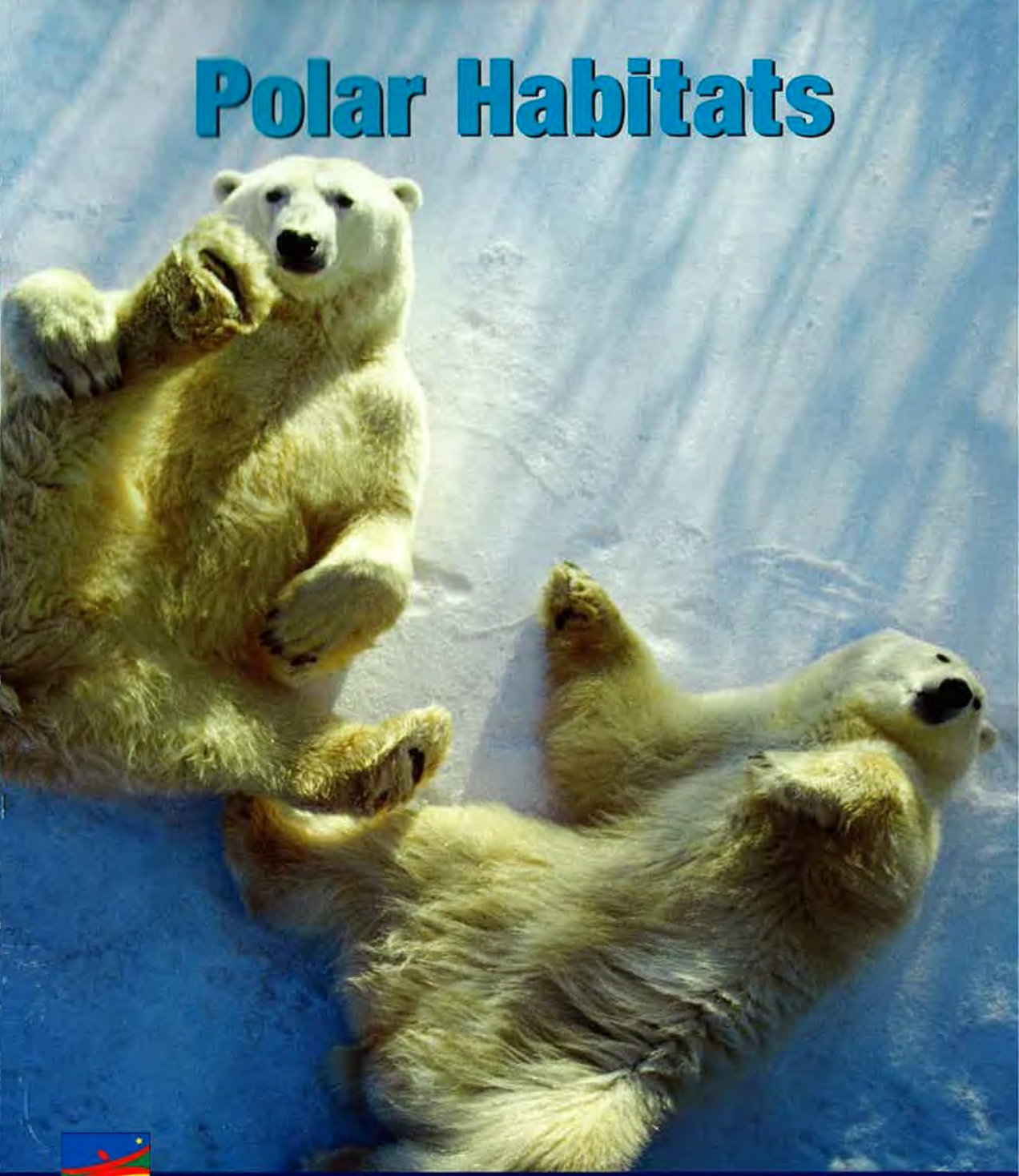
Polar Habitats



by Kira Freed

Benchmark EDUCATION

Level 28 M Word Count: 821*

The Big Idea

This book is about polar habitats. It focuses on living and nonliving things in the Arctic and Antarctic regions.

Skills at a Glance

Monitor-Reading:
- Ask questions

Comprehension:
- Compare and contrast

Phonics:
- r-controlled e, i, u (birds, blubber, burrows, feathers, flowers, fur, summer, surrounds, warmer, water, weather, winter)

Fluency:
- Read commas

Tier Two Vocabulary:
- center, form, huge, large, survive, tiny, warm

Tier Three Vocabulary:
- Antarctica, blubber, burrow, coast, float, fur, habitat, krill, nature, North Pole, regions, rocks, soil, South Pole, sunlight, the Arctic, water, weather

Grammar, Word Study, and Language Development:
- Use adjectives (cold, colorful, deep, dry, frozen, high, huge, hungry, polar, short, small, soft, thick, tiny, warmer)
- Use negatives (cannot, do not, no)

Sentence Patterns:
- _____ lives _____.
- _____ grow _____.

*Numerals, vocabulary words on pages 2 and 3, and words in photo captions, labels, diagrams, and charts are not included in the word count for this book.

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What is in polar habitats?



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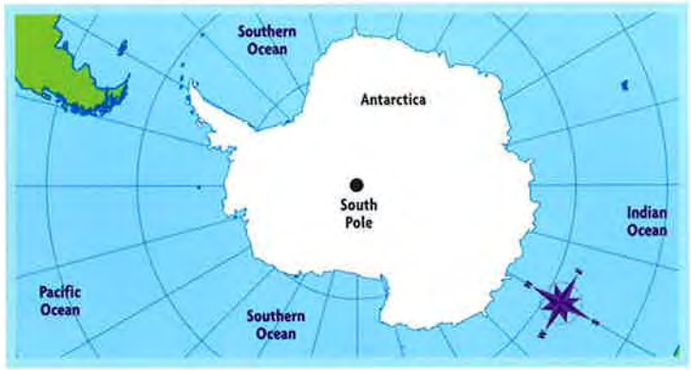
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I need to know these words.

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Antarctica



burrow



coast



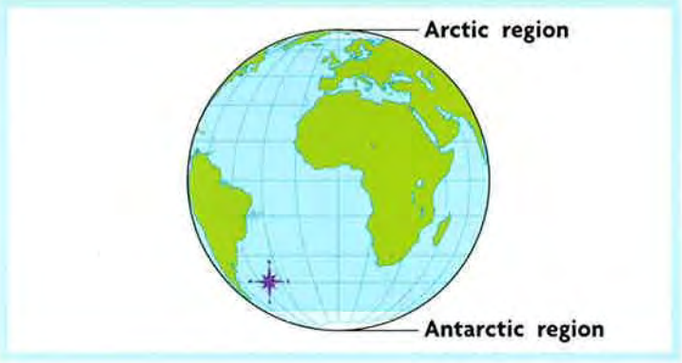
habitat



krill



regions



What Are Polar Habitats?

A **habitat** is a place in nature. A habitat has living and nonliving things. The living things are plants and animals. The nonliving things are rocks, soil, and water.

Earth has many types of habitats. Weather causes these different habitats. Polar habitats have very cold weather. Polar habitats are also dry.



▲ This habitat gets large amounts of snow.

Many living things cannot live in polar habitats. The weather is too cold and dry. The plants and animals in polar habitats have special ways to survive.

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▲ These plants do not need much water to live.



▲ Penguins live in some polar habitats.

Earth has two **regions** with polar habitats. The Arctic region is the area around the North Pole. The Arctic Ocean is the center of this region. Ice floats on the Arctic Ocean. Land surrounds most of the Arctic Ocean. The land has snow and ice much of the year.

The Antarctic region is the area around the South Pole. The center of this region is **Antarctica**. Antarctica is a very large piece of land. Snow and ice cover most of Antarctica. Antarctica is the coldest place on Earth. Cold water surrounds Antarctica on all sides. The water has huge pieces of ice.

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◀ polar habitats



▲ the Arctic region



▲ the Antarctic region



Did You Know?

Antarctica is a continent. A continent is a very large piece of land. Earth has seven continents. The Antarctic region includes Antarctica and the water around Antarctica.

What Lives in the Arctic Region?

Some plants live in the Arctic region. Plants grow where the snow melts. The snow melts in some places. Many short plants grow in the Arctic region. These plants are safe from high winds. The Arctic region has many colorful flowers.

Very few trees grow in the Arctic region. The ground is frozen. Roots cannot grow deep into the ground.



▲ Arctic plants grow close to the ground.

Animals live in the Arctic region. Whales and fish live in the Arctic Ocean. Polar bears and seals live on the ice and swim in the ocean. Foxes and hares live on land. Birds and insects live in the Arctic region, too. Some animals eat plants. Some animals eat other animals.



◀ This hare eats many types of Arctic plants.

▲ Polar bears eat seals and other animals.

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