

# Polar Animal Adaptations

## Polar Bear



Their white fur is water proof and is great for camouflage when hunting.

Polar bears have short noses and ears that minimize heat loss.

Polar bears can smell a seal up to 20 miles away or under three feet of ice.

They have very sharp teeth and use their large feet to spread their weight when walking on ice. They are excellent swimmers and can run as fast as 40mph.

## Adelie Penguin



They have a small body to keep heat in. They also have thick feathers to keep in heat in as well.

Their wings and flippers are short so that they can swim fast under water.

They have a spiky tongue so that slippery fish (food) can't escape.

The colour of their feather helps with camouflage

## Arctic Hare



Arctic hares have long claws that help them dig through the snow to find food.

They often huddle together in groups to help preserve body heat. Their fur is thicker and ears are smaller to keep heat in.

They are very fast runners and can reach speeds up to 40 mph.

Arctic hares have bright white fur to help them camouflage.

## Seal



A seal has flippers at the front and back for swimming.

It has a smooth and stream line body to pass easily in the water.

It has a thick layer of blubber to keep heat in during extreme cold temperatures.

Seals have large eyes to see under the water and ice while hunting. Their whiskers are very sensitive and help them feel around in the dark when hunting their prey.

### Antarctic Krill



Krill can survive through long periods of starvation (up to 200 days).

They have the most developed eyes of any animals in the world, which help them to see their food in the dark.

Their organs glow in the dark so that they can see each other. They can move very fast and flip to escape danger. To avoid predators they stay in deep water during the day and come to the surface at night time.

### Emperor Penguin



Emperor Penguins large size and huddling together helps to keep the heat in.

They can dive up to a depth of 550m and hold their breath for up to 22 minutes.

Emperor Penguins have a short stiff tail to help with balance when they are on land. They have powerful claws on their feet to grip onto ice, snow and rocks.

### Arctic Fox



Arctic Foxes make small dens in the side of cliffs or mountains for shelter. They have white fur to help with camouflage.

They have one of the thickest and warmest furs of any animal in the world to keep in heat in during the winter.

They often follow larger animals such as polar bears in an attempt to steal their food. They have small sharp teeth to be able to eat food.