

World of Wonder

Educational Standards and Suggested Activities

Release week January 6, 2013: Polar Bears

Standards

- Current Events: Students will read the newspaper for examples of emotional behavior in people.
- Science: Students will identify and list characteristics that allow polar bears to survive in the Arctic.
- Science: Students will research and report on the effects that melting sea ice has on polar bear survival.

Activities

1. Use the News: Polar bears exhibit certain behaviors that look like temper tantrums to us. They seem to get frustrated when they lose their prey. What do humans do when they get frustrated? What emotions can you identify as reported in the newspaper? Read the newspaper for examples of behaviors people display when they have strong emotions. Share what you find with the class.
2. What characteristics about polar bears allow them to survive in the Arctic? Read through this *World of Wonder* comic and make a list of the attributes that help with cold temperatures, water, ice, food, etc.
3. Why does the melting of the Arctic sea ice threaten the existence of the polar bear? Why do the bears need a lot of sea ice? Research and report on the effects of this ecological threat.

World of Wonder meets many state educational standards. This guide helps teachers identify standards and related activities generally intended for grade 6, but teachers can modify activities to the appropriate grade.