

Polar Bears or Penguins

Polar Cards Facilitator's Guide

Arctic

- Polar bears live here.
- There are lots of mammals here, like musk ox, reindeer, caribou, foxes, and wolves.
- This region is an ocean surrounded by land.
- There are native cultures that have been living here for many, many generations.
- It is winter in December here.
- Much of the floating sea ice is thick here—up to six to nine feet thick—and lasts many years.
- The North Pole is here.

Antarctic

- Penguins live here.
- This region is a continent surrounded by an ocean.
- People have only been visiting this place for a few hundred years.
- This location is protected by a treaty that says it can only be used for peaceful, scientific purposes.
- This is the highest, driest continent on Earth.
- It is winter in July here.
- There are no terrestrial mammals indigenous to this place.
- The average temperature at this pole is -58F.
- The area covered by ice doubles in the winter because a thin sheet of floating sea ice forms on the ocean surface.
- The South Pole is here.
- There are no trees and only two types of flowering plants here.

Both

- Scientists study ice here.
- The amount of ice here is getting smaller.
- There are flowing "streams" of ice here called "glaciers."
- Floating sea ice forms every winter here.
- There are lots of marine mammals - like whales and seals - in this region.
- There are icebergs here.