

# Mammal Fact Sheet

## Interesting Facts

- **Class:** Mammal
- **Size:** The polar bear is 5 feet tall (1.6 m). It is 10 feet (3 m) long. Males can weigh 1760 pounds (800 kg). Females can weigh 660 pounds (300 kg).
- **Food:** Polar bears eat seal, fish, baby walrus, and seabirds.
- **Appearance:** Polar bears have white fur. They have a black nose, lips, and eyes. They have small ears.
- **Habitat:** Canada, Norway, Greenland, Russia.
- **Young:** The polar bear has 1 to 4 cubs. A baby polar bear only 1 pound (680g). The baby polar stays with its mom for two years.

## Polar Bear

### *Ursus maritimus*

Polar Bears live in the Arctic. They live on ice packs near the North Pole. It is cold where they live.

To stay warm polar bears have two kinds of fur. Thick white fur is next to the skin. It helps keep them warm. It also helps to hide them in the snow.

They also have hair that stops their skin from getting wet. These hairs are like straws. When the polar bear swims it does not get cold.

Polar bears like to swim. Their front paws have skin between the toes to help

them swim. They paddle with the front paws and turn with the back ones.

Polar bears can catch seals in the water. They will also eat other kinds of meat like fish or seabirds.

In the spring polar bears

**Polar bears can smell food up to 40 miles (64 km) away.**

get ready to start a family. The female eats a lot before the winter. In the fall, she digs a hole in a snow bank. This is called a den. The babies are born there.

In the early winter the babies are born. A baby bear is called a cub. They stay with their mother in the den all winter.

Cubs learn everything from their mother. They watch all that she does. The



cubs are quiet and sit still while she hunts.

Polar bears have some problems. People hunt bears for meat and fur. Another problem is that the ice is melting sooner. The bear stays on the ice to catch seal. When it is gone they are on land with no food.

