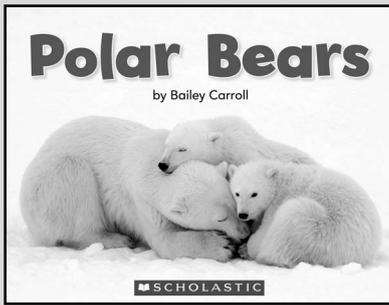


Polar Bears



Polar Bears Teachers' Notes

Learning objective: CLL Reading: Know that information can be retrieved from books and computers

Key words: the, in, are

Cross-curricular/theme links: Animal behaviour and habitats

Genre: Non-fiction

NC level: Foundation stage

Assessment: Check that children understand that non-fiction books can give us information

Word count: 32

Getting started

Read the title and back cover blurb to the children. Flip through the book and talk about how we know this is a non-fiction book (for example, the blurb suggests we will find out what polar bears do; the book has photos of real polar bears, and so on.) What type of information do the children think they will find out from this book? Talk about the pictures, using the word pattern in the text, 'What do you think the polar bears are doing here? Yes, they are swimming.'

Guided reading

Pages 2-3: Encourage the children to use their knowledge of phonics to sound out some words, such as, 'running'. Encourage them to use initial letter sounds to help with tricky words like 'snow' and 'walking', but help them to read these words as necessary.

Pages 4-5: Continue to prompt and support children's reading in the same way, and talk about what is happening in the pictures.

Pages 6-8: Check that children notice and respond to the change of text pattern on page 6, and continue to use their knowledge of phonics to help them read.

Speaking and listening

- After reading, ask the children to talk about what they have found out about polar bears from this book. Encourage them to use the photos as well as the text, and talk about what the book tells us about the place where polar bears live, as well as what they can do.

After reading

Use these questions to help children talk about the book.

- Is this a story or a non-fiction book? How do you know?
- What do the polar bears do in this book?
- What is the place where the polar bears live like?

Reading into writing

Encourage the children to draw a picture of a polar bear and label it to show what the bear is doing.

Book quiz for children

- 1 Can you find the picture of the polar bears playing?
- 2 Where do the polar bears dig?
- 3 Can you find the picture of the polar bears resting? Does it look comfortable?

Support for less confident readers

You may want to introduce the topic of polar bears before children read, by sharing other non-fiction books or showing them a brief film clip of polar bears (there are several BBC wildlife video clips on YouTube, for example).

Extension for more confident readers

Children could do some simple research on polar bears using other books or the internet, and write or tell others orally about what they have found out.