

Lesson Plan

Find the Meaning

Book: *Saving Polar Bears*

Series: Saving Animals

Level: Navigator

Objective

To help students practice identifying the meaning of unfamiliar words in a text.

Supplies

- *Saving Polar Bears* book
- Find the Meaning worksheet (attached)

Before the Activity

Read through the *Saving Polar Bears* book, or assign it to students to read on their own. Print out a copy of the Find the Meaning worksheet for each student.

Activity

Saving Polar Bears introduces many new terms, both as glossary words and with context clues in the text. Students will fill out the Find the Meaning worksheet to identify the meaning of these terms.

Evaluation

Use the attached answer key to award students 1 point for each correct answer, for a total of 14 points.

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 4 (RI 4.4), and the National Science Education Standards' Content Standard C, grades K–4.

Find the Meaning

adapted	den	polar bear jail
algae	ecosystem	populations
blubber	food web	protected areas
climate change	herbivores	satellites
colony	insulates	

1. An _____ is the community of living organisms and the interactions between them and their environment.
2. _____ are vehicles that orbit Earth to collect information.
3. Wildlife officers put polar bears in a safe building called a _____ until they can guide the bears back into the wild.
4. _____ is a human-caused global crisis involving long-term changes in Earth's temperature and weather patterns.
5. Animals that have changed over time to survive in a certain habitat or deal with a certain situation have _____.
6. Scientists can study the decline or growth of polar bear _____ in order to see how polar bears are doing as a species.
7. A _____ is the collection of feeding relationships among different living things.
8. A group of animals that live together is called a _____.
9. _____ is the thick layer of fat that helps keep a polar bear warm.
10. Top predators help keep an ecosystem balanced by controlling how many _____ are eating plants.
11. Countries create _____, or places where human activity is limited, in order to help keep polar bears safe and living in their natural habitats.
12. A thick layer of fat _____, or keeps heat from getting in or out of, a polar bear's body.
13. A _____ is a hole in the snow where female polar bears give birth and raise their cubs.
14. _____, or tiny, plant-like organisms that produce oxygen, are at the bottom of polar bears' food web.

Find the Meaning **Answer Key**

adapted	den	polar bear jail
algae	ecosystem	populations
blubber	food web	protected areas
climate change	herbivores	satellites
colony	insulates	

1. An **ecosystem** is the community of living organisms and the interactions between them and their environment.
2. **Satellites** are vehicles that orbit Earth to collect information.
3. Wildlife officers put polar bears in a safe building called a **polar bear jail** until they can guide the bears back into the wild.
4. **Climate change** is a human-caused global crisis involving long-term changes in Earth's temperature and weather patterns.
5. Animals that have changed over time to survive in a certain habitat or deal with a certain situation have **adapted**.
6. Scientists can study the decline or growth of polar bear **populations** in order to see how polar bears are doing as a species.
7. A **food web** is the collection of feeding relationships among different living things.
8. A group of animals that live together is called a **colony**.
9. **Blubber** is the thick layer of fat that helps keep a polar bear warm.
10. Top predators help keep an ecosystem balanced by controlling how many **herbivores** are eating plants.
11. Countries create **protected areas**, or places where human activity is limited, in order to help keep polar bears safe and living in their natural habitats.
12. A thick layer of fat **insulates**, or keeps heat from getting in or out of, a polar bear's body.
13. A **den** is a hole in the snow where female polar bears give birth and raise their cubs.
14. **Algae**, or tiny, plant-like organisms that produce oxygen, are at the bottom of polar bears' food web.