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Bears





B E A R S

Bears are carnivorous mammals. Most species also enjoy fruit, nuts, and berries. Panda bears eat almost nothing but bamboo.



Some bears go into a reduced state of movement during the winter cold. This is not true hibernation. They sleep a lot but wake up and browse when the weather is warm. They also give birth during this time.

Bears in areas with mild winters do not “den up” at all. Polar bears are very active in the winter.

Look up the definition of the each word below, and write it on the lines.

1. carnivorous _____

2. mammal _____

3. species _____



Polar Bears

These white hunters grow almost as large as the Kodiak bear. Males can be up to 1,200 pounds and 9 feet long. Females are about half that size.



Polar bears look like they are white. Their fur is actually clear tubes so the sun can go straight to the skin. Their skin is black. This attracts and holds the heat from the sun. The hollow hairs help them stay buoyant when they swim.

Polar bears are found around the globe in the Arctic regions. The cold, harsh, winter is their time of heavy feeding and activity.



Polar bears are excellent hunters and swimmers. They have fur on the bottom of their paws, webbed feet, and small heads. Their main food is seals and young walrus.

The only polar bears that den up for the winter are females that are pregnant or nursing new born cubs.

The biggest danger to polar bears is warm weather. Some scientists claim that the Arctic region is getting smaller each year. They say that winters are shorter. This affects how much food the polar bear can catch. Water pollution and oil spills are causing the death of many seals. This cuts down on the available food for the polar bear.

Polar bears are not listed as an endangered species.
There are about 25,000 of them in the wild.





Use a pencil so you can erase if you need to.

bears
cubs

brown
hibernate

grizzly
sloth

panda
caves

