

Habitat: The Arctic fox is a furry mammal that lives in the Arctic Tundra farther north than any other land mammal.

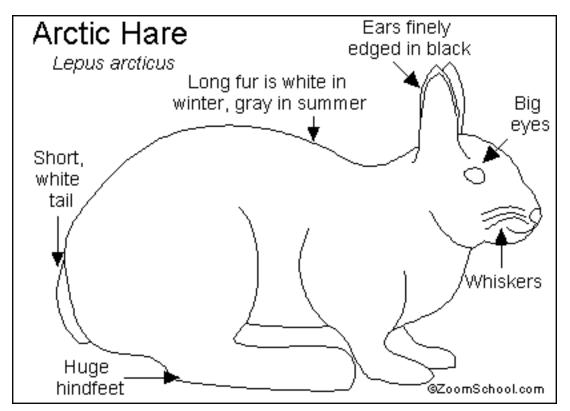
Length: The Arctic Fox is 3 feet long.

Classification: It is a mammal.

Diet: Arctic foxes are carnivores (meat-eaters) who hunt

alone. The Arctic Fox eats eggs, birds, insects, fish, and lemmings.

Adaptations: The fur of the Arctic fox is white during the winter and gray-brown in the summer.



Habitat: The Arctic hare is a social animal that lives in the frigid <u>tundra</u> of North America, Newfoundland, and Greenland. These hares often congregate in groups of up to 200 individuals.

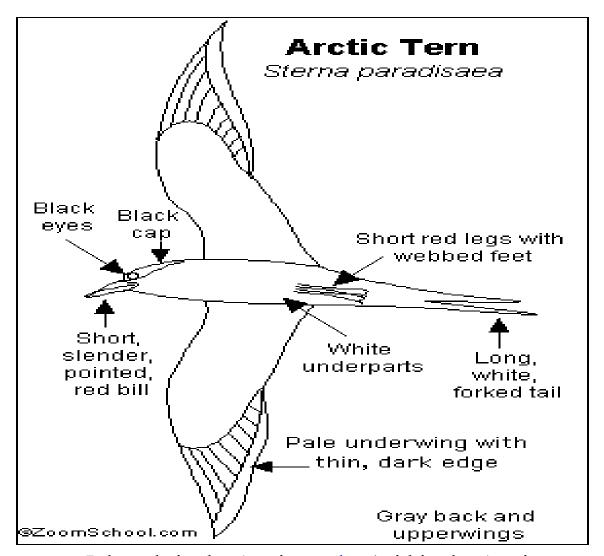
Length: 2 feet long Weight: 12 pounds

Classification: It is a mammal.

Diet: Arctic hares are herbivores (plant-eaters).

Predators: This mammal is hunted by <u>wolves</u> and people. The young are preyed upon by <u>Arctic foxes</u>, gyrfalcons, <u>snowy owls</u>, and <u>ermine</u> (<u>short-tailed weasels</u>).

Adaptations: They have very big, powerful hind legs and huge hind feet which they use to leap on the snow. They have relatively short ears (which minimizes their heat loss). In the extreme north, Arctic hares stay white all year; in areas where the snow melts, their fur changes to a gray-brown coat in the summer.

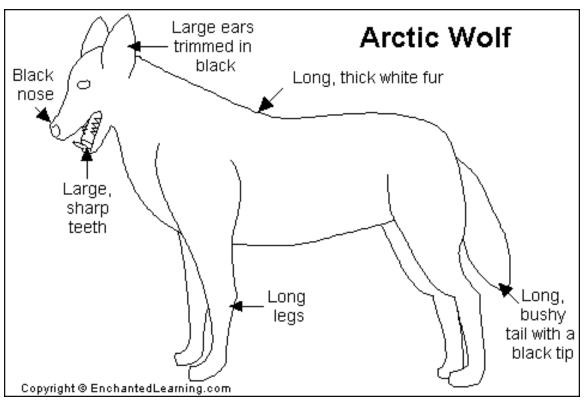


Habitat: It breeds in the Arctic <u>tundra</u> (within the Arctic Circle), but flies to the edge of the <u>Antarctic</u> ice pack during the winter. It flies over 21,750 miles (35,000 km) each year. It is a small bird that makes the longest migration of any bird.

Length: 1 feet long

Weight: Less than 1 pound Classification: It is a bird

Diet: The Arctic Tern eats mostly fish, but also likes insects and shrimp.

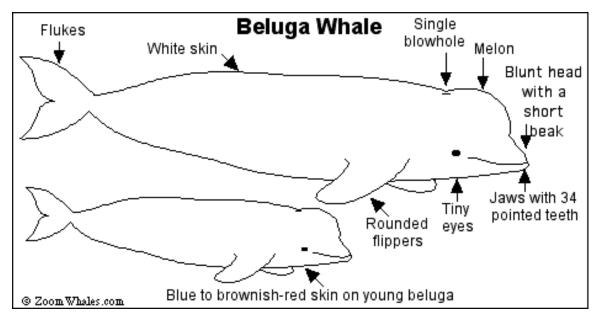


Habitat: The Arctic wolf lives in the Tundra of Canada.

Length: 4 feet long Weight: 12 pounds

Classification: It is a mammal.

Hunting and Diet: Wolves hunt in packs and often prey upon animals that are much larger that they are. They mostly eat <u>caribou</u>, and they kill their prey with a devastating bite on the neck. Wolves almost never attack people. They swallow food in large chunks, barely chewing it. Wolves can eat up to 20 pounds (9 kg) of meat at one meal.



Habitat: The Beluga Whale is a toothed whale that lives in cold Arctic and sub-Arctic waters.

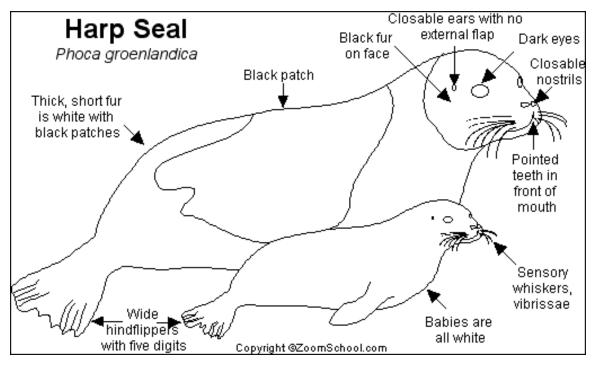
Length: 15 feet long Weight: 3,000 pounds Classification: Mammal

Adapatations The Beluga uses echolocation to locate the prey.

Predators: They are slow swimmers who are hunted by killer whales, polar bears, and people.

Diet: The Beluga is a carnivore (meat-eater). It hunts and eats bottom-dwelling prey, including <u>fish</u>, <u>squid</u>, <u>crustaceans</u>, <u>octopi</u>, and worms.

Belugas are very social animals, congregating in pods (social groups) of 2-25 whales.



Habitat: The harp seal is a marine mammal that spends most of its life in the sea, but also goes onto ice floes. It lives along shorelines in the North Atlantic and the Arctic Ocean, ranging from Russia to Greenland to Canada.

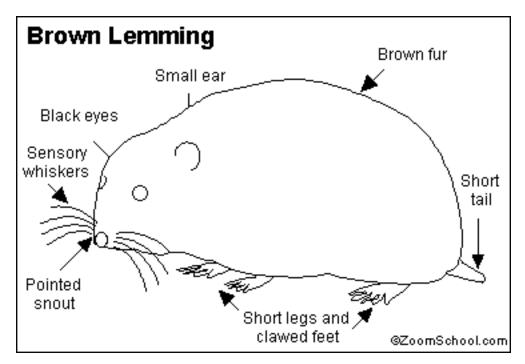
Length: 5 feet long

Weight: 285 pounds

Classification: It is a mammal.

Diet: Harp Seals are **carnivores** (meat-eaters). They eat mostly <u>fish</u> and crabs. Seals don't chew their food; they swallow it in large chunks.

Predators: Harp seals are hunted by <u>killer whales (orcas)</u>, <u>polar bears</u>, and people.



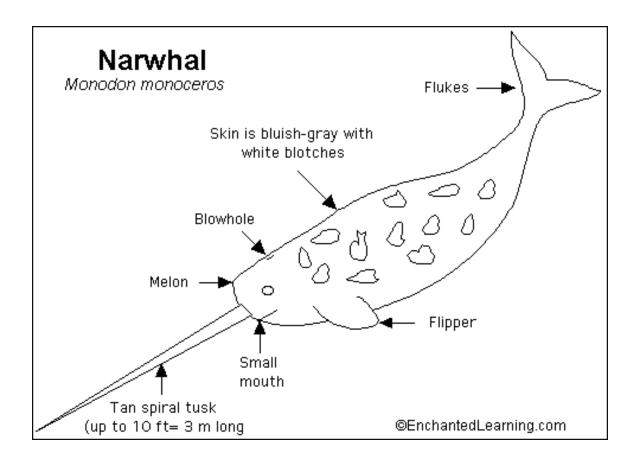
Habitat: The lemming is a small, mouse-like animal that lives in the Arctic tundra.

Length: ½ of a foot

Weight: Less than 1 pound Classification: It is a mammal.

Runways: Lemmings make paths through the grass, under roots or under snow, called runways. They use these runways for shelter and for finding food.

Diet: Lemmings are **herbivores** (plant-eaters) who eat moss and grass. Their many predators include ermines, <u>foxes</u>, <u>snowy owls</u>, <u>weasels</u>, gyrfalcons, and jaegers.

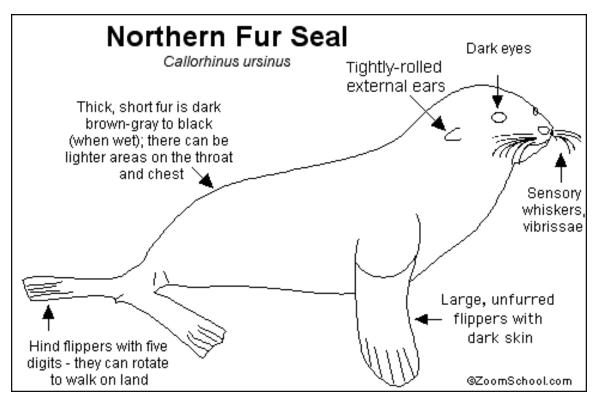


Habitat: Narwhals are social whales that live in frigid Arctic waters.

Length: 16 feet

Weigh about 1.8 tons

Hunting and Diet: Narwhals eat fish, squid, shrimp, and other marine animals.



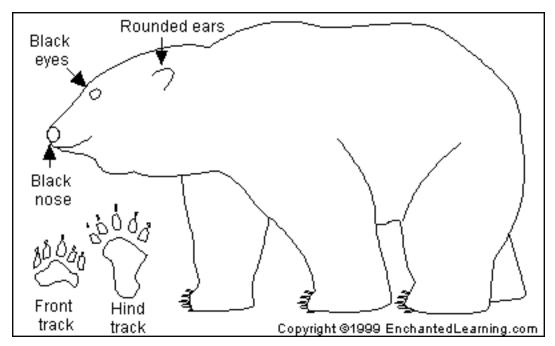
Habitat: The Northern Fur Seal lives in cool northern waters in the Pacific Ocean.

Length: 6 feet

Weight: 500 pounds

Diet: Northern Fur Seals are **carnivores** (meat-eaters) that hunt at night (they are primarily nocturnal). They eat <u>fish</u>, <u>squid</u>, and <u>octopi</u>. Seals don't chew their food; they swallow it in large chunks.

Predators: Northern Fur Seals are hunted by <u>killer whales</u> (orcas), some sharks, foxes, and Steller sea lions.

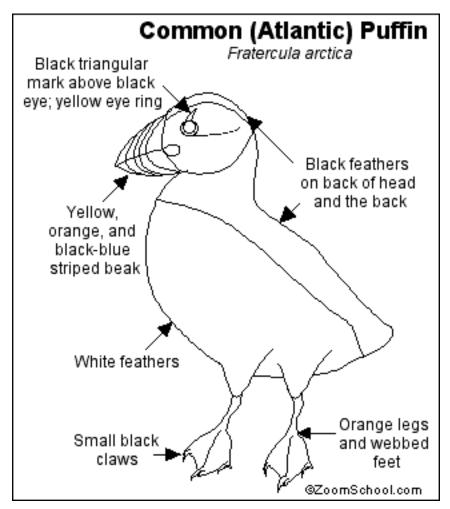


Habitat: Polar bears live in the frozen Arctic. They spend much of their time swimming in frigid seas.

Length: 10 feet Weight: 1,700 pounds

Adaptations: They have wide front paws with slightly webbed toes that help them swim.

Diet: Polar Bears are carnivores (meat-eaters) who frequently hunt and catch their prey in the water, often many miles from land. They are fierce predators who eat mostly seals (and some walruses and other marine mammals). A polar bear's stomach can hold up to 150 pounds. Polar bears don't drink water.

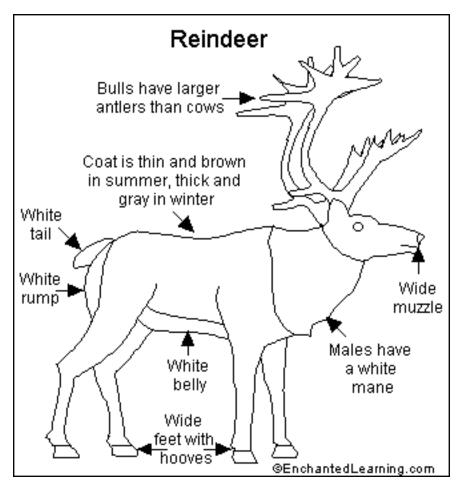


Habitat: Puffins are sea birds that can fly, swim, and dig burrows. These squat birds live on cold, Arctic coasts.

Length: 1 foot Weight: 1 foot

Adaptations: Puffins have thick, waterproof feathers that protect them from the cold. They have webbed feet that help them swim. Their huge, parrot-like bill stores fish as they hunt underwater.

Diet: Puffins are **carnivores** (meat-eaters) that dive in the sea for food. They eat mostly small fish.



Reindeer/Caribou

Habitat: Arctic tundra, mountains, and forests.

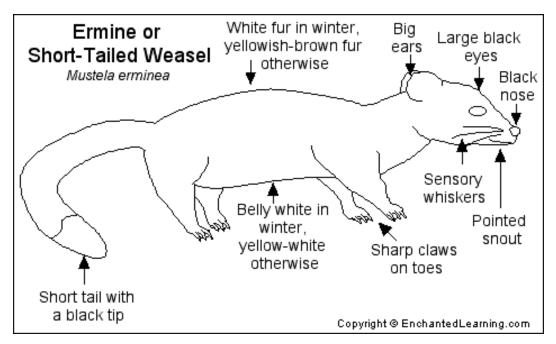
Length: 6 feet

Weight: 450 pounds

Predators: Grey wolf, hawk, bears

Classification: Mammal

Diet: The reindeer is an **herbivore** (a plant-eater) who spends most of the day eating. During the winter, reindeer eat lichens and moss; in warmer months, they also eat leaves and herbs.



Habitat: Short-tailed Weasels live in the Arctic <u>tundra</u> of North America and Europe.

Length: 1 foot

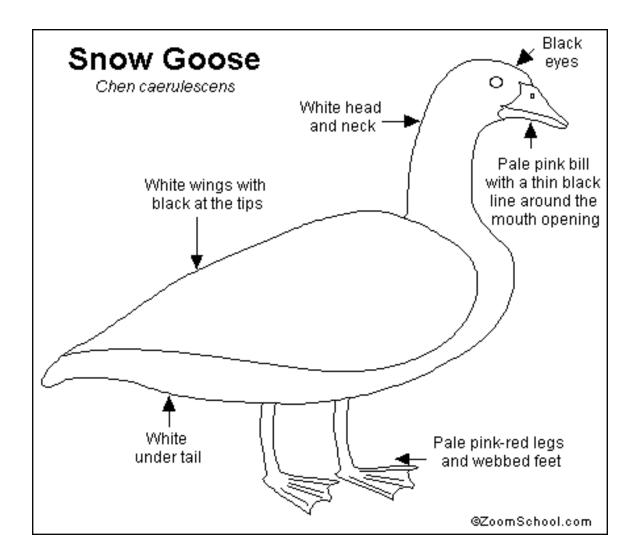
Weight: Less than a pound

Adaptations: The tip of the tail is often black. They grow white fur in the winter, but the tip of the tail remains black. When an animal chases the weasel, it will often chase the black tail tip and miss catching the weasel.

Diet: Weasels are **carnivores** (meat-eaters) who eat small mammals (like <u>mice</u>, <u>squirrels</u>, <u>rabbits</u>, and hares), <u>birds</u>, <u>insects</u>, and berries.

Predators: Weasels are preyed upon by owls and martens.

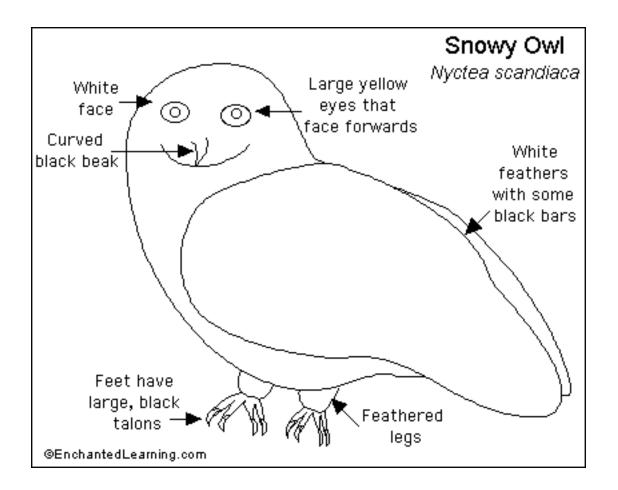
Classification: Mammal



Habitat: The Snow Goose lives in the Arctic tundra.

Length: 1 foot

Diet: The Snow Goose eats aquatic plants and grains.

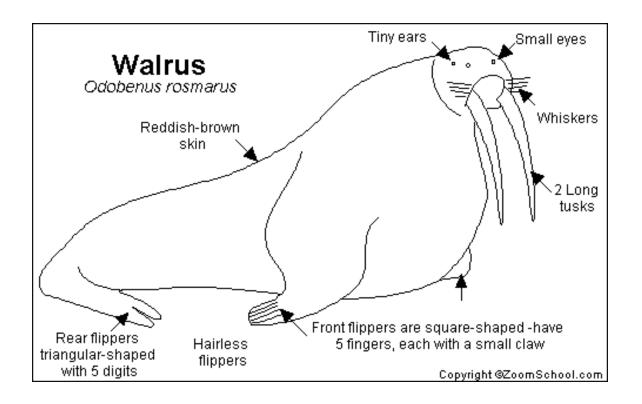


Habitat: The Snowy Owl lives in the <u>tundra</u> of North America.

Length: 1 foot

Weight: 4 pounds

Diet: Snowy owls are **carnivores** (meat-eaters). Snowy owls hunt and eat small <u>rodents</u> like <u>lemmings</u>. They also eat hares, rabbits, and large birds like ducks, and geese.



Habitat: The Walrus lives on the edge of the Arctic ice sheet. It is a large, noisy mammal that spends most of its life in the sea, but also enjoys sunbathing on the beach.

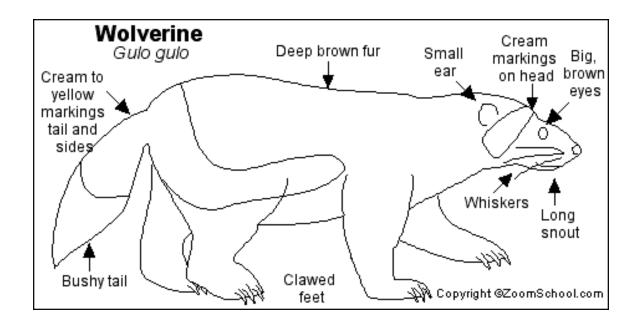
Length: 14 feet Their tusks can be over 3 feet long!

Weight: 2,000 pounds

Predators: Walruses are often hunted by <u>polar bears</u> and <u>killer whales (orcas)</u>.

Diet: Walruses are **carnivores** (meat-eaters); they eat mostly clams, snails, mussels, worms, sea cucumbers, and other animals that they find on the sea floor. If they are

very hungry, they will eat seals.



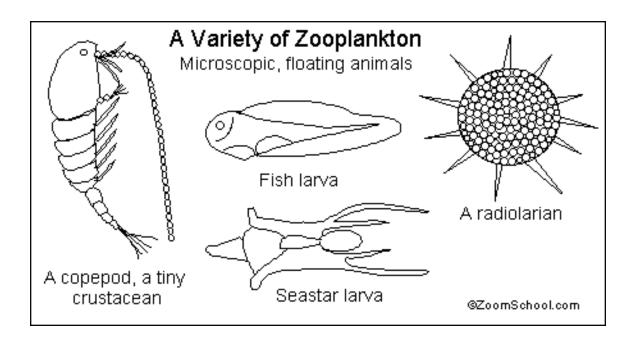
Habitat: Cool forests and Arctic tundra

Length: 3 feet

Weight: 40 pounds

Diet: Wolverines are **omnivores** (meat and plant eaters). They eat large and small mammals (like weak <u>caribou</u>, <u>deer</u>, and <u>rodents</u>), birds, eggs, fish, plants, roots, and fruit. They can kill animals that are bigger than they are.

Classification: Mammal



Plankton are microscopic organisms that float freely with oceanic currents and in other bodies of water. Plankton is made up of tiny plants (called **phytoplankton**) and tiny animals (called **zooplankton**).

Phytoplankton are primary producers (also called autotrophs). As the base of the oceanic food web, phytoplankton use chlorophyll to convert energy from sunlight.

Zooplankton are microscopic animals that eat other plankton.

- Some zooplankton are larval or very immature stages of larger animals, including mollusks (like snails and squid), crustaceans (like crabs and lobsters), fish, jellyfish, sea cucumbers, and seastars (these are called meroplankton).
- Some zooplankton are single-celled animals, like foraminifera and radiolarians.
- Other zooplankton are tiny crustaceans, like Daphnia.

(If you include <u>krill</u> and <u>copepods</u>, which can swim, this group constitutes about 70 percent of all plankton)

Food Web: Plankton is the first link in the marine food chain; it is eaten by many organisms, including mussels, fish, birds, and mammals (for example, baleen whales).