

National Geographic Kids Reader: Amazing Animal Journeys

Notes for parents: reading this book with your child

- Before your child shares this book with you, look at the front cover and talk about what the creatures are doing and what type of creature they are (walrus). Read the title and think of as many migrating creatures as you can together. Talk about why animals need to make journeys.
- Look at the table of contents together. Talk about how the book is organised and help your child to notice that it presents problems and solutions.
- Here are some ways you can help your child as they learn to read more complex information books:
 - Read the *Word Wise* words that are featured in the glossary together: *migration, mate, camouflage, scavenger, larvae, instinct, blubber, predator, ice floe, species, habitat*. Relate some of the words to children's wider experiences, e.g. think of other *camouflaged* creatures; think of some *instinctive* behaviour.
 - Help your child to read challenging place names: *Makgadikgadi, Nxai Pan, Wyoming, Boteti, Botswana, Pacific Ocean, Bering Sea, Chukchi Sea, Wrangel Island*.
 - Encourage your child to explain the problems facing the zebra, crab and walrus; helping them to recount the reasons for why these creatures have to migrate.
 - Look closely at the images of each creature and notice their special features.
 - Ask your child simple questions as you read together. Encourage them to raise questions for you.
- Discuss which migrating animal is the most amazing and why your child thinks this.
- Plan how you can act to reduce pollution as a family, to help the Pacific walrus.

Pronunciation guide: Makgadikgadi (*Mak-ad-ik-adi*), Nxai (*N-zay*), Wyoming (*Wy-oh-ming*), Boteti (*Boh-te-tee*), Chukchi (*ch-uk-chi*)

Collins