

National Geographic Kids Reader: Polar bears

Notes for parents: reading this book with your child

- Before you share this book, look at the front cover and talk about what you can see in the picture. Discuss any prior knowledge your child has about polar bears, remembering any visits to the zoo or wildlife films/stories/other books about polar bears that they know.
- Show your child how to use the special information book features in this book, like the contents and picture glossary. Look at the picture glossary together to learn the new words and then look for them as you read the book together.
- Here are some ways you can help your child as they learn to read:
 - Read the book together, showing your interest in finding out about polar bears.
 - Help children with any unfamiliar words. Encourage them to use phonics, existing word knowledge and the pictures to try to work the word out. Even if they can't sound out the whole word, they may be able to sound out part of it, and this may help them read the word.
 - Encourage them to look carefully at the pictures and labels and to talk about what they can see.
 - Have fun reading the jokes together.
 - Give them lots of praise and encouragement as they tackle new words!
- Discuss how the polar bear survives in the Arctic. Help your child to flick back through the book to find ideas.