

# Polar Bear Facts

- ❖ The polar bear is the world's largest land predator.
  - ❖ They can be found in the Arctic, the U.S. (Alaska), Canada, Russia, Denmark (Greenland), and Norway.
  - ❖ Females usually only have two cubs and they have these babies in a cave that they've dug in a large snowdrift. The babies are about the size of a rat and weigh only a pound.
  - ❖ Male polar bears may grow up to 10 feet tall and weigh can over 1400 pounds. Females can grow to 7 feet and weigh up to 650 pounds.
  - ❖ In the wild polar bears live up to age 25.
  - ❖ A polar bear's fur is not white. Each hair is clear hollow tube. Polar bears look white because each hollow hair reflects the light. On sunny days, the polar bear's hair traps the sun's heat to keep the bear warm. Polar bear fur is oily and water repellent. The hairs don't mat when wet, allowing the polar bears to easily shake off water and ice.
  - ❖ Polar bears have wide front paws with webbed toes that help them swim. They paddle with their front feet and steer with their hind feet. Their paw pads are rough, helping to them from slipping on the ice.
  - ❖ Polar bears have been known to swim 100 miles at a stretch.
  - ❖ Polar bears primarily eat seals.
  - ❖ A male polar bear is called a boar and a female polar bear is called a sow.
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