



Arctic Animals:

Teacher's Guide



IN A NUTSHELL

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SUBJECTS

Fine Arts
Language Arts
Mathematics
Science
Social Studies

This is a set of two teacher's guides, one for grades K-3 and one for grades 4-8, which provides materials and instructions for a complete unit about the arctic and the animals who live there. The guides begin with a list of eight learning objectives and a vocabulary list, and conclude with a bibliography and pre/post assessment tools. Each booklet includes thirteen or fourteen activities about the arctic habitat, its location, its fauna, and some of the issues facing the arctic region. Activities include an objective, brief background information, a list of materials needed, and a description of the activity. Types of activities include discussions, investigations, experiments regarding snow and cold, and a simulation game. Some activities occur in slightly altered form in both books. The booklets include student data sheets and masters, cards and handouts, and are illustrated

Grade Level
K-3, 4-8

Length
24 pages each

Date Published
1995

THE BOTTOM
L I N E

"Presents a balance of information, although some wording may be construed as slanted."

What the REVIEWERS Said !	Key Characteristics	Strengths Noted	Other Considerations
	Fairness and Accuracy	Information is current. Looks at different cultures and social contexts.	Information sources identified only in a general way. Role of scientific advisors not stated. Some of the language used indicates a bias.
	Depth		Activities do not address some of the goals of the curriculum. Does not provide theme to tie the different activities together.
	Emphasis on Skills Building	Develops basic science and laboratory skills. Provides opportunities to use critical and creative thinking skills.	Very little attention to problem-solving or defining issues, or to the relationship between the activities and solutions to environmental issues.
	Action Orientation	Suggestions for action are given in the introduction and background information.	Little emphasis on evaluating choices.
	Instructional Soundness	Uses a variety of learning/teaching methods. Draws on different disciplines and subjects. Goals and objectives are clearly stated.	Does little to encourage learner to question or to conduct their own inquiry. Activities are largely classroom based. Connections to learners' lives are not strongly made.
	Usability	Materials needed are generally available to teachers. Material is clearly written, instructions are easy to understand.	Background information not always sufficient. Material is disjointed at times.

"This material would be easy to pick up and use and to integrate into a curriculum."

"Not a lot of substance to this guide. It covers a wide range of topics but on a superficial level."