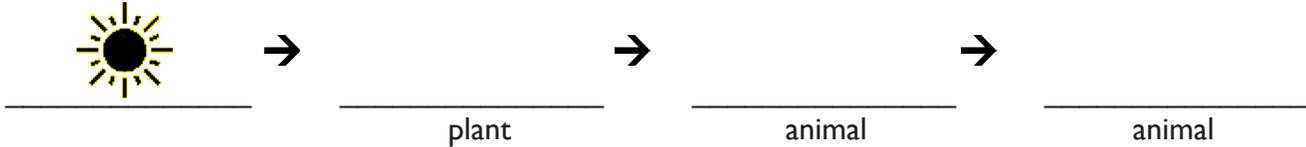




Arctic Life

Summer

Summer in the arctic is a time of lots of daylight. Plants are busy growing. They use the energy of the sun to make food for themselves and for other living things. Can you find a food chain that begins with the sunlight and plants of this landscape?



Adaptations are structures or behaviors that help animals meet their needs. One thing that all animals need is food, but different animals get their food in different ways. They all need special adaptations to help them be successful.

The red squirrel gets its food from plants. What adaptations would help the squirrel find its food?



The three animals below are predators. They get their food by hunting other animals. What special adaptations can you observe that help them be successful hunters?

Wolf



Adaptations

Eagle



Adaptations

Marten



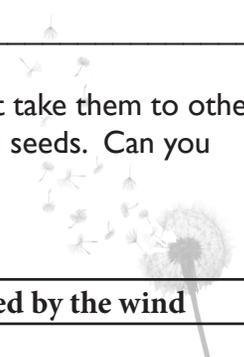
Adaptations

Look carefully at this landscape. Do you think there is more food here for the squirrel or for the wolf?

Fall

Daylight is getting short in the fall and plants are getting ready for winter. In the summer diorama, we see many flowers. Observe the plants in the Fall diorama. What do you see that is different about the plants here?

Plants have different strategies to spread their seeds. Some seeds are eaten by animals that take them to other places. Some seeds are carried by the wind. Find examples of each and draw the plant and seeds. Can you identify the plants?



Plant that makes seeds for animals to eat	Plant that makes seeds carried by the wind



All living things depend on each other in one way or another. Find examples of plants and animals that need each other.

The _____ needs the _____.

The _____ needs the _____.

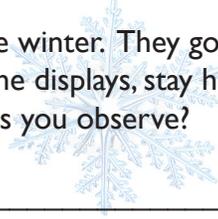
The _____ needs the _____.

People also depend on other living things. They use plants and animals to meet their needs for food, clothing and shelter. Find examples of each in the displays.

Food from Plants	Food from Animals	Clothing/Shelter

Winter

Some animals choose to leave Alaska during the winter. They go where it is warmer and there is more food available. Other animals, like most you see in the displays, stay here. They have different adaptations that help them survive. What are some of the adaptations you observe?



Of all the animals you see in the exhibits, which animal would you most like to be in the wintertime here in Alaska? Why?

If I could design the perfect Alaskan animal, it would have...

the fur/feathers of a _____

the feet of a _____

the ears of a _____

the home of a _____

the food of a _____

other features _____



I would call it _____

Draw a picture of your perfect animal here.

All these exhibits show views of wilderness. Find your favorite view and spend some time just quietly listening and observing. Imagine you are really there.

Describe what you see, hear and smell. _____

Describe how this place makes you feel. _____

Describe some things you would like to do with your family if you visited this place. _____

