

Kali's Story AN ORPHANED POLAR BEAR RESCUE

RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS

STEAM-THEMED: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ART, MATH

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY LET'S COMPARE HABITATS

Kali's habitat at the Bronx Zoo is very different than his natural habitat in Alaska. Have students visit the San Diego Zoo website at <http://www.zoo.sandiegozoo.org/live-cams>. Choose an animal to observe using one of the zoo's live webcams. Students should gather information about the animal's natural habitat and then compare that with the animal's habitat at the zoo. For further comparisons, have students search for webcams showing the same animal at other zoos. Choose two zoos and compare their habitats. Which zoo has a habitat that seems most like the animal's natural habitat? Explain.



TECHNOLOGY, MATH A ZOO NEAR YOU?

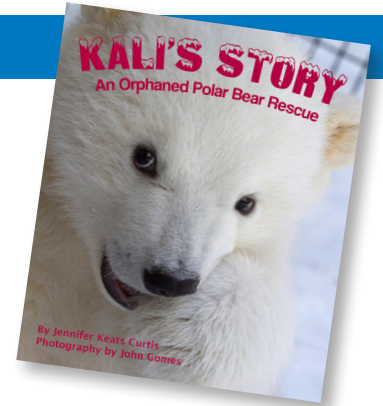
How much would a trip to the zoo for 4 kids and an adult cost? Have students go to <https://www.rd.com/list/best-zoo-every-state> to find a zoo in your home state. Have them plan a trip for 1 adult and 4 kids to visit this zoo. Each student should make a chart showing: mode of transportation, distance to travel, fuel cost, zoo admission cost, and cost of any snacks or amenities to be purchased during the visit. Students should compare their findings and discuss the value of the zoo visit.

ENGINEERING, SCIENCE BUILD A BLUBBER GLOVE

Materials: 1 gallon plastic baggies (3 per group), shortening, ice water

Explain that animals that live in cold climates often have a layer of *blubber* as insulation to keep them warm. Let students build a "blubber glove" by filling a gallon baggie half full of shortening. Let them take turns kneading the shortening. One student should then place a hand in another baggie or a rubber glove and gently place that

hand into the bag of shortening. Let students take turns experimenting putting their hands in ice water using just a plastic bag or rubber glove for protection and using the constructed blubber glove. Discuss their observations. Which method kept their hands warmer?



ART POLAR BEAR PORTRAITS

Materials: black, blue, and white construction paper; white chalk; black marker; scissors; glue

Have students use the side of the chalk to create a head shape and upper body (shoulders) of their polar bear on black paper. Shade in all areas with chalk. Using a black marker, students should draw facial features and ears. Cut out the polar bear head and body. Use white paper to make a snow background; glue this onto blue paper. Glue the polar bear on top. Add additional snow if desired.

MATH HOW DO YOU MEASURE UP?

Materials: bulletin board paper, ruler or tape measure, markers

Use bulletin board paper to create a life-sized polar bear! Adult polar bears are around 6.5 to 10 feet long and 5.5 feet high at the shoulders. Allow students to measure themselves against the polar bear. For an added activity, discuss how many of an item (like a bag of sugar or a textbook) it would take to make up the 1,400 pound weight of a large polar bear.



Reading Is Fundamental