



# Meet Flat Nanuk!

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**F**lat Nanuk is a polar bear who loves to travel and meet kids. Color him in and cut him out, and add a message to his sign: like “Save polar bears!” or “I bike for polar bears!” or whatever you decide. Then, take a photo of yourself with Flat Nanuk—in your backyard, at school, or in a favorite place. Ask your parents for permission to share it with Polar Bears International. You can email it to us at [info@pbears.org](mailto:info@pbears.org) or post it on our Facebook wall. We’ll share the photos on International Polar Bear Day, February 27th and/or at other times of the year! Please include your first name and city/country or the name of your school in your email or post.

## Learn More About Polar Bears Like Nanuk

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### **POLAR BEARS ARE BUILT FOR COLD. THE SEA ICE IS THEIR HOME.**

- Two layers of fur and thick fat help keep them warm. Small ears and a small tail stop heat loss.
- Tiny pads on the bottom of their paws, called *papillae*, grip the ice and keep them from slipping—like winter tires!
- Curved claws are perfect for catching seals and pulling them from their breathing holes.

### **POLAR BEARS NEED SEA ICE TO MORE EASILY HUNT SEALS.**

- Polar bears catch seals at their breathing holes when seals come up for air.
- Without sea ice, polar bears would have trouble surviving in many parts of the Arctic.

### **SEA ICE ACTS LIKE EARTH’S AIR CONDITIONER. IT HELPS KEEP PEOPLE AND WILDLIFE COOL AROUND THE GLOBE.**

But the sea ice is melting from a warming climate.

- Why? Gases in the air act like a blanket that traps heat around Earth. This is what makes our planet comfortable to live on.
- But when we burn fossil fuels like coal and oil, we pump extra gases into the atmosphere. This is like piling on a VERY thick blanket, making the planet too warm!
- Just as a hot summer day melts ice in a glass of water, a warming planet melts Arctic sea ice.
- The good news is that we can save sea ice and help polar bears by switching to clean energy like wind and solar. By burning less coal and oil, we’ll help polar bears and people, too!



[www.polarbearsinternational.org](http://www.polarbearsinternational.org)