



Teacher's Guide and Lesson Plan:

When Wishes Come True

Written and illustrated by: Per-Henrik Gurth
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Guide written by Jessica Green

Part 1: Before reading the book

Vocabulary

- Tundra
- Northern lights
- Ice floes
- Beluga
- Kelp

Part 2: After reading the book

Literal Comprehension Questions

1. Why is Little Bear sad?
2. Name three of Little Bear's wishes that haven't come true.
3. Name the four wishes that do come true.
4. What was Mother Bear's biggest wish?

Discussion Questions

1. What do you feel the author's purpose was in writing this story?
2. What is Mother Bear trying to teach Little Bear about wishes?
3. Which of your wishes come true often?
4. What does your mom or dad do to help you feel better when you're sad?

Part 3: Language Arts & Imagination

1. Draw a picture of or write about the one thing you wish for most.
2. Draw pictures of or write about things you enjoy doing with your family.

Part 4: Arts and Crafts

1. Make polar bear masks. Bring in materials for arts and crafts (paper, felt, feathers, googly eyes, buttons, etc.).
2. Finger paint pictures of polar bears and other animals in the Arctic.

Part 5: Science and Geography

Polar Bear Facts:

- Polar bears are at the top of the Arctic food chain.
- Their diet consists mostly of seals, but they will sometimes eat walrus, or beluga whales. In the summertime they will eat berries, reindeer or human garbage if they live close to human habitats.
- The polar bear's main habitat is sea ice, and their major threat is melting ice due to climate change.
- Winter is their prime hunting season, therefore only pregnant females hibernate throughout the season.
- The cubs are born between November and February, and the mother and cubs will rest in their dens until March or April.
- Polar bears tend to travel along the ice flows and they also travel to where the food is. They may travel from Alaska to Russia, or Canada to Greenland.

More polar bear resources:

Polar Bears International: <http://www.polarbearsinternational.org/>

Sea World: <http://www.seaworld.org/infobooks/PolarBears/home.html>

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polar_bear#Reproduction_and_lifecycle

WWF:

http://www.panda.org/what_we_do/where_we_work/arctic/area/species/polarbear/

Arctic animals:

- Caribou
- Arctic and tundra wolves
- Musk Oxen
- Wolverine
- Arctic Fox
- Ermine
- Lemmings
- Arctic Hare
- Arctic Ground Squirrel
- The Arctic Tern
- Snowy Owl
- Snow Geese
- Tundra Swans
- Ravens
- Polar Bears
- The Bowhead Whale
- Beluga Whales
- The Narwhal
- Harp Seals
- Walrus
- Reindeer

Have each student pick their favorite Arctic animal to write about or draw and make put together a booklet of their work.