

Chill Out with Tundra Reads!

NRPL's Summer Reading Challenge: Tails & Tales is here, which means we're honoring awesome animals all summer long! This week at the library, we're highlighting the tundra! A blizzard of books you'll have "snow" much fun reading during the sizzling summer days!

PICTURE BOOKS

[A Polar Bear in the Snow](#) by Mac Barnett

Follow a magnificent polar bear through a fantastic world of snow and shockingly blue sea. Over the ice, through the water, past Arctic animals and even a human . . . where is he going? What does he want?

[The Way Home for Wolf](#) by Rachel Bright

Wolf cub Wilf is convinced that he has what it takes to lead the pack, but the adults just laugh--and when he falls behind and finds himself alone in the dark of the Arctic night he discovers that it is really important to have friends who will show you the way home.

[A is for Musk Ox](#) by Erin Cabatingan

Musk Ox takes over an alphabet book, explaining to his friend Zebra why almost every letter can be used to describe musk oxen.

[What's that Noise?](#) by Naomi Howarth

Magnus the Arctic seal wakes up one early morning, puzzled by a strange, rumbling sound. What's that noise? Hare, Owl, and Polar Bear don't have any idea, but Walrus has a good suggestion: it's Magnus' rumbling tummy! After a yummy feast the friends all settle down to sleep--but suddenly there's another rumbling sound. What's that noise?

[Sweetest Kulu](#) by Celina Kalluk

Lyrically and tenderly told by a mother speaking to her own little Kulu; an Inuktitut term of endearment often bestowed upon babies and young children, this visually stunning book is infused with the traditional Inuit values of love and respect for the land and its animal inhabitants. Also available on [Hoopla](#)

[Ice Bear and Little Fox](#) by Jonathan London

Describes how a polar bear and the little fox that follows it survive over the course of a year in the Arctic. Includes afterword with facts about Arctic animals and Inuit peoples.

[The Magic School Bus Presents Polar Animals](#) by Cynthia O'Brien

Mrs. Frizzle introduces some of the amazing animals who inhabit the Arctic and Antarctic regions, and explains how they have adapted to their icy homes.

The Arctic Fox's Journey by Wendy Pfeffer

During the winter, the arctic fox begins an incredible journey. She heads north through the tundra, toward the top of the world. No larger than a house cat, she faces treacherous obstacles, frightening predators, and bitter cold along the way. Also available on [Hoopla](#).

Hello, Arctic! by Theodore Taylor

The Arctic is more than ice and snow. As the seasons change and winter turns to spring, birds return, seals leap and splash, and polar bears are born.

Way Up in the Arctic by Jennifer Ward

A counting book in rhyme presents various Arctic animals and their offspring, from a mother caribou and her "little calf one" to a mother Arctic fox and her "little cubs ten." Includes related facts.

If Polar Bears Disappeared by Lily Williams

A nonfiction picture book tracing the repercussions of what would happen if polar bears disappeared from our planet. As the Arctic ice melts, polar bears are threatened with extinction, which could affect their environment in negative ways.

EARLY READERS

Hoot, Owl! (Book & CD) by Shelby Alinsky

This pre-reader uses simple vocabulary and fun pictures to capture the interest and help develop the skills of beginning readers. The humorous and fun information about one of nature's most intriguing animals makes this new reading experience a treat. Also available on [Hoopla](#).

Animals of the Arctic (Blastoff Reader Series)

Each book describes a different creature that makes its home in the frozen north, introducing its diet and the key physical and behavioral attributes that allow it to survive in such a harsh environment. Also available on [Hoopla](#).

Polar Animals by Wade Cooper

This easy reader has simple, rhyming text and close-up photography of polar bears, penguins, walruses, arctic foxes, seals, and more!

Counting in the Tundra 1-2-3 by Arron R. Murray

Who calls the tundra home? Author Aaron Murray explores some of the plants and animals that live there while counting to ten.

Polar Bear Fur Isn't White!: and Other Amazing Facts by Thea Feldman

Did you know that polar bear fur isn't actually white? Or that polar bears often have twins, and clean their fur by rolling in snow? Readers will love learning about polar bears in this book that presents amazing facts in a highly visual way for young readers. A backmatter section dives into how climate change is affecting polar bear habitats and some things kids can do every day to help.

Amazing Arctic Animals by Jackie Glassman

Describes the physical characteristics, adaptations, and behavior of various animals that live in the arctic, including the polar bear, arctic fox, and arctic hare.

Polar Bear Patrol by Judith Stamper

Get ready for some serious science fun when the Friz takes the kids on a chilling adventure through the North Pole!

MIDDLE GRADE CHAPTER BOOKS

Julie of the Wolves (Trilogy) by Jean Craighead George

Miyax, a thirteen-year-old Eskimo girl is completely and utterly lost on the tundra of the North Slope of Alaska but she has a plan. She will become a member of a pack of wolves, which will give her access to food. So using their gestures, mannerisms, and howls, she manages to become friends with the pack. She lives among them for a while, but when winter approaches, the wolves leave her to take up the nomadic (traveling) life of winter. Also available on [Overdrive](#) and [Hoopla](#)

Wild Rescuers: Expedition on the Tundra (Series) by Stacy Hinojosa

Stacy always knew that the intelligent, playful wolves who raised her weren't like other animals. Normal wolf packs don't spend their time rescuing animals and caring for an orphaned girl. Determined to uncover the truth, Stacy leads the pack north. But the harsh tundra biome pushes the pack to its limits. Can they survive long enough to discover the truth? Also available on [Hoopla](#).

NONFICTION

Life in the Tundra by Penny Clarke

The book offers an overview of the subject, including what a tundra is; where tundra areas are found; what animals and plants live there and how they have adapted to suit

the extreme conditions; how people survive in the tundra; why the tundra is under threat, and much more.

The Polar Bear by Jenni Desmond

Polar bears are enormous, wild, beautiful creatures. Inhabitants of the Arctic, they live in an alien world of freezing temperatures, snow, and ice. Yet they have the same body temperature as our own. They are able to keep warm because of their enormous size and their abundant fat and fur, which insulate and protect them. This is a story about polar bears that engages the reader's interest in amazing facts, while filling them with a deep sense of wonder.

Arctic Hare by Grace Hansen

Any animal that lives in the Arctic is tough! This title looks into how the Arctic hare survives in such cold and unforgiving conditions, what it eats, and more. The book is complete with large colorful photographs and a more facts section.

Frozen Lands by M. J. Knight

The habitat of the Earth's polar regions is explored as well as the animals that live there.

Musk Oxen by Sandra Markle

Herds of musk oxen roam the treeless tundra of the Far North. Following closely are wolves, predators looking for a meal. The wolves are no match for the powerful adult musk oxen with their helmet-like horns.

Snowy Owl Invasion by Sandra Markle

Late in 2013, snowy owls started showing up in places no one expected to find them—including Florida. Follow along as scientists figure out why snowy owls took part in this unusual migration and discover what they learned from the unexpected opportunity to study them up close. Also available on [Overdrive](#) and [Hoopla](#).

Arctic Wolves of the Tundra by Christopher Nick

The tundra is very cold and difficult for animals to survive in. The ones who live there have developed special adaptations to help them stay warm and find food. For example, arctic wolves often have white fur to help them blend in with the snow, so they can sneak up on their prey. Readers learn this and many other fun facts about these powerful predators. Also available on [Hoopla](#).

Arctic Fox: Very Cool by Stephen Person

In the Arctic, winter lasts for eight months. Powerful snowstorms are common and temperatures can fall to -58°F. Few animals can survive these extreme conditions. One animal that can, however, is the Arctic fox.