

Arctic Animals

The Arctic is in the most northern part of the World. It is an extremely difficult and dangerous place to live but there are still animals that call this place home. How do they manage to survive?

The Arctic Fox

The Arctic Fox is an animal that can survive freezing temperatures. In summer, the Arctic Fox is a greyish brown to colour but its long fur turns pure white in the winter. The white of the fur helps the fox to stay hidden from predators and lets it creep up stealthily on its prey. When the fox hunts, it uses its keen sense of hearing to find small, scurrying animals below the snow. It positions itself above the prey, pounces into the air and dives through the snow, headfirst.



Snowy Owl

Snowy owls are commonly found in the Arctic. They have a thick coat of white feathers which even cover their feet to help to keep them warm. Snowy owls can hunt during the day or night. They have excellent eye-sight but it is their excellent hearing that they rely on most. The owl will listen carefully for the scurrying of lemmings, then dive below the snow using its sharp talons to capture its prey. It normally eats between 3-5 lemmings a day.



Did you know?

Snowy owls are one of the largest owls in the World and can have a wingspan of up to 165 cm. That's as tall as some human adults!