

# Rainbow Readers

## Title: Cold Weather Animals

### Word Study

Fill in the blanks using the words.

migration

cycle

tundra

iceberg

oxygen

1. The *Titanic* sank after it hit a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Many birds fly in a V-shape during their \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Plants help us by taking in CO<sub>2</sub> and producing \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The life \_\_\_\_\_ of a butterfly has four different stages.
5. Only some types of plants can grow on the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Reading Comprehension

### A. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. A few million people live near the South Pole. T / F
2. Penguins live in the Arctic. T / F
3. Hares are bigger than rabbits and have longer ears. T / F
4. Blue whales travel toward the equator in summer. T / F
5. Commerson's dolphins cooperate with each other to get food. T / F

### B. Circle the correct word(s).

1. The (Arctic / Antarctic) is an ice-covered ocean.
2. At the poles, the sun shines for weeks in the (summer / winter).
3. The (snowy owl / arctic tern) has the longest migration of any bird.
4. Arctic foxes sometimes (hunt / follow) polar bears.
5. (Algae and phytoplankton / Small fish and birds) are at the bottom of the food chain.

### **C. Choose the best answer.**

1. Which is NOT true about the Antarctic?
  - a. It has two seasons.
  - b. A few shrubs grow there.
  - c. Water animals live there.
  - d. Its only human residents are scientists.
  
2. Which is NOT true about the ptarmigan?
  - a. It looks like a chicken.
  - b. It changes color.
  - c. Its color helps it hide.
  - d. It flies across the tundra.
  
3. Which animal has a "friend fish"?
  - a. The Greenland shark
  - b. The albatross
  - c. The arctic cod
  - d. The icefish
  
4. Which is true about krill?
  - a. They live only near the poles.
  - b. They usually live by themselves.
  - c. They come in many different sizes.
  - d. They are important to the Antarctic ecosystem.
  
5. Which animal sometimes has to make air holes in ice?
  - a. The ermine
  - b. The lemming
  - c. The Weddell seal
  - d. The blue whale

## Summary

Fill in the blanks with the words.

Poles	claws	Arctic	Antarctic	krill
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Both the Arctic and the Antarctic are very cold and dry. And they both are home to animals. \_\_\_\_\_ terns fly between the North and South \_\_\_\_\_ each year. Snowy owls and ptarmigans are arctic birds that change color with the seasons. This allows them to blend in. The albatross lives in the \_\_\_\_\_ and is one of the biggest birds on earth. But the penguin is the best-known Antarctic bird. Many fish live in these regions. The arctic cod and the icefish of the Antarctic have special blood that keeps them from freezing. \_\_\_\_\_ provide food for seals and many other animals. The arctic fox and the ermine also change color with the seasons. Another mammal, the lemming, has strong \_\_\_\_\_ for digging and building nests. The world's largest animal, the blue whale, spends summers near the poles. The ecosystems of the poles are complex. And they are under threat from global warming. We have to be "green" in order to save the poles.