

Arctic Wonders Answer Key

1. It is the smallest and coldest ocean on Earth.
2. Some ice melts in the summer and freezes again in the winter.
3. Examples: Polar bears hunt for seals. Beluga whales communicate and swim in the cold water.
4. They study how the Arctic is changing, especially the melting of sea ice.
5. Sea ice provides habitat and helps animals survive in the Arctic environment.
6. Sea ice is melting faster which affects animals and causes the ocean to warm more.
7. Plankton feed fish and fish feed larger animals. This creates a food chain supported by the Arctic Ocean.

Teacher's Guide

- Support student understanding of informational text about the Arctic Ocean.
- Reinforce reading comprehension skills for grades 3 to 5.
- Build background knowledge on oceans, habitats, and environmental change.

Differentiation Tips

- For students needing support, read the passage aloud and preview key vocabulary such as sea ice, habitat, plankton.
- For advanced students, ask them to write an additional paragraph explaining how climate change may affect Arctic animals.
- Allow students to annotate the passage by circling facts and underlining key details.

Engagement Ideas

- Show students a world map to locate the Arctic Ocean before reading.
- Invite students to compare the Arctic with a warm ocean they have studied.
- Have students act out an Arctic food chain to reinforce understanding.