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Polar animals

Now why would any animal choose to live in the icy wastes and freezing waters near the Poles? Because during the summer months the oceans are full of tiny plants and animals. Fish and other sea creatures feed on them, and that's good news for us: penguins, other birds, seals, walruses and polar bears.



How do penguins survive the cold?

I have to survive in much colder conditions than you humans do. Luckily, my body fat and thick coat of feathers keep me warm—even in the freezing water.

I have four layers of feathers. They trap air inside them which helps to keep the warmth in. My outer feathers are oily. The oil makes them waterproof, so I can stay warm when I swim.



I'm a king penguin. Like all penguins, I can't fly. Instead, I use my strong wings as flippers to push my body through the water.

Why do albatrosses have such long wings?

I am a wandering albatross, and I have the largest wingspan of any bird: three metres long. That's more than twice your height!

During my life, I will fly around the world many times. But I will always return to the same island near Antarctica to breed.

I can soar for hours without flapping or needing to return to land.

