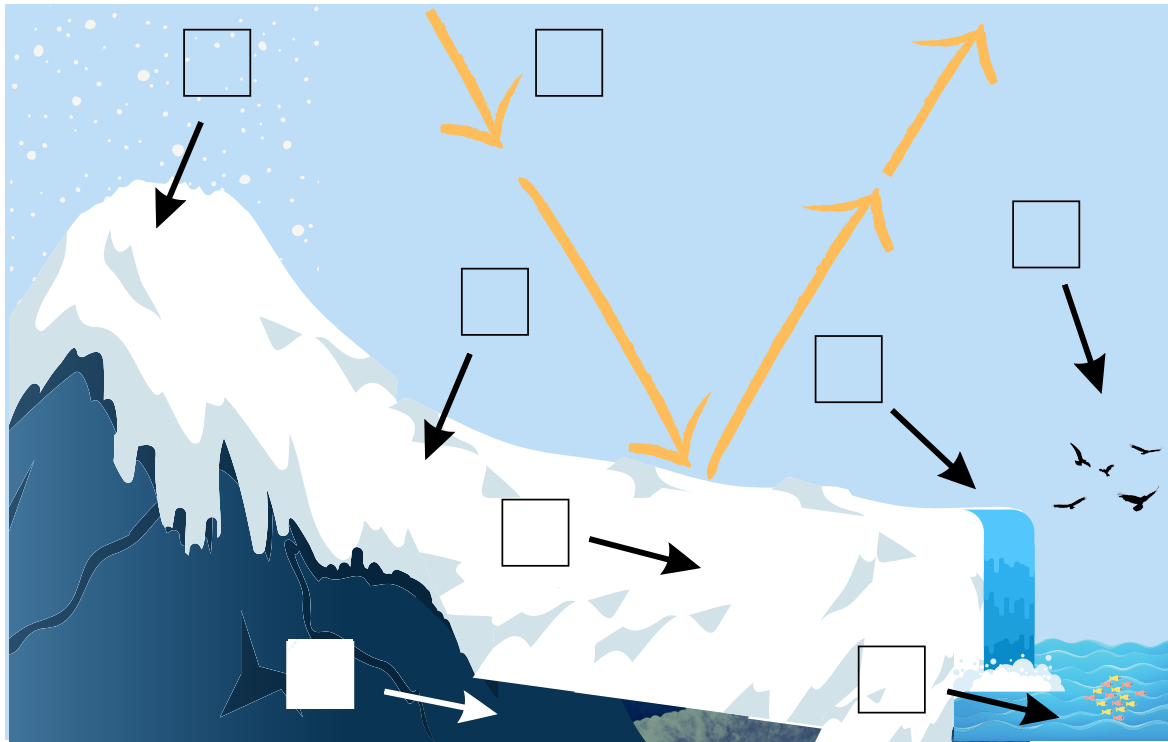


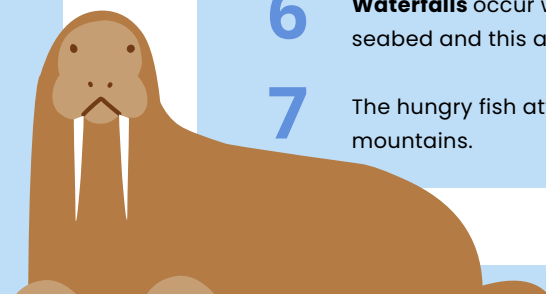


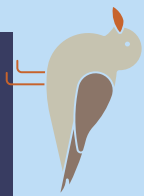
THE ROLE OF A GLACIER

A glacier may look like a big lump of ice, but it plays a very important role in the way the whole world works. Put the numbers in the right box on the diagram below.



- 1 Snow **accumulates** at the tops of the mountains. Due to the low temperature, it stays there all year without melting. A **Glacier** is born.
- 2 **Gravity** starts to pull the ice down the side of the mountain towards the ocean. The ice moves at around 1 metre per day.
- 3 The Glacier is white in colour and this **reflects** the sun's rays back into the **atmosphere** like a huge mirror. This keeps the Earth nice and cool.
- 4 As the ice moves down the mountain, it **erodes** the ground beneath causing a huge U-shaped valley.
- 5 The glacier **melts** from the bottom as it meets the land and this helps to **lubricate** the ice as it moves towards the sea.
- 6 **Waterfalls** occur where the ice meets the ocean. This water disturbs **nutrients** on the seabed and this attracts fish who love to eat them.
- 7 The hungry fish attract **birds**, who want to find food for the newborn chicks high up in the mountains.





CREATE YOUR VERY OWN GLACIER

Use your new knowledge of glaciers and draw a labelled diagram showing exactly how they work. Use this diagram to explain to somebody else why it is crucial that we save the world's ice caps and glaciers.