



# Our Big White Bears: It's a Very Fine Balance



## Where are polar bears found?

Polar bears can be found in **The United States, Canada, Russia, Greenland, and Norway** can all boast of having a polar bear population.

## How long do polar bears live?

Polar bears can live up to **30 years**, but only a small proportion of polar bears live past 15 to 18 years.



## What makes them special?



**Sharp Strong Claws**



**Amazing swimmers**



**Powerful Nose**

## Polar bears are the largest land carnivores in the world

- Males weigh **350–700 kg** which is over half the weight of a Toyota Corolla and over twice the weight of the largest male lion.
- Females are about half the size of males, weighing 150–300 kg.
- The largest polar bear on record weighed **1,002 kg**.
- Polar bears can grow up to 3 meters long, making them the largest bear species and the **largest land carnivore** in the world.

The polar bear is the only **marine mammal** with powerful, large limbs and feet that allow them to cover kilometers on foot and run on land.





## What do they eat?

The diet of polar bears mainly consists of **ringed and bearded seals**. Polar bears need an average of 2 kg of fat per day to survive and these seals are rich in blubber.



## How do polar bears communicate?

**Some things to look out for:**

**Head wagging from side to side:** A sign that polar bears want to play. Adult bears initiate play—which is actually ritualized fighting or mock battling.

**Nose-to-nose greetings:** How a bear asks another bear for something, such as food. The guest bear will approach slowly, circle around a carcass, then meekly touch the feeding bear's nose.

**Charging forward,** with head down and ears laid back: Attack mode.

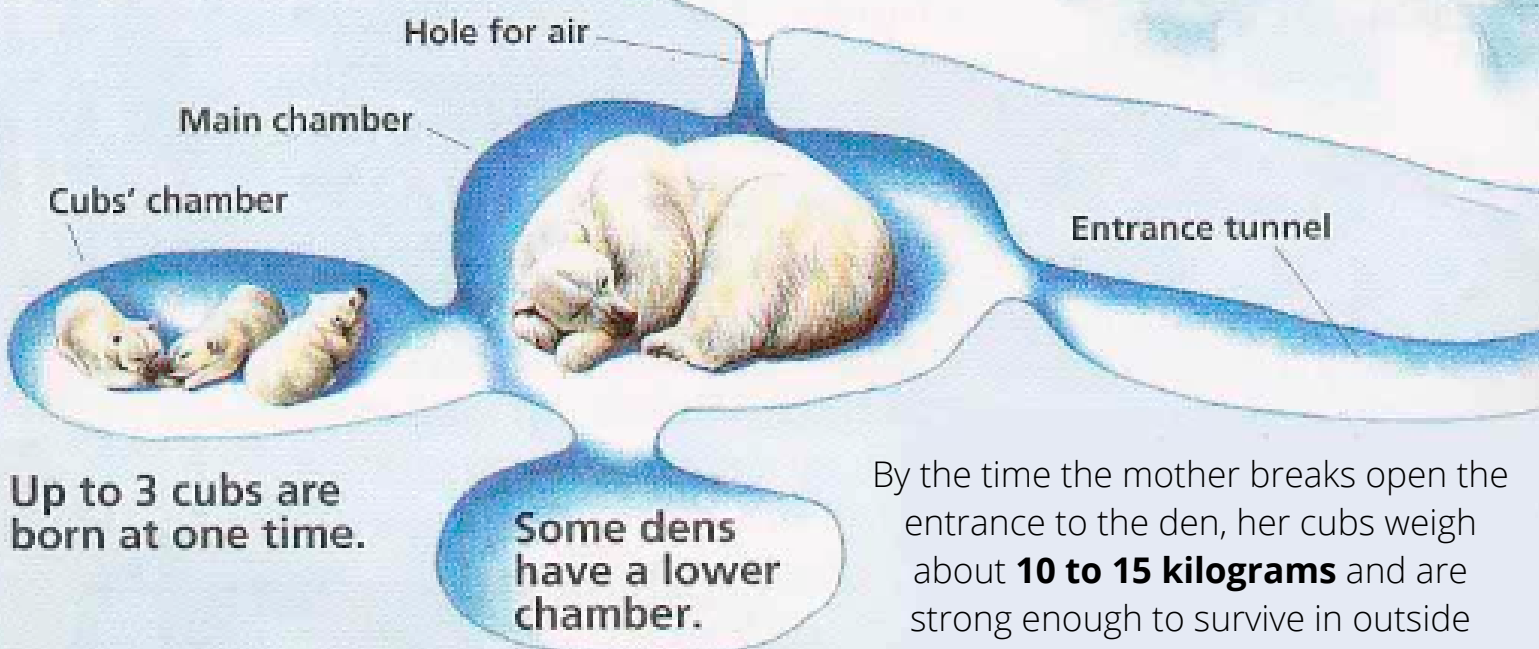
**Lowered head:** Signifies aggression,

## How big is a polar bear?



## How many babies do they have?

**The mother gives birth to 1-3 cubs, with twins most common.**



**Up to 3 cubs are born at one time.**

**Some dens have a lower chamber.**

By the time the mother breaks open the entrance to the den, her cubs weigh about **10 to 15 kilograms** and are strong enough to survive in outside Arctic conditions.