Native Peoples of the Arctic Circle

Digital Resources and Children’s Books
Updated 10/2020

Kid-Friendly YouTube Clips:

Canadian, US & Greenland Arctic

The Inuit, An Arctic Journey: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aY46OE6C2SI

Who are the Inuit? World’s Most Extreme Survivors: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4e6T2nJ7NTk

The Inuit Tribe: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zaVwTNBGrG4

The Inuit Community of Canada: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6U1rgAFW3aQ

Inuit Culture in Greenland: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CtfDNVT3qa0


How to do Inuit Throat Singing: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p885AlNydlG

Inuit Inuksuk, Usage & How to Build your Own: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-DmH8-N-5cs

How to Build an Igloo: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-x5QOSqP3E

How an Igloo keeps you warm: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1L7E10vKVvU

The Inuit and their Indigenous Food: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ReCQrz0-7n0

The Inuit Creation Myth: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=skVdZAjWUNs

The Owl and the Raven http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3xhWWdGm8fE

The Yu’pik Culture: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NqKnqg7rYtl
Russian & US Arctic
The Aleuts: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5e0hHY0xsE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5e0hHY0xsE)
Aleut Voices: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uEGOe7QN3Rc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uEGOe7QN3Rc)
Aleut Dance and Music: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bsHo9srp3Gk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bsHo9srp3Gk)
Aleut Wind Music: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E98UM0OVOe](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E98UM0OVOe)

Russian Arctic
The Nenets People of Siberia: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fjl5FUcn8c4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fjl5FUcn8c4)
Nenets Building & Moving Reindeer Skin Tents: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xi80xrE3MkI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xi80xrE3MkI)
Daily Life Of Nenets Indigenous Women: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jamLZ0bDoo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jamLZ0bDoo)
Nenets Bell Song: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_nmRwpLAB8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_nmRwpLAB8)
History of Sakha, Story of an Indigenous Siberian People: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K8FEBsL1ucQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K8FEBsL1ucQ)
Ethnic Music of Yakutia: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ug3ccp_fBnM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ug3ccp_fBnM)

Scandinavian Arctic
Lapland, Living Above the Arctic Circle: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ym8iWOYofeg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ym8iWOYofeg)
Norwegian Lapland, A Documentary: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9DI-YQmWAT8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9DI-YQmWAT8)
Norway’s Sami People, Herding Reindeer: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9gvjPq2huFU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9gvjPq2huFU)
Sami: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qVpWpfD27mM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qVpWpfD27mM)
The Sami People: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2WpJHzbppc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2WpJHzbppc)
Uralic Languages: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xIAYC1J8qo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xIAYC1J8qo)

Arctic Animals
A Harp Seal’s Race against Time: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BF2TZq-ntRQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BF2TZq-ntRQ)
Polar Bear and Cub Emerge from Den: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OwZH_aT0FGI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OwZH_aT0FGI)
Dog Sledding above the Arctic Circle: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e4HUWTCEuL0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e4HUWTCEuL0)
Websites:

The Arctic: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arctic


Circumpolar Peoples: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Circumpolar_peoples

Indigenous Peoples of the Arctic Circle: https://airlinkalaska.com/indigenous-peoples-of-the-arctic-circle/

The Aleut Tribe: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aleut

The Inuit: http://firstpeoplesofcanada.com/fp_groups/fp_inuit1.html

Inuit People of Canada: http://www.ducksters.com/history/native_americans/inuit_peoples.php

Inuit Clothing: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inuit_clothing#:~:text=


Inuit Languages: http://www.native-languages.org/inuktitut.htm

The World is changing for the Inuit People of Greenland: https://oceanwide-expeditions.com/blog/the-world-is-changing-for-the-native-inuit-people

Nenets People: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nenets_people

Nenets History, Culture, Religion and Daily Life: https://www.yamalpeninsulatravel.com/nenets/

Nenets Traditional Fur Clothing: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7031353/

Sami People: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/S%C3%A1mi_people


9 Arctic Animals of Canada and Greenland: https://adventures.com/blog/animals-arctic-cruise/
Lesson Plans:

What is the Arctic? Canadian Geographic:  

To the Arctic, Curriculum Guide for Teachers:  
https://polarbearsinternational.org/media/3220/imax_tothearctic_curriculumguide.pdf

Peoples of the Arctic Circle, Unit Outlines:  
https://beyondpenguins.ehe.osu.edu/issue/peoples-of-the-arctic/peoples-of-the-arctic-unit-outlines

Arctic Circle, Free Lesson Plans and Games for Kids:  
https://www.pinterest.com/pin/3940718396269795/?nic_v2=1a1PVPHNh

Arctic Peoples Lesson Plan:  

Arctic Native Americans:  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SfZEJw08p8M

The Arctic Inuit:  
https://nativeamericans.mrdonn.org/arctic/inuit.html

Teach Your Kids about the Inuit People:  
https://thecanadianhomeschooler.com/teach-your-kids-about-the-inuit-people/

Art of the Inuit for Kids:  
https://sites.google.com/site/inuitforkids/home/art-of-the-inuit

Exploring Inuit Culture Online:  
http://www.isuma.tv/exploring-inuit-culture-online/

Lesson 3/4-Inuit Life:  
http://www.thirteen.org/edonline/concept2class/coopcollab/lp_inuit3.html  
http://www.thirteen.org/edonline/concept2class/coopcollab/lp_inuit4.html

Lesson 5: Inuit Beliefs Issues and Events Past and Present:  
http://www.thirteen.org/edonline/concept2class/coopcollab/lp_inuit5.html

Who are the Nenets?  

Introducing the Sami:  
https://teachik.com/introducing-the-sami/
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>Lexile Measure</th>
<th>Paperback</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Language</th>
<th>ISBN-10</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Lights</td>
<td>Michael Arvaarluk Kusugak</td>
<td>4 - 7 years</td>
<td>Preschool and up</td>
<td>590L</td>
<td>24 pages</td>
<td>Annick Press (August 1, 1993)</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>1550373382</td>
<td>Northern Lights is a beautiful tale that explores the mystical aspects of the northern lights in Inuit culture. Scientists have their own explanations for the phenomenon that occurs when the night sky shimmers with milky white patterns, or displays all the colors of the rainbow. But the Inuit prefer their own explanation: They believe the souls of the dead are engaging in a lively game of soccer, just as they did when they were living. They run all over the sky chasing a walrus head that they use for a soccer ball.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball Bats for Christmas</td>
<td>Michal Kusugak</td>
<td>4 - 7 years</td>
<td>Preschool and up</td>
<td></td>
<td>24 pages</td>
<td>Annick Press (January 1, 1993)</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>1550371452</td>
<td>An autobiographical tale from Michael Kusugak's childhood tells a story of life in the arctic, and easily different cultures can interpret things differently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whale Snow</td>
<td>Debby Dahl Edwardson</td>
<td>4 - 8 years</td>
<td>Preschool - 3</td>
<td>600L</td>
<td>32 pages</td>
<td>Charlesbridge (July 1, 2004)</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>1570913943</td>
<td>Amiqqaq is excited when his family catches a bowhead whale. As his family prepares to celebrate the traditional Inupiaq whaling feast, Amiqqaq learns about the spirit-of-the-whale.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**The Polar Bear Son: An Inuit Tale**

**Author:** Lydia Dabcovich

**Age Range:** 5 - 8 years

**Grade Level:** Kindergarten - 3

**Lexile Measure:** 470L *(What's this?)*

**Paperback:** 40 pages

**Publisher:** HMH Books for Young Readers (March 29, 1999)

**Language:** English

**ISBN-10:** 0395975670

**Summary:** A lonely old woman adopts, cares for, and raises a polar bear as if he were her own son, until jealous villagers threaten the bear's life, forcing him to leave his home and his "mother," in a retelling of a traditional Inuit folktale.

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**Kamik: An Inuit Puppy Story**

**Author:** Donald Uluadluak

**Age Range:** 6 - 8 years

**Grade Level:** 1 - 3

**Paperback:** 32 pages

**Publisher:** Inhabit Media (April 1, 2013)

**Language:** English

**ISBN-10:** 1927095115

**Summary:** When Jake finally gets a puppy to call his own, all he can think about is the fast, strong sled dog that his puppy will become. But Kamik is far from an obedient sled dog. He won’t listen, he tracks mud all over the house, and he’s a lot more work than Jake ever thought a puppy could be. But after a visit with his grandfather, who raised many puppies of his own while living out on the land, Jake learns that Inuit have been raising puppies just like Kamik to be obedient, resourceful, helpful sled dogs for generations.
**Title:** Kumak's Fish: A Tall Tale from the Far North  
**Author:** Michael Bania  
**Age Range:** 4 and up  
**Grade Level:** Preschool - 3  
**Hardcover:** 32 pages  
**Publisher:** Alaska Northwest Books (April 1, 2004)  
**Language:** English  
**ISBN-10:** 0882405837  
**Summary:** On a beautiful Arctic morning, Kumak looks out the window of his house at the sun rising over the frozen river. "Ahhh, spring," says Kumak to his family. "The days are long, the nights are short, and the ice is still hard. Good day for fish." Eager to give Uncle Aglu's amazing hooking stick a try, Kumak packs up his family and heads out to go ice fishing. "Good day for fish!" they all agree. Hapless Kumac is the only one in his family without fish until the tug at the other end of his line incites a mighty battle. A clever ending reveals that the whale-sized fish that Kumak imagined was actually a line of small fish in tug o' war position. Kumak reigns, and there's plenty for everybody. Authentic details throughout the playful art and text, as well as endnotes on Inupiat fishing, provide young readers with a fascinating window into another culture.

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**Title:** Building an Igloo  
**Author:** Ulli Steltzer  
**Age Range:** 4 - 8 years  
**Grade Level:** Preschool - 3  
**Paperback:** 32 pages  
**Publisher:** Square Fish (October 15, 1999)  
**Language:** English  
**ISBN-10:** 0805063137  
**Summary:** In crisp black-and-white photographs, Ulli Steltzer documents the beauty and precision of an igloo’s construction - from stacking blocks of snow to cutting a door - in this informative picture book.
Title: Berry Magic  
Author: Teri Sloat  
Age Range: 5 and up  
Grade Level: Kindergarten and up  
Paperback: 32 pages  
Publisher: Alaska Northwest Books (April 1, 2004)  
Language: English  
ISBN-10: 0882405764  

Summary: Long ago, the only berries on the tundra were hard, tasteless, little crowberries. As Anana watches the ladies complain bitterly while picking berries for the Fall Festival, she decides to use her magic to help. "Atsa-ii-yaa (Berry), Atsa-ii-yaa (Berry), Atsaukina!" (Be a berry!), Anana sings under the full moon turning four dolls into little girls that run and tumble over the tundra creating patches of fat, juicy berries: blueberries, cranberries, salmonberries, and raspberries. The next morning Anana and the ladies fill basket after basket with berries for the Fall Festival. Thanks to Anana, there are plenty of tasty berries for the agutak (Eskimo tee cream) at the festival and forevermore.