



THE DOUGLASTON SCHOOL  
2016 National Blue Ribbon School  
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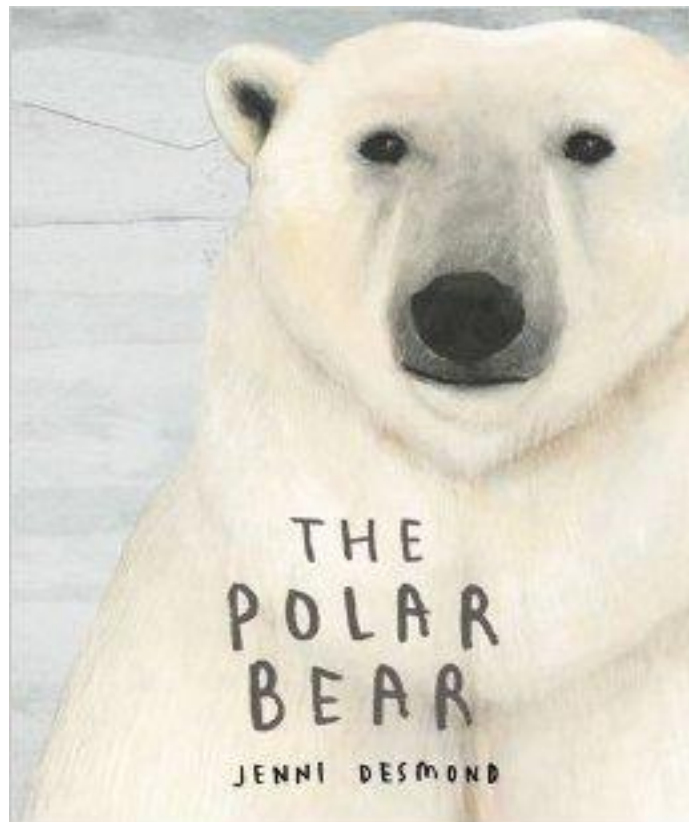
*Lena Kim, Principal*

*Diana Gautier, A.P.*

December 2016

Dear PS 98 Families,

In our efforts to continue to work on our instructional focus of collaborative conversations, we are very excited to present our featured book of the month, *The Polar Bear*, by Jenni Desmond. This beautifully illustrated nonfiction book is about polar bears and their bodies, habits, and habitats. The author begins with a little girl reading this very story, and we follow her journey through the book. We learn details about how the animal emotionally and physically adapts to their surroundings. We hope you enjoy reading this story as much as we did!



Sincerely,

Book of the Month Team



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## Questions organized by Revised Bloom's Taxonomy of Higher Order Thinking

Although there are grade band denotations, we found that some questions would be appropriate for all students:

Bloom's Taxonomy Level	Possible Questions/ Thinking Maps	
	Grades K-2	Grades 3-5
<b>Remember:</b> Recognize, recall, locate, identify	Create a brace map to outline the different body parts of a polar bear.	Describe how a polar bear hunts for his food. Use a multi-flow map to help you explain.
<b>Understand:</b> Clarify, summarize, paraphrase, represent, predict, compare	Does the polar bear adapt to different weather conditions? As you read the story, create a tree map to explain how the polar bear adapts to the conditions of winter, spring, summer, and autumn.	How does the polar bear adapt to its surroundings?
<b>Apply:</b> Use procedure in a given situation, carry-out or use with unfamiliar task	Why do a polar bear's paws have sharp claws and padding on the bottom? Do you think they would be able to survive without this? Why or why not?	How does a polar bear's paws contribute to his survival?
<b>Analyze:</b> Break into parts, distinguish, organize, outline, deconstruct	Compare a human's sight, smell and hearing to a polar bear's. How are they different? How are they alike?	What kinds of things must this animal be good at in order to ensure he is fed? Create a tree map to classify the way that a polar bear obtains food. Consider the skills he/she needs to hunt!
<b>Evaluate:</b> Make judgments based on criteria, critique	How are polar bear cubs the same as human babies? How are they different?	Which of the polar bear's features do you think is the most important to its survival? Why?
<b>Create:</b> Reorganize elements into new patterns, design, construct, produce	Create a new page in the book by drawing yourself in the polar bear's habitat, just like the little girl in the story. Write a question that could be answered by reading the story, and looking at the picture.	Team up with a partner and host an interview with a polar bear! Create questions that you would like to ask, and have your partner answer them with facts from the story. Use a tree map to help you organize your questions.