

M A M M A L

# POLAR BEAR



**Scientific name:** *Ursus maritimus*

Found in Arctic regions, these bears can range as far south as there is pack ice. The males can reach weights of about 1,320 pounds, and can stand as tall as 11½ feet. Females weigh up to 660 pounds and have a body length of 6 to 8 feet.



**STATUS:** Total number in the wild is estimated to be 20,000. The polar bear is considered a vulnerable species.



**DIET IN THE WILD:** Seals and walrus.  
**ZOO DIET:** Western Plateau, polar bear pellets, fish (mackerel or herring), lard.



**FUN FACTS:** The body is egg-shaped (small head/large body) and its toes are partially webbed. These are two characteristics that were adapted for swimming and diving. They can swim up to 60 miles at an average speed of 6 mph without resting. These bears may travel 24 miles or more in one day.