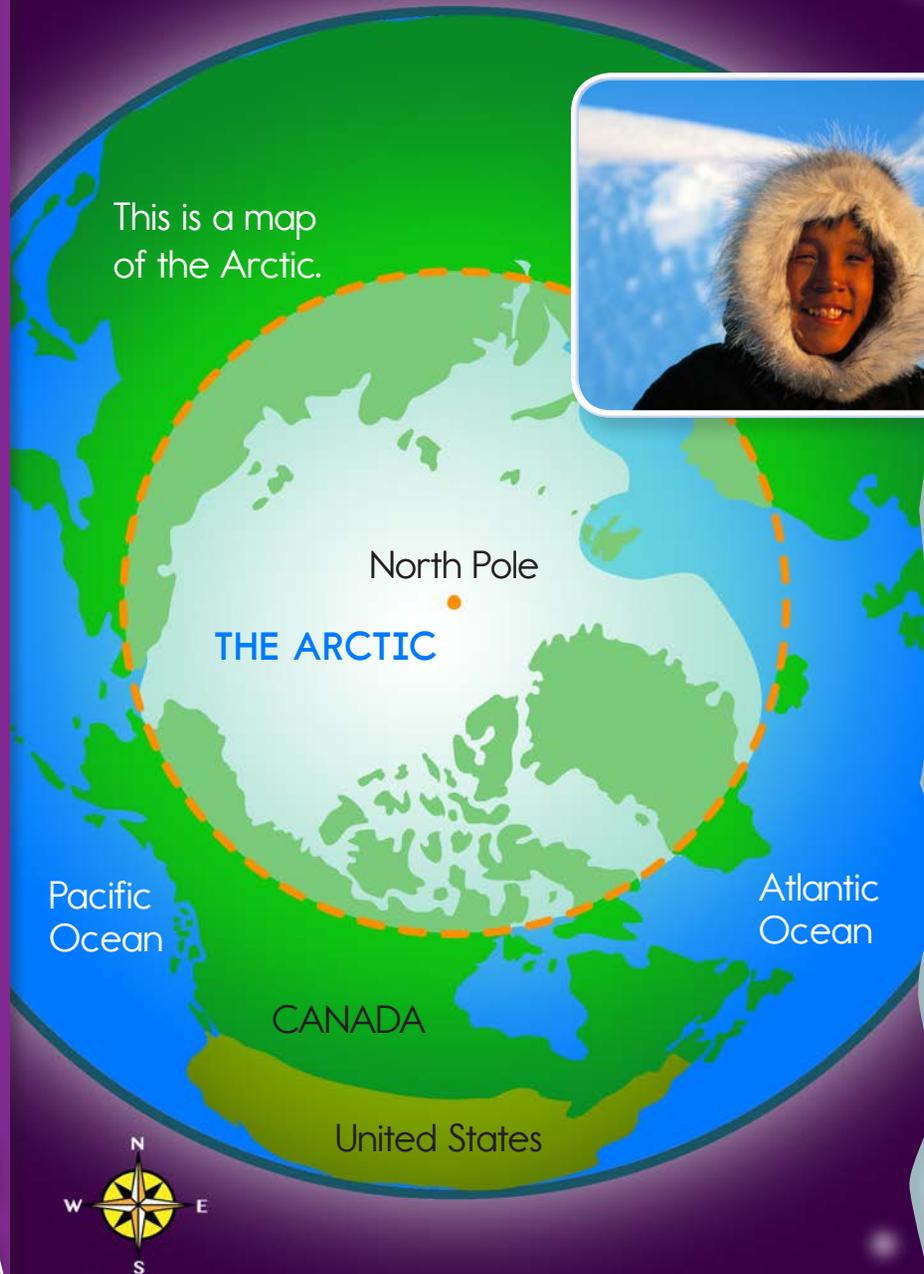


The Arctic

This is a map of the Arctic.



If you like winter, the Arctic is the place for you. This environment has long, cold winters. It has short, cool summers. You have to like darkness though. If you live here, the sun doesn't give much light for two months!

The map shows where the Arctic is found. Can you find the North Pole? The Arctic is so cold that not many people can live there. But one group of people, the Inuit, calls it home. The word *Inuit* means "the people."

Working in the Arctic

The Inuit have lived and worked here for thousands of years. Many plants can't grow where they live. The ground is

DID YOU KNOW?

The Inuit use **dogsleds** and **snowmobiles** to travel on the snow.

covered in snow until the summer months. They often hunt or fish to get food, and today they might also go to grocery stores.

You need very warm clothing to live in the Arctic. The early Inuit made their clothes and boots out of animal skins.

Trees do not grow in the Arctic. Wood is hard to find. Other materials are used to make shelter. In the past, the Inuit lived in tents and igloos. They made their tents out of animal skins. An igloo is a house made out of blocks of snow. Which one of those homes would you like to live in?

The word **igloo** means “house.”



Inuit people wear **parkas**, or large coats, to keep them warm in the Arctic environment.

Playing in the Arctic

People of the Arctic live in a world of snow and ice. Outdoor activities might include playing hockey. Hiking is done on snow shoes. A lot of time is spent indoors. The Inuit are known for making beautiful masks and sculptures. They use their art when they tell stories about their ancestors.

The Arctic is a tough place to live because of its geography and cold climate. People help each other learn to adapt to this cold habitat. Family and community are very important.