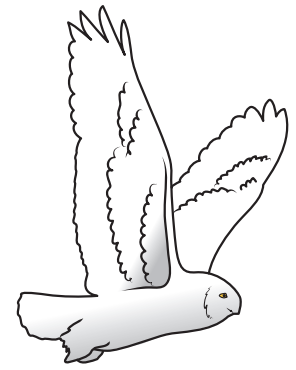


# All About Our Earth's Ecosystems!

# THE TUNDRA

## About the Tundra:

The tundra is generally a very cold place. The main types of vegetation that grow in the tundra are various lichens, mosses, and some grasses and other small low lying plants. This is because the ground is frozen for most of the year, so trees and large plants cannot grow. There are not many animals found in the tundra; those that can survive include reindeer (called caribou), musk oxen, arctic fox, lemmings, snowy owls, polar bears (only in the extreme north), arctic hares, seals, penguins (only in the south), and wolves (only in the north).



SNOWY OWL

## Tundra Stats:

- Depending on the location, temperatures in the winter can reach as low as -58°F / -50°C!
- When soil is permanently frozen, it is called permafrost.
- Arctic tundra (in the north) can be very windy, with winds often blowing at 30 - 60 miles per hour!
- Most tundra is similar to the desert in that it receives very little annual precipitation.
- Animals and plants that live here are highly adapted to survive and make efficient use of resources.
- Millions of migratory birds fly to the tundra every summer to nest and feed.

## Word Search

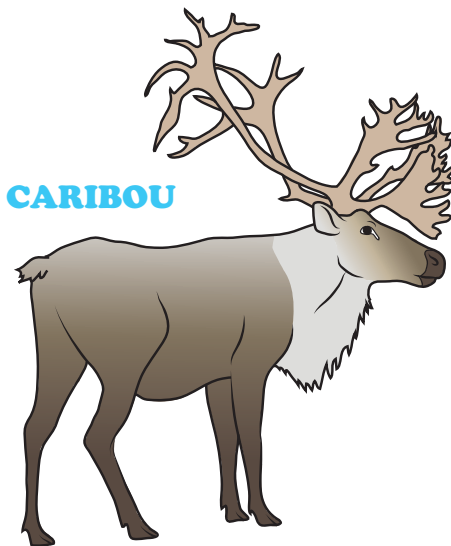


HARP SEAL

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| L | A | E | D | T | L | T | W | O | L | F | R | J | S | K |
| A | P | R | P | R | P | A | O | N | K | J | A | E | L | R |
| I | C | O | L | D | E | L | S | U | L | K | C | C | P | E |
| A | N | N | E | A | T | D | R | R | T | I | G | A | E | J |
| J | E | U | M | N | N | O | P | A | G | N | H | R | J | D |
| O | M | K | M | R | K | F | E | M | H | E | O | I | T | U |
| L | T | A | I | O | I | T | R | G | E | H | T | B | K | O |
| I | A | L | N | S | E | S | M | O | S | S | E | O | A | E |
| C | O | E | G | G | R | M | A | O | A | A | F | U | I | N |
| H | A | M | I | W | N | G | F | W | Z | O | I | R | R | M |
| E | J | F | V | U | B | A | R | C | T | I | C | F | O | X |
| N | B | E | P | G | T | A | O | O | C | N | A | K | N | J |
| P | E | R | U | N | I | O | S | L | S | E | T | F | M | S |
| E | U | N | N | I | O | D | T | A | E | J | D | N | N | L |

Find the tundra terms below in the word search. They can be horizontal or vertical.

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1) CARIBOU    | 5) ARCTIC FOX |
| 2) COLD       | 6) MOSS       |
| 3) PERMAFROST | 7) LEMMING    |
| 4) LICHEN     | 8) WOLF       |



CARIBOU