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# SPOTTED HYENAS

*in Harar, Ethiopia*



Hundreds of mosques, shrines and tombs are dotted around the city.

Massive neck and large head



## LATIN NAME

*Crocuta crocuta*

**FAMILY** Hyaenidae (hyena)

**HEIGHT** 75–85cm

(30–34 in) at shoulder

**LENGTH** 0.95–1.85 m (37–73 in)

**HOW MANY IN THE WORLD?**

LC – Least Concern

**WHERE IN THE WORLD?**

Sub-Saharan Africa

## City Life

So the story goes, there was once a great famine in Harar and the starving hyenas began to attack humans and livestock. Local leaders decided to leave food out for the hyenas to stop them from killing people and animals. The custom continues to this day. Keeping the hyenas fed means they're less likely to go after the town's goats, sheep and cows. The local hyenas also protect the city from packs of hyenas from other parts of the countryside.



The hyenas help to keep the city clean by eating food waste from the meat markets and rubbish dumps.

## BONE CRUNCHERS

On the African grasslands, spotted hyenas hunt in packs to chase down zebras, warthogs and gazelles. They also scavenge on kills left behind by lions and other predators. In Harar, local butchers leave out scraps of meat and leftover bones, and the hyenas crunch through them with their powerful jaws and sharp teeth.



# POLAR BEARS

## *in Churchill, Canada*

Churchill is known as the 'Polar Bear Capital of the World'.

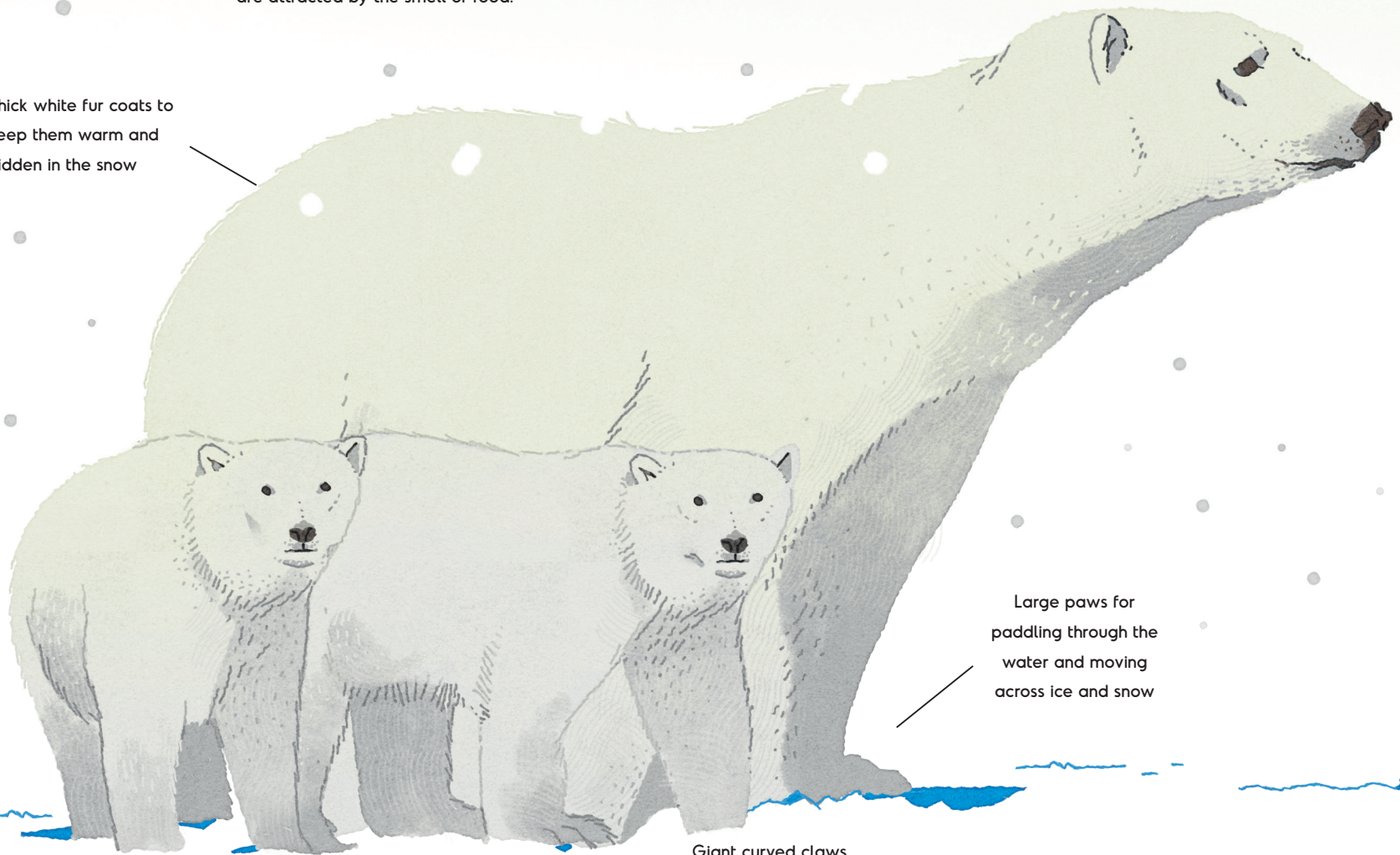


A polar bear's nose is so powerful it can sniff out a seal up to 3 km away.

Some of the bears wander into town by mistake on their way to the sea. Others are attracted by the smell of food.



Thick white fur coats to keep them warm and hidden in the snow



Large paws for paddling through the water and moving across ice and snow

Non-slip feet pads for gripping onto the ice

Giant curved claws to grab prey

EVERY AUTUMN, HUNDREDS OF POLAR BEARS BEGIN THEIR GREAT JOURNEY NORTH to their hunting grounds on the Arctic ice caps. Directly in their path, perched on the shores of Hudson Bay, is the small town of Churchill. Many of the bears head straight for the beach but some sneak into the town itself, sniffing out scraps of food from the rubbish dump and scaring the residents into their houses!



**LATIN NAME** *Ursus maritimus*  
(meaning 'maritime bear')

**FAMILY** Ursidae (bears)

**BODY LENGTH** 1.8–2.5 m (2.6–8.2 ft)

**HOW MANY IN THE WORLD?**

VU – Vulnerable

**WHERE IN THE WORLD?**

Arctic regions around the North Pole





# BROWN-THROATED SLOTHS

## *in Panama City, Panama*

Panama's natural park has more than 200 species of mammals and birds including monkeys, anteaters, toucans and iguanas.

Treasure-filled Spanish galleons used to sail into the city's ports.

Very small head for the size of its body

Upturned mouth, so it looks like it's always smiling

Three long claws on each foot – perfect for hooking onto branches and vines

Sloths are one of the slowest-moving animals on the planet. They can spend around 90% of their time completely motionless!

Green algae grow on their fur helping them to blend in with the trees.

PANAMA CITY WAS ONCE A HOTBED OF PIRATES FOLLOWING THE SPANISH TREASURE TRAIL ACROSS THE AMERICAS. Today, it is a super-modern metropolis of shimmering glass skyscrapers, steel towers and traffic jams. It is also one of the few cities in the world where you might see a sloth smiling down from the treetops, traversing power lines or crawling across the street!



**LATIN NAME** *Bradypus variegatus*

**FAMILY** Bradypodidae  
(three-toed sloths)

**BODY LENGTH** 42–80 cm (17–31 in)

**HOW MANY IN THE WORLD?**

LC – Least Concern

**WHERE IN THE WORLD?**

Central and South America