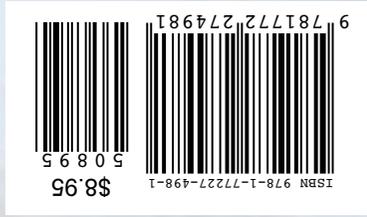


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NUNAVUT'S DISCOVERY MAGAZINE FOR KIDS

# KAAKULLUK

## ARCTIC WOLVES!



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- In this issue's legend . . .
- DAY AND NIGHT**
- **A MAZE, A GAME, AND MORE!**

**P.12 LEGEND**

A variation of the traditional origin of day and night story.



# KAAKULLUK

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



**P.5 IQ**

Willian Flaherty shares some knowledge.



**P.6 WILDLIFE**

Pack hunter.



**P.8 IN FOCUS**

Hunting Arctic wolves.



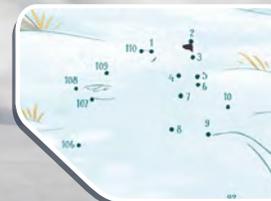
**P.10 WINTER ADAPTATION**

Suited for the snow.



**P.18 MAZE!**

Help the pack hunt the muskox!



**P.19 GAME!**

Connect the dots to find out ...



WHAT ARE PEOPLE SAYING ABOUT  
**ARCTIC WOLVES?**

class: mammal  
species: *Canis lupus arctos*  
length: 3 to 6 feet long  
(including the tail)  
height: 2 to 3 feet high  
weight: 30 to 60 kilograms



**"WOLVES EAT CARIBOU MEAT. I WOULD SHOOT ONE IF I EVER SAW ONE AND BRING IT HOME BY BOAT WITH MY ATAATA."**

**-AUSTIN SANGOYA**

**"ARCTIC WOLVES CAN COMMUNICATE WITH THEIR HOWLS AND THE POSITION OF THEIR TAIL!"**

**-NIVIAQ MIKE**



**WORDS OF WISDOM**

**William Flaherty, Iqaluit**

**"WOLVES ARE VERY CURIOUS ANIMALS. THEY CAN BE CALMLY TAMED IF THEY ARE NOT AGGRESSIVELY APPROACHED, AND IF THEY ARE NOT HUNGRY OR BEING HUNTED. THEY CAN BE AGGRESSIVE, TOO, ESPECIALLY IF THEY ARE IN A PACK WHEN THEY ARE HUNTING."**





# ARCTIC WOLF

## PACK HUNTER

Arctic wolves are not generally aggressive unless they are defending their territory or are hunting, and they make great hunters. They have excellent senses of hearing, smell, and sight, which help them spot prey. The wolves work together as a pack to hunt large prey such as muskoxen and caribou. Arctic wolves can run 70 km per hour in order to catch their prey. The wolves have strong jaws and 42 sharp teeth designed to help crush through bone and eat their prey.



### PREDATORS

Arctic wolves have no predators other than humans.



### BABIES

Wolves give birth to 2 to 3 cubs at once, and the cubs stay with their mothers for around 2 years.



### FOOD

The main diet of Arctic wolves is muskoxen and Arctic hares, and they also eat lemmings, birds, and even Arctic foxes.

### TERRITORY:

Arctic wolves live in Canada's Arctic, as well as Alaska, Greenland, and Iceland. A pack of wolves will use scent to mark its territory. These wolves can travel a territory of 2,500 km when hunting for food.

### APPEARANCE:

Adult Arctic wolves are white, and they have shorter ears, noses, and legs than grey wolves, which help keep them warm in the Arctic.

### FAMILY:

Arctic wolves usually travel in packs of about 6. The pack members work together to hunt, and will take turns protecting their food from other animals. Members of the pack will also take turns looking after the pups.

### COMMUNICATION:

Arctic wolves are social, and communicate with one another. They may show their teeth or growl as a warning to show they are unhappy. To show they are submissive they may flatten their ears or lie on their backs. They also howl, whine, and bark to communicate.

# HUNTING ARCTIC WOLVES

“TODAY, WOLVES ARE HUNTED BY TRAPS OR FROM SNOWMOBILES. TRADITIONALLY THEY WERE HUNTED BY DOG TEAM.”

- WILLIAM FLAHERTY



## USES FOR ARCTIC WOLVES

- The entire fur is used for making mitts and parkas.
- Arctic wolf fur is very light and warm.
- Arctic wolf meat is not used by Inuit because it spoils very quickly.

## HUNTING BY DOG TEAM

- Wolves were traditionally hunted by dog team.
- Hunters would wait for wolves to approach and then shoot them with bows and arrows from their sleds.



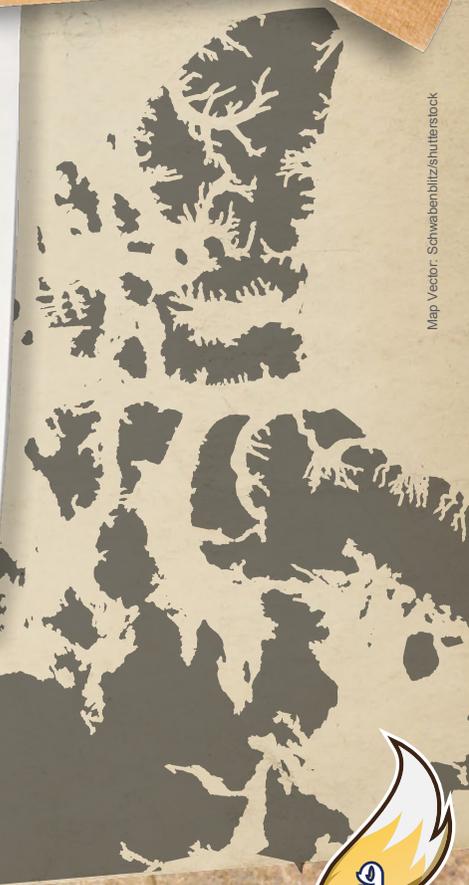
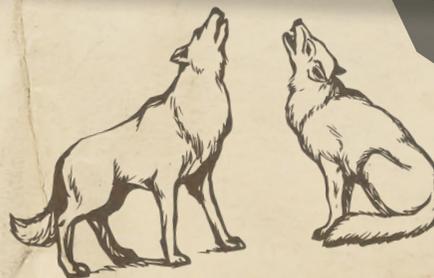
## HUNTING USING BAITS

- Hunters would also traditionally hunt wolves by placing baits under rocks.
- Any available meat could be placed under a rock large enough that a wolf could not move it.
- A small part of the meat was exposed to attract a wolf.



## WHERE TO FIND ARCTIC WOLVES

- Baffin Island has fewer wolves than other areas of Nunavut.
- Areas in the Western Arctic, such as Arviat and Kugluktuk, have lots of wolves.
- The High Arctic, such as Ellesmere Island, also has lots of wolves.





The Arctic wolf's fur has two layers. The inner layer of fur is waterproof, and the outer layer gets thicker as the temperatures get colder. This fur helps keep the wolf dry and warm in freezing temperatures. The Arctic wolf's legs, ears, and nose are shorter than those of other wolves, which also helps regulate its body temperature. The wolves' paws have thick pads on them, which allow them to walk on ice without slipping or freezing.

Photograph: Grindstone Media Group/shutterstock

# SUITED FOR THE SNOW

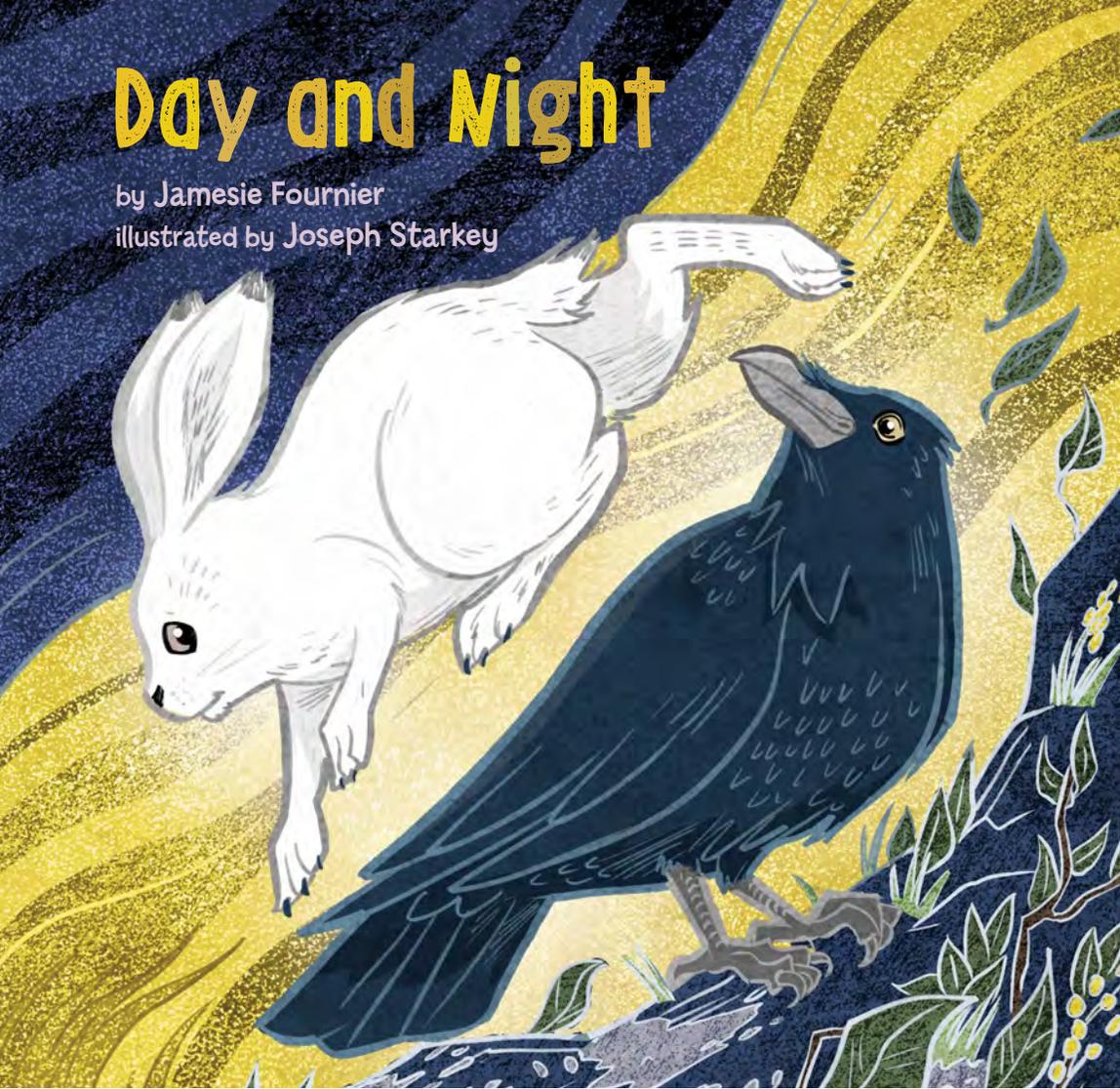
Since it is often difficult to dig in frozen snow and ice, Arctic wolves usually live in existing dens or caves. When pups are born, they are brownish or greyish, which allows them to blend in with the cave. As they get older, their fur turns white, which allows the adult wolves to camouflage into their snowy surroundings.

A pack of Arctic wolves can feed off one large animal, such as a muskox or caribou, for about a week. A single wolf can eat 9 kg of meat during one feeding period. Food can sometimes be scarce for the wolves, but they can go long stretches without eating. These wolves have a thick layer of body fat that can store energy for times when food might not be available, and it also helps keep them warm.

# Day and Night

by Jamesie Fournier

illustrated by Joseph Starkey



Back then, before time, there was no Light, you see? *Hah*. Everything was dark. Magic and spirit were strong. Not like nowadays. Words held power. You had to be careful of what you said. You had to be careful of what was said to you.

In the beginning, it was hard going. People and animals were lonely. Maybe it is like nowadays, huh? *Hah*. Back then, there was Raven and there was Arctic Hare. They met in the dark, you see, and fell in love without ever seeing each other before. A perfect love.



Endless nights worked well for them. Hare would hide underground where it was safe, and Raven liked to steal everyone's food when they weren't looking. Eventually, Hare wanted to see Raven, the animal it had fallen in love with.

So, Hare said, "I wish there was Light that I could see you with! Day! *Ulluq!* Day!"

The land shook, and the wish in Hare's words soon filled everything with Light. The world was blinding! Hare's eyes shut real tight before adjusting. Finally, Hare's fuzzy vision came to rest on the dark, feathered figure that was Raven. Raven hopped over on bony feet. Hare was shocked!



"Oh, my goodness!" said Hare. "You are covered in feathers!"

"Well, yeah!" squawked Raven. "How else am I going to fly?"

Raven's wings opened, and the Light glistened over each beautiful feather. Hare's little nose twitched over Raven's face.

"Oh, my goodness!" gasped Hare. "You have a beak! And no ears?!" Hare squeaked before bounding away. Hare thumped a padded paw in protest.



"I can hear you just fine," Raven cawed, annoyed at Hare's questions. "I'm a bird, not deaf!" Raven's head tilted as it peered through one eye. The fluffy Hare hunkered down on its wide white paws, long ears slicked back, ready to flee. Raven had had enough of this.

"You didn't care what I looked like before. I wish it were Night again! Taaq! Dark! Taaq!" the hurt in Raven cried and escaped into the world.

The beautiful Light that filled everything soon rusted and faded away. Darkness grew and swallowed the world. The powerful spirits of the two animals hummed and crackled in the dark. Hare thumped again.



"You never told me who you were. Liar! *Ulluq!* Day! *Ulluq!*" Hare shrilled as night became dawn.

"We were going to keep each other company," Raven replied. "In the dark! *Taaq!* Dark!"

Night replaced the Day, and so it went. Raven wishing for the Night and Hare for the Light. It went on and on. A terrible fight. Hurt and exhausted, both animals went in opposite directions and never looked back.

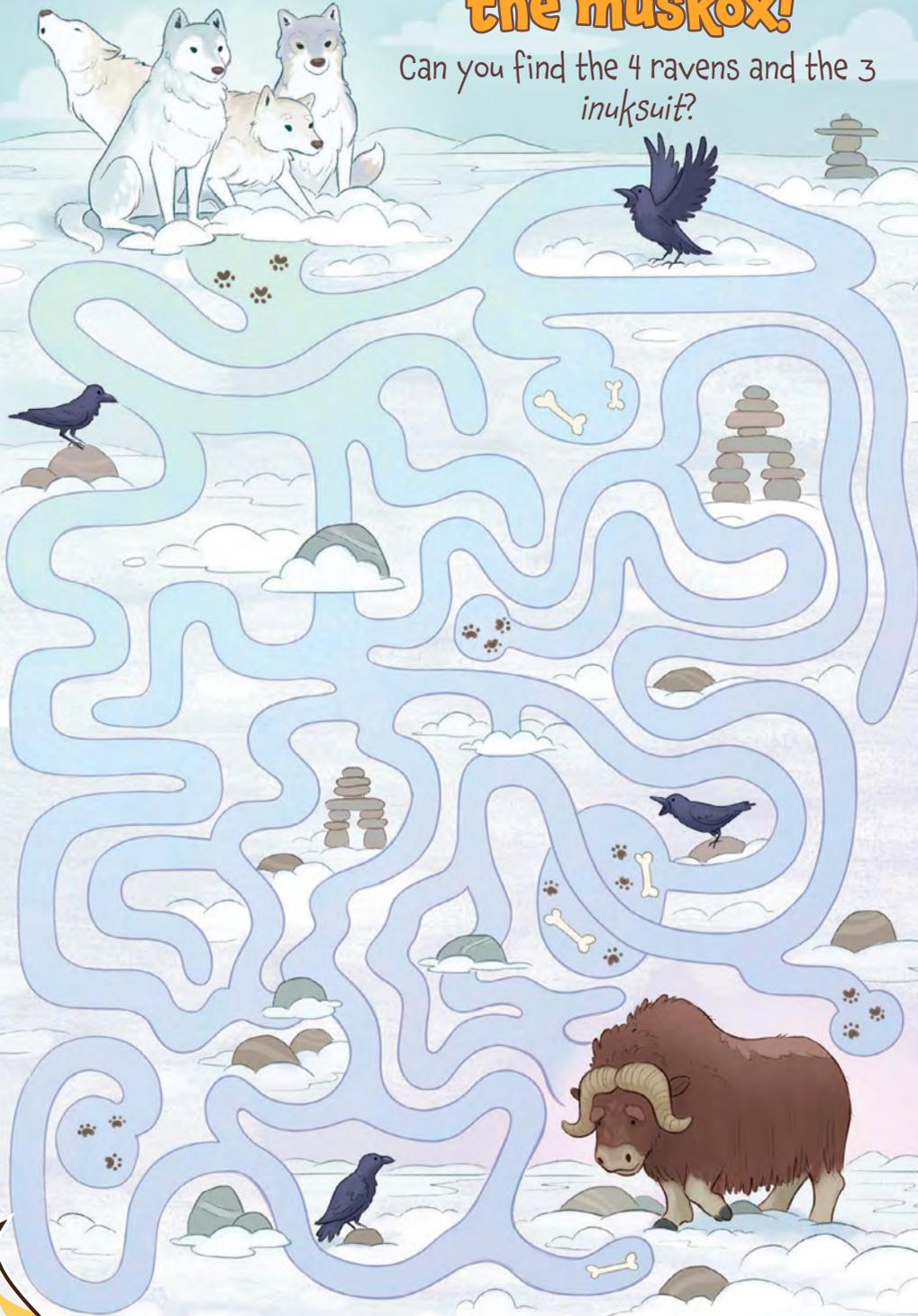
And so, they created Night and Day. Hare and Raven. They never returned to one another, those two. To this day Raven still caws, "*Taaq,*" and Hare disappears at the sound. We can't really blame them, though; it has been billions of years since.

Day and Night. One following the other. They are proud, those ones. They still miss each other, though. Day gave Night shining stars to see in the dark, and Raven has kept them fondly. And when Hare is tired after the long summer, Night watches over the winter so that Hare may go to sleep once again. Love hurts, yet never goes away.

*Taima.*

# Help the pack hunt the muskox!

Can you find the 4 ravens and the 3 inuksuit?



What do Arctic wolves do to announce their presence to other packs?

# Connect the dots to find out!



How many wolves are part of this pack?

Illustration: Emma Pedersen

Illustration: Emma Pedersen



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Photograph: ANGH/Shutterstock

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