



# North: The Amazing Story of Arctic Migration

*Nick Dowson , Patrick Benson (Illustrator)*

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**North: The Amazing Story of Arctic Migration** Nick Dowson , Patrick Benson (Illustrator)

A passionate nature lover and a renowned artist trace the awe-inspiring spring migration of millions of creatures to the Arctic--the greatest journey on Earth.

At the top of our world is a huge wild place called the Arctic.

In the winter, it is a cold and barren land, where few animals can survive. But when spring comes, it brings with it animals from every corner of the earth. Gray whales, white cranes, wolves, and caribou begin their migrations as the snow melts, gradually making the long journey north. Once they reach their destination, they will raise their young, feast on the lush Arctic tundra, and bask in the sunlight that lasts all summer. Still, this season too must pass, and by the time winter grips the Arctic once again, the visitors have gone--only to return the following year. This lushly illustrated picture book celebrates the cyclical nature of the seasons, showcasing the barren and beautiful landscapes of the Arctic Circle and reminding the reader of the hardships and harmony of life in the wild.

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## North: The Amazing Story of Arctic Migration Details

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# From Reader Review **North: The Amazing Story of Arctic Migration** for online ebook

## **Kate says**

While this book was geared towards children, even adult readers such as myself can find value in the interesting text and beautiful illustrations. I find that I know far more about the Antarctic regions of Earth than the Arctic, which is a shame because I am Canadian, and the Arctic is very much a part of our nation. I enjoyed the simple way this book presented the journey of the myriad animals and birds that migrate to the Arctic every spring to over-summer there. The text and illustrations combined made this book a delight to enjoy!

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## **Siskiyou-Suzy says**

1. "That was an interesting book," said a four-year-old immediately upon finishing. I always like to hear that.
  2. *North: The Amazing Story of Arctic Migration* is very beautiful, and I enjoy the illustrations. It's also fairly informative.
  3. I thought it could do a better job at providing overall information instead of species-specific information.
  4. The writing was sometimes a little cheesy -- I couldn't help but read the all-caps parts in a over-the-top announcer voice. No need for all caps!
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## **Christine Turner says**

### Summary

A passionate nature lover and a renowned artist trace the awe-inspiring spring migration of millions of creatures of the Arctic.

At the top of our world is a huge wild place called the Arctic. In the winter, it is a cold and barren land, where few animals can survive. But when spring comes, it brings with it animals from every corner of the earth. Gray whales, white cranes, wolves, and caribou begin their migrations as the snow melts, gradually making the long journey north. Once they reach their destination, they will raise their young, feast on the lush Arctic tundra, and bask in the sunlight that lasts all summer. Still, this season too must pass, and by the time winter grips the Arctic once again, the visitors have gone--only to return the following year.

This lushly illustrated picture book celebrates the cyclical nature of the seasons, showcasing the barren and beautiful landscapes of the Arctic Circle and reminding the reader of the hardships and harmony of life in the wild.

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## **Laura says**

This beautifully illustrated nonfiction text clearly describes the many animals that live and migrate to the Arctic circle. Some of the animals are familiar to us -- polar bears and whales -- but many are animals that we don't think of as migrating to the top of the world. Fish migrate from streams, birds fly thousands of miles, a walrus swim up the Pacific coast.

This book is perfect for students in grades 2 - 4 learning about animal adaptations and migrations. Though the book is quite thick and looks a bit intimidating, it's really perfect for elementary school students. Highly recommended.

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## **Kim says**

Grades 2-5

Spare, almost poetic, language combines with beautiful illustrations to create a book that will be a pleasure to read aloud and to pore over individually. Opening with a scene of a lone polar bear and arctic fox, Dowson explains that there are very few animals that can survive year-round in the Arctic, but as the seasons change and the weather slowly warms, animals from all over the globe start making their way north. Illustrator Benson's muted watercolors complement Dowson's text nicely, and the result is a thoughtful and thought-provoking book. An author's note about the Arctic region, along with a glossary, index, and map, round out the offering. While there's not enough detail on specific animals to be helpful with reports, students will come away with an appreciation of that region as a whole.

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## **Debra says**

One of the best literary non-fiction books I have read in awhile. The beginning really pulls the reader in, and then the story of the arctic migration unfolds slowly, with each page adding a new animal to the great journey. A wonderful combination of story and facts. The author's love of nature comes through. The story is amazing and beautiful!

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## **Michael Lausche says**

This well illustrated picture book, about the migration of animals towards the north is packed full of detailed descriptions and pictures of what these animals look like. The text that the author provides the reader with, explains very smoothly on how certain animals migrate. The variety of animals that are given range from whales, to bears, to birds. I must say that the "exclamation point" on the book is the illustrations. Patrick Benson does a great job with creating these silky pictures of bird migration, whales traveling from coast to coast, and landscape that is breathtaking. I really enjoyed learning about how these animals migrate, and the survival techniques they use. I would recommend this book for children ages kindergarten-1st grade.

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### **Tasha says**

This poetic look at the amazing Arctic starts with the deep winter and the few animals who survive there year round. Then spring comes to the Arctic and the sun comes back along with some warmth. Plants start to appear from under the snow. Soon more animals will arrive. The first to head out on their journey are the gray whales, that swim from Mexico to the Arctic Circle. Birds head north too in flocks. Herds of pregnant caribou journey north, followed closely by the gray wolves looking for weakness. Walrus, narwhal, schools of fish, all of this life crowds the Arctic summer until the weather turns cold and brutal again, and once more they head back around the world.

Read the rest of my review on my blog, [Waking Brain Cells](#).

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### **Dolores says**

Amazing artwork, full of facts, & wonderful writing.

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### **Rachel Keller says**

First of all, what a stunning book! The illustrations are so gorgeous! I especially like the way they are laid out - some split the page, some are in panels, and some take up two whole pages with no words at all. The book is about the migration that various animals make in the winter, from walrus' to polar bears to all kinds of birds. The images actually made me feel the cold, arctic conditions! I really love the creativity of the author and illustrator. They truly took time to think about taking the reader on a visual journey, provoking the senses and inspiring the mind. I think this book is a great model of nonfiction writing, but also a good resource for students if they were learning about migration. The language is accessible and easy to read on the page. It is too poetic, but really tells the story in a straight forward way.

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### **Faith Hough says**

I'd love this for the art alone, but the text is gorgeous, too! And it was as engaging to my 6-year-old as it was to me, so a hearty 5 stars.

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### **Angie says**

When you think of migration you think of birds flying south for the winter. I never really thought about the northern migrations for the summer months until I read this book. This is a beautifully illustrated sparse look at migration to and from the Arctic. It starts with those animals like polar bears who spend all year long in the Arctic. They travel over the frozen tundra during the winter months. But once spring begins and plants start to break through the ice they are joined by more and more animals from birds to whales to caribou to

wolves. In all 180 species migrate to the Arctic each year. There isn't a whole lot of text on these beautiful pages, but there is enough to tell the story. I really appreciated the end matter at the back that gives a little more information on the animals and northern migration.

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### **Jill says**

This is so beautifully done and such a wonderful book about the yearly migration of animals. It's non-fiction, which is good for this theme, but it's not preachy or lecturing in its language. It's a little long for a storytime, but I SO wanted to share this with the kids at my library that I had it out on display every chance I could get in the Fall.

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### **Kate says**

"I always think of animal migrations as heading south," my daughter wondered as we read this beautiful book together by the fire this weekend. And that, I think, is part of what makes NORTH: THE AMAZING STORY OF ARCTIC MIGRATION such a special book - all these animals, from the soaring snow geese to the regal caribou to the pointy-tusked, alien-looking narwhals, heading north, to a part of the world we so often think of as inhospitable. But in the summer sun, the Arctic is full of life and light - food and space to breed and raise young. This book tells the story of that migration, of the animals that swim, walk, and fly north when the days grow longer. Beautiful art work in soft blues and yellows captures that warmth and light, and some gorgeous, wordless spreads tell stories of their own. A lovely, lovely book - and one that would be great to pair with OVER AND UNDER THE SNOW for winter studies in the classroom.

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### **Heidi-Marie says**

The illustrations of this book are my favorite part. Very pretty with lots to look at. Information that I did not know before and liked learning. But the text sometimes didn't work for me. And while it was nice that the book was not overwhelming with information, I came away from the book feeling like I got barely a glimpse. That we started out with journeys of some animals but didn't continue. I felt unsatisfied, but I suppose that is to get my curiosity up and have me researching more about this area that I knew nothing of.

P.S. Now I know why one can see whales all along the California, Canada, and Alaskan coasts!

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