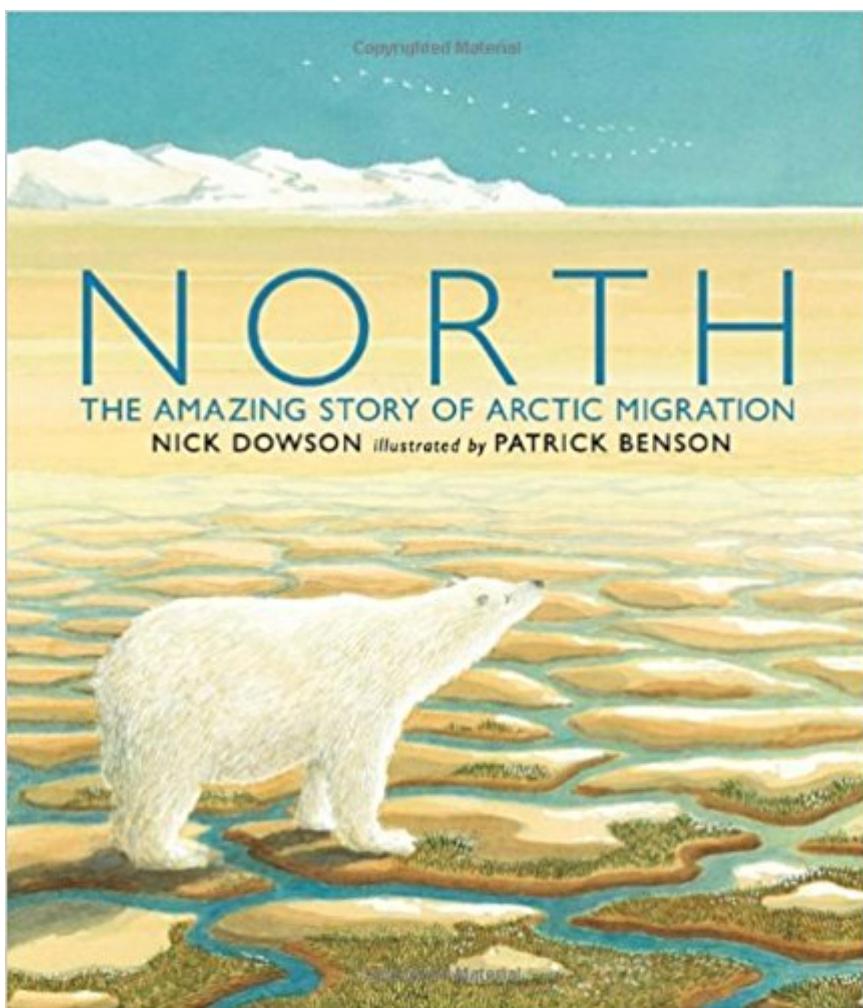


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# North: The Amazing Story Of Arctic Migration



## **Synopsis**

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.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 920L (What's this?)

Paperback: 56 pages

Publisher: Candlewick (September 10, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763666637

ISBN-13: 978-0763666637

Product Dimensions: 9.8 x 0.2 x 11.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #838,300 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #132 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Polar Regions #588 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Environment & Ecology #998 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Diseases

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## **Customer Reviews**

This striking account of arctic migration offers a northerly, book-bound counterpart to "March of the Penguins." Dowson's descriptions are both simple and poetic, as polar bears, gray whales, jaegers, snow geese and pregnant caribou make their way from points south toward the North Pole

in Benson's sumptuous, shimmery paintings. Appropriately oversize considering its vast majesty, this book will inspire in young readers an equally outsize sense of wonder. •The New York Times Simple but effective, this is a beautiful introduction to a remarkable region that should encourage any child's sense of wonder. •Kirkus Reviews (starred review) Dowson's poetic text and Benson's impressionistic watercolors introduce seasonal changes as well as various birds, mammals, and even fish that undertake the long migration. The spare text and expansive views provide an inviting sense of the terrain and the journeys endured by the animals...an attractive entry in the growing number of nonfiction poetry picture books, offering rich read-aloud and browsing opportunities. •School Library Journal (starred review) The text has an appealing delicacy, with a touch of lyricism... Benson's detailed illustrations in watercolor, pencil, and pen move easily from subtlety to grandeur; while the draftsmanship is softly realistic, the imagination behind them brings the natural world to vivid life. •Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books (starred review)

Nick Dowson is the author of *TRACKS OF A PANDA* and *TIGRESS*. A teacher and naturalist, he lives in Suffolk, England. Patrick Benson has received the Mother Goose Award, the Christopher Award, and the Kurt Maschler Award. He has collaborated with Roald Dahl, Russell Hoban, and Martin Waddell, whose book *OWL BABIES* has sold 12 million copies. Patrick Benson lives in Scotland.

I'm an illustration fanatic, and so let me start with the illustrations. The color palette is smooth and perfect, and the level of detail is extraordinary. Look at that snowstorm. Did you notice the animal? Look at that harbor. Did you notice the animals? Look at that tundra. Do you see the animal? Look, look, look at those illustrations! The text is calm and a bit mesmerizing for reading aloud. We read this one very s-l-o-w-l-y anyway, to soak up all those illustrations, and the text is perfectly timed to keep the book moving. Slowly. Thoughtfully. The migrations pictured here are amazing for children, and the arctic in bloom is like nothing they have ever seen before. Happily, recent climate science has shown that the arctic and antarctic ice are not showing signs of stress or melting; in fact, polar ice is growing. That's a recent-news happy ending on this beautiful story. Well done, indeed.

With the recent news that there is a decline in the production of science books for children and that climate change is threatening polar bears and other cold weather animals, I was so happy to read the big, beautiful book, *North: The Amazing Story of Arctic Migration* by Nick Dowson. This essential

book takes readers on a migrating journey over thousands of miles with a variety of animals - polar bears, grey whales, terns, geese, caribou and various types of whales. The book is written with such eloquent and clever prose, your child will be magically swept into the story . . . "Here in the winter, the sun sinks away, blizzards fill the darkness and even the seas freeze deep." We learn how the animals migrate - whether on foot, by sea or by air - and what they eat, how they live and the challenges they face to survive. In the back of the book is factual information about the Arctic and a useful glossary of terms. The author is a teacher and a naturalist, and he certainly has a gift for getting children interested in animal migration just by the way he puts his words together. Award winning illustrator, Patrick Benson captures the essence of Arctic wilderness with great splendor, making this an even more exceptional animal adventure for children and their parents alike. The somewhat smoky pictures evoke the moisture and the darkness of the far, far north. Mr. Benson, who illustrated Roald Dahl's, *The Minpins*, is an animal lover himself, as he lives on a 26-acre farm in rural Scotland. I was not surprised to discover that Candlewick Press published this book. It is well written, educational, beautiful and sturdy - a perfect addition to any child's library. I highly recommend it.

This book is about the arctic and how animals from all over the world migrate there during the spring. Animals come from as far south as Antarctica. Only a few animals live in the Arctic all year. Polar bears, Arctic Fox, Musk Ox and Arctic Hare are able to survive the very cold temperatures of the harsh winter. But during the spring, over 180 kinds of animals come to visit when the temperatures warm up. They are coming for food. This book teaches children about how animals migrate to the arctic and about their journeys along the way. I think other people would like this book, because it helps parents to teach children about the animals that migrate to the Arctic. The most important and useful part of the book is that it helps teach kids that it's important to be good to the environment to reduce global warming and save the animals. Children ages 5 - 11 would like this book and could learn from it too. This book would be great for both boys and girls because we all have to work together to help stop global warming. Review by Young Mensan Hayden S., age 5

North: *The Amazing Story of Arctic Migration* is a marvelously illustrated book, soft earth-tone colors depicting a large variety of animals from the Arctic region. It teaches children the delight of nature, animal life and behavior, as well as indirectly imparting to children an underlying message of conservation. This is an exceptional book, unusually excellent quality in a children's book, and should be on anyone's top 100 picks for children. Kindergarten and PreK children will enjoy the

book for the illustrations and if you read to them; the reading level is first up to second grade. This book was surveyed in a grade school classroom, and is recommended to parents as well as for the classroom.

Just checked this book out at the library to learn more about animal migration, both of my girls (4&6) were engaged with each page we read. The book is filled with wonderful facts, but is not filled with too much information you loose your audience. The illustrations are truly beautiful and help tell the story. I loved how it walked us through the journey naming places we could look up on a map to make it come more alive. Really enjoyed the book!

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