

Snow School

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

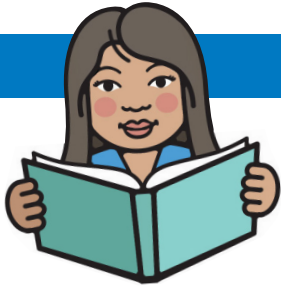
Themes: Animals, Survival, Family

Book Brief: A rare look at the endangered life of snow leopards. A mother leopard helps her newborn cubs learn how to survive.

Author: Sandra Markle

Illustrator: Alan Marks

Content Connections: Science, Math, Social Studies



TIME TO READ!

BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: Have students predict where they think snow leopards live. Discuss

the title and why the author may have chosen it. Help students make the connection between school and learning.

The Pictures: Take a picture walk. Ask students, "From these illustrations, what can we learn about the snow leopard's environment?"

Prior Knowledge: What do students know about leopards? What is a snow leopard? Where do they live? Explain that snow leopards are very rare, only 3,500 left on earth. Show a map of the Kush Mountains in Pakistan. Build background with this video: <http://bigcatrescue.org/snow-leopard-facts>.

Vocabulary: Kush mountains, chuff, crest, Pika, pursuit, yowl, mimic

Purpose for Reading: "In the book the cubs learn many lessons to help them in life. Listen and look for these lessons as we read."

WHILE WE READ

MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- ◆ When are snow leopards born?
- ◆ What happens after the male kitten peeks outside?
- ◆ What lessons do the snow leopard cubs learn?
- ◆ Why are these "Snow School" lessons important to the everyday life of a leopard?
- ◆ What behaviors of the cubs are learned? What behaviors are instincts?

- ◆ What are ways people can help save leopards or other endangered animals from extinction?



LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: "What lessons did the cubs learn at "Snow School" and why are these lessons important?"

Extending Our Thinking: Explain that snow leopards are extremely endangered, with only about 3,500 currently alive in the world. What are ways that human beings can help save snow leopards and their environment?

NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.



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