

# ARCTIC CRASHES

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## Countries and Continents are fighting over who owns the Arctic.

Have you ever been to a place with a lot of ice? The Arctic is the largest ice cap in the world! It is in the most northern part of the world.

In the Arctic many countries are fighting over who will own it. Countries fighting over the Arctic could mean that everything living there may soon be extinct.

The Arctic is the last mass of ice in the world and, according to scientists, even that ice may be gone by 2013!

## THE "LIVING ARCTIC"

The Arctic is a very big ice cap at the very top or northern tip of the world. It is home to many animals such as the polar bear, penguin, seal, walrus, Arctic fox and the Arctic hare. It is also home to the Eskimos who live there. Eskimos are people who live in tribes in the Arctic.

The Arctic Circle borders Russia, Canada, the United States, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland. The Arctic Circle is a "circle" that borders the Arctic and other countries and continents.

The countries who are fighting desire the Arctic because there is untapped oil and gas, barrels worth, under the Arctic.

## COUNTRIES "CRASHING"

Russia, Canada, the United States, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland are all fighting over who own the Arctic. They are fighting on the ice with weapons and in their boats by crashing through each other's boats and using weapons, as well. They are fighting over untapped oil and gas hidden under the Arctic ice. The countries fighting over the Arctic are in the Arctic Circle. The Arctic Circle is a circle bordering countries and continents. It also borders the Arctic. Shipping companies are very happy that the Arctic ice is melting. They say that since the Arctic ice is melting, it opens a bigger space and trade routes. Many other people feel the opposite, though. They think that it is very dangerous for everything living there, since sea levels may rise causing tsunamis or other bad

things. How do you feel? Do you think these fights are necessary or are they completely unnecessary? Fights over who owns the Arctic are affecting the wildlife and people (Eskimos) living there. Polar bears, walruses, seals, fish, brown bears, birds and penguins are all dying because countries are killing the fish which penguins eat. The penguins die, and then the walruses eat the penguins. The walruses die and the polar bears eat them. The polar bears die and so on. Countries are also crushing through ice, which is the animals' habitat, so the animals die. It affects the people because fights are happening right outside their villages and homes, and countries are taking away their homes as well.



ARCTIC CIRCLE. THE COUNTRIES AND CONTINENTS AROUND IT IN COLOR ARE THE COUNTRIES AND CONTINENTS FIGHTING.



THIS IS A PICTURE OF THE ARCTIC. IT HAS A LOT OF ICE AND MOUNTAINS.

## Quiz

# ARCTIC ANIMALS

How many countries and continents are fighting?

- A. 6
- B. 7
- C. 8
- D. 9

What animal eats fish?

- A. Walrus
- B. Polar bear
- C. Penguin
- D. Fish



How do you feel? Do you think these fights are necessary or are they completely unnecessary?

Is it necessary? Circle what you think.

Yes

No

Now explain why you think they should or shouldn't fight.

Answer: