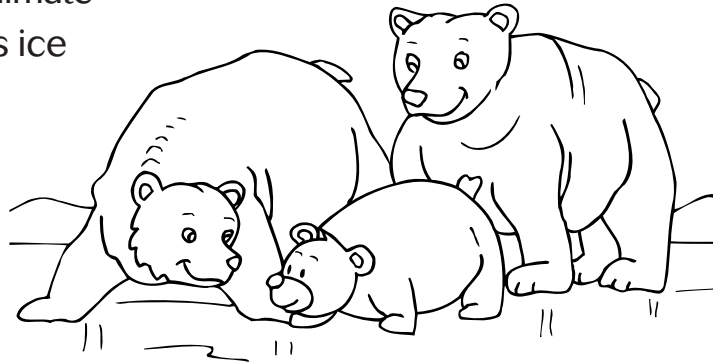

Animals and Plants in Danger

Changes in climate can affect the way ecosystems work and upset the habitats of living things. In the past, climate changes occurred slowly, allowing animals and plants to adapt to the new environment or move somewhere else. However, if future climate changes occur rapidly, animals and plants may not be able to react fast enough to survive. Here are some examples of animals and plants that are suffering from global warming.

Polar bears are drastically affected by climate change. Because of shorter winters, less ice cover, and less food available, female polar bears are unable to put on as much fat as possible in winter. Less fat on their bodies means fewer cubs are born, and those that are born are thin and weak. As a result, polar bears may face extinction.



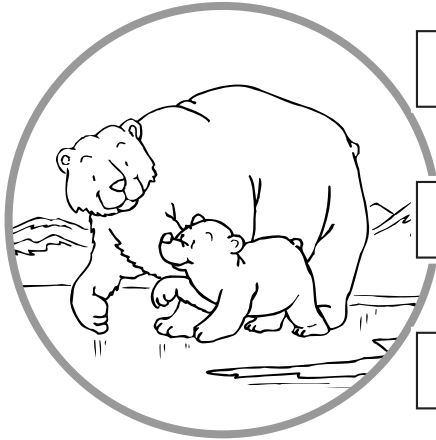
Sea turtles live at sea – except when the females return to the same beaches where they hatched to lay their eggs. Unfortunately, rising sea levels have made some of the beaches disappear. This puts sea turtles at a high risk of extinction.

Alpine plants are sensitive to warm temperatures. A study found that alpine plants are moving upwards to cooler regions. However, the farthest they can go is the mountain peak. Warm temperatures cause the loss of many alpine plants.

Animals and Plants in Danger

Check ✓ the correct sentences to tell how global warming causes some living things to face extinction.

1.



A

Polar bears fail to reproduce strong and healthy offspring.

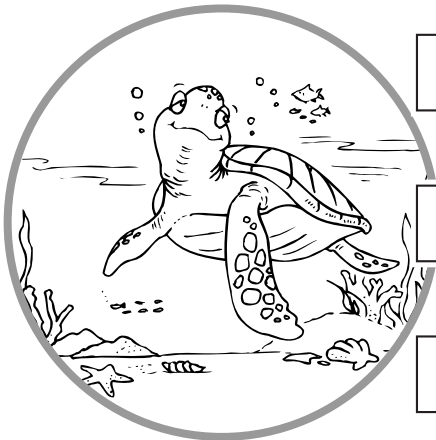
B

Polar bears become more and more picky.

C

Wintertime is getting longer.

2.



A

Sea turtles make friends with whales.

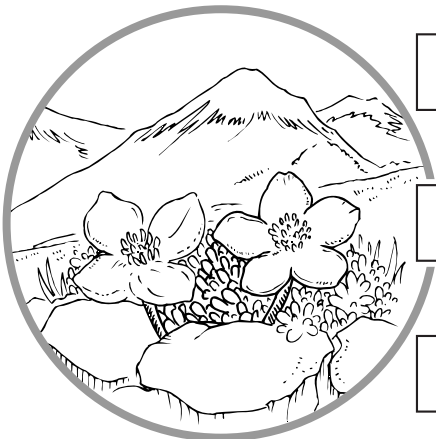
B

Rising sea levels cause sea turtles to lose their beaches for reproduction.

C

Sea turtles cannot find food to eat.

3.



A

Alpine plants are threatened by floods.

B

Many people pick alpine plants.

C

Warm temperatures force alpine plants to move upwards, and many die because of this.