



TEACHERS AND RESEARCHERS
EXPLORING AND COLLABORATING

Welcome to *PolarConnect*

with PolarTREC Teacher Lisa Seff

ED 593: Integrated Life and Earth Sciences in the
Context of the Polar Regions

Thursday, 24 October 2013

2pm AKDT

[3pm PDT, 4pm MDT, 5pm CDT, 6pm EDT]

Slides will be shown here

Exit the presentation

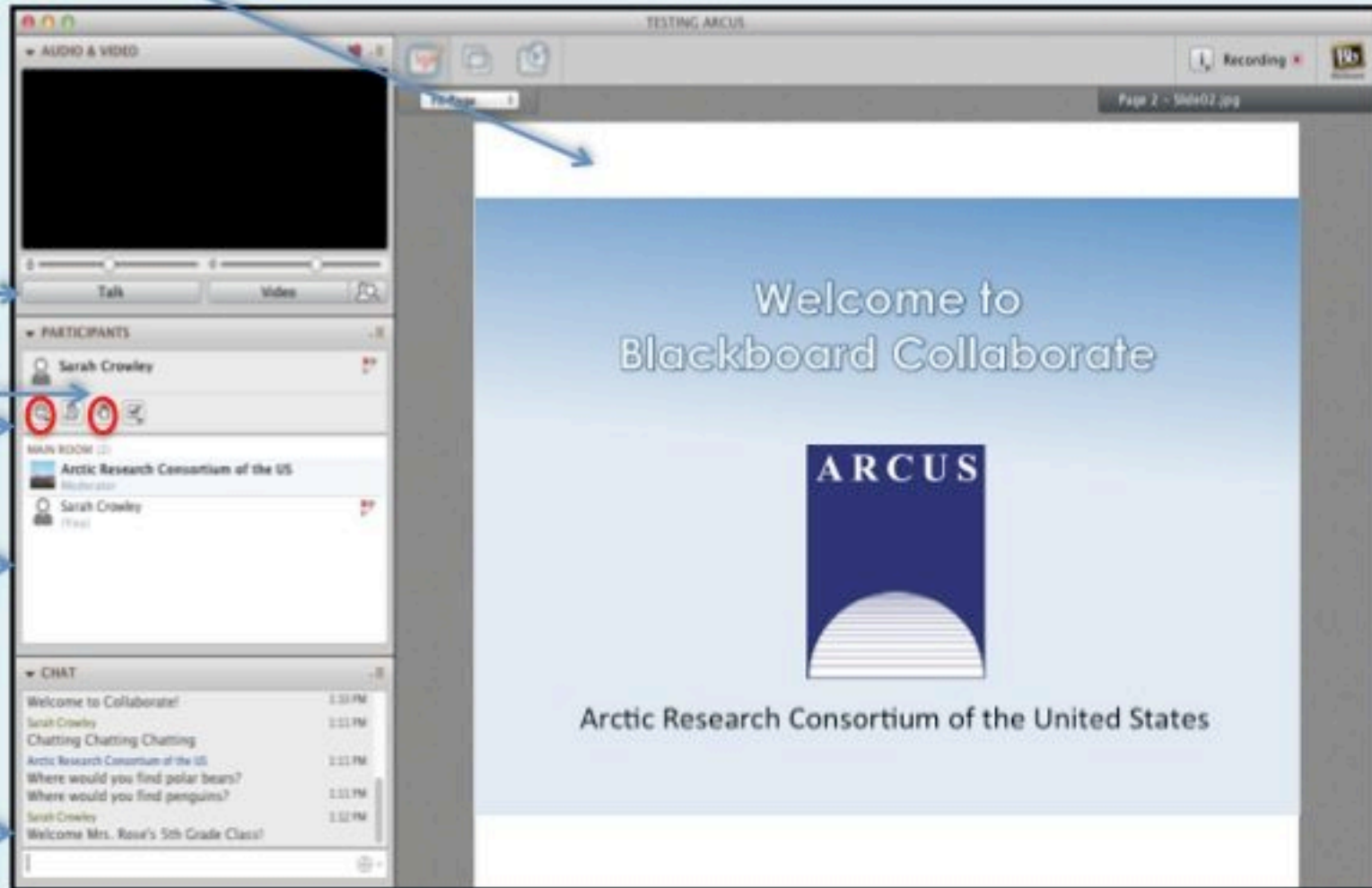
Click to Talk, Unclick to finish talking

Raise your hand to ask a question

Share with emoticons

List of all participants

Chat with one person or the entire group



The screenshot shows the Blackboard Collaborate interface. The main window displays a presentation slide titled "Welcome to Blackboard Collaborate" with the ARCUS logo and the text "Arctic Research Consortium of the United States". The sidebar on the left contains several sections: "AUDIO & VIDEO" with a black video feed and "Talk" and "Video" buttons; "PARTICIPANTS" with a list of users including Sarah Crowley and Arctic Research Consortium of the US; "MAIN ROOM" with a list of users; and "CHAT" with a list of messages. Blue arrows point from the text labels on the left to the corresponding elements in the interface.

Please Note:

- Participants using the telephone can mute/unmute by **pressing *6** on the phone.
- Today's event will be recorded and archived.

Participant Introductions

When called, please state your:

- ✓ Name
- ✓ School / Institution
- ✓ The number of students and adults participating with you in the same location

What is PolarTREC?

PolarTREC is a professional development experience in which K-12 teachers are paired with researchers for 2-6 week research experiences in the polar regions.

From 2010-2013, nearly 50 teachers from around the United States will join scientists in the Arctic and Antarctica to learn about science, the polar regions, and to share what they have learned with their students and communities.

Questions

During the Presentation:

- Type your question in the text chat box

At the End of the Presentation:

- Raise your hand with the “hand button”.
- PolarTREC staff will call on you.
- Speak loud and clear and directly into the phone to ask your question.

Click on the Talk button to speak.

Unclick when you are done.



Arctic

vs.

Antarctic



These two pictures are intriguing and get students thinking and asking questions. When you think of the Polar Regions, what do you picture? How is the Arctic different from the Antarctic? How are they similar? How do they compare with Springs?

- **Ocean surrounded by land**
- **Polar bears**
- **Mosquitoes**
- **Sea ice 2m average**

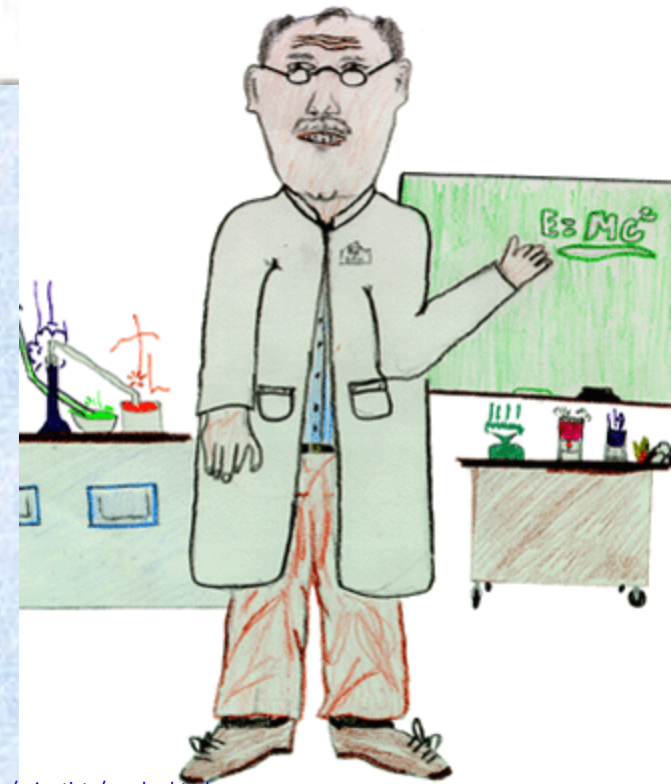
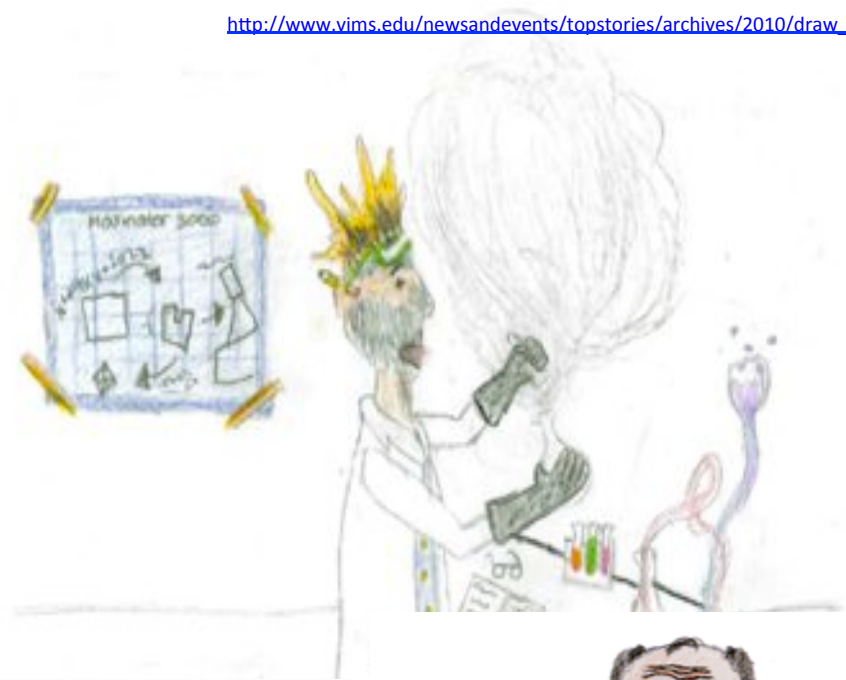


- **Land surrounded by ocean**
- **Penguins**
- **No mosquitoes**
- **Sea ice 1m average**





Ask student to brainstorm with the questions:
Who do you picture when you hear the word scientist or researcher? What do they look like? What clothes do they wear?



Introduction to what some scientists look like: In August/September 2012 the team onboard the R/V Ukpik included research scientists, a technician, boat captains and a teacher. The team conducted research on the Oceanographic Conditions of the Bowhead Whale Habitat off the coast of Barrow AK. Springs School students and community members joined the expedition virtually through PolarTREC .



**Dr. Steve Okkonen,
UAF**

**Dr. Bob Campbell,
URI**



Dr. Carin Ashjian, WHOI



Captain Bill Kopplin



Captain Mike Fleming



**Lisa Seff
PolarTREC Educator**



Phil Alatalo, WHOI

Let students know, scientists are regular people too.

At the end of a hard days work, the all important question for the researchers is.....
What's for dinner?





UIC-NARL Barrow Alaska



Springs School, East Hampton New York



71°17'44"N
156°45'59"W

**The Big Picture:
Compare and contrast where students live to the area you want them to become invested in as an active participant and student scientist.**

40.9638° N,
72.1853° W

Where do researchers conduct research? When conducting research where do they live? What hazards do they face? I use PolarTREC videos and journals, along with other websites and articles to bring science into the classroom.



BE ALERT for Polar Bears

BE ALERT

Be alert for polar bears in the Arctic. They may be present in unpopulated areas or near or along busy shipping lanes. Please use proper safety gear and procedures.

BE ALERT

When working in areas where polar bears may be present, always wear your safety gear and use proper procedures. Please use proper safety gear and procedures.

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researchers PolarTREC Sea Cruise Video
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xjbbk1TceAM>



Photo courtesy Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute

What do some scientists study?
 It's not all in a test tube!

Bowhead Whales



40-60 feet

Photo by Craig George



Figure courtesy of Lori Quakenbush, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Zooplankton: Bowhead whale prey



0.6-0.8 inch

Photo by Celia Gelfman

Euphausiids or Krill



0.2-0.4 in

Photo by Celia Gelfman

Copepods

Arctic Ocean Current Systems

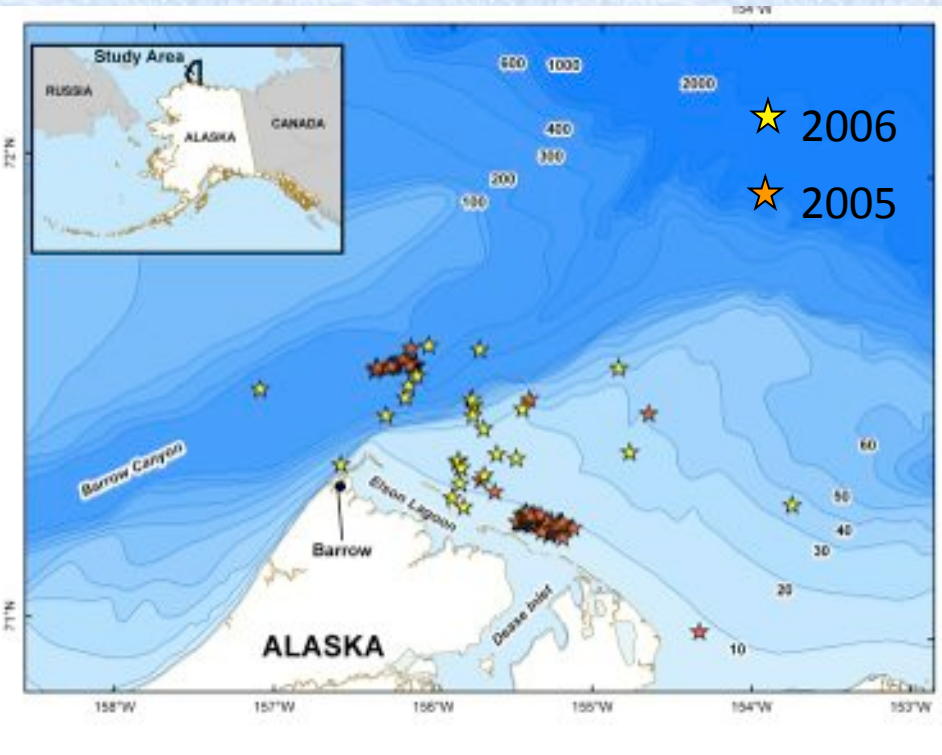


(Illustration by Jack Cook, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution)

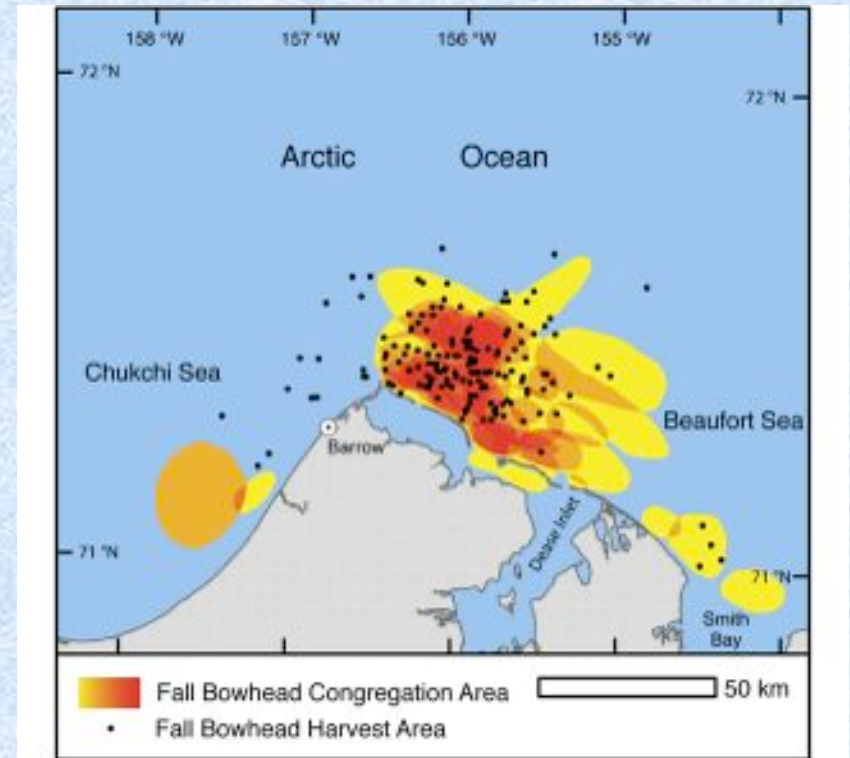
How does a research project begin?

Scientists wondered: Why do the whales congregate at this location near Barrow?

Aerial Surveys in Early September 2005 & 2006



68 Hunter Interviews and Whale Strike Locations



Ashjian et al., in press, Arctic June 2010

Locations of Whales Near Barrow based on aerial surveys and hunter interviews

Bring it all back to the Scientific Method:

The first step: Develop a research question that you want to solve.

?

Our Research Questions/Goals

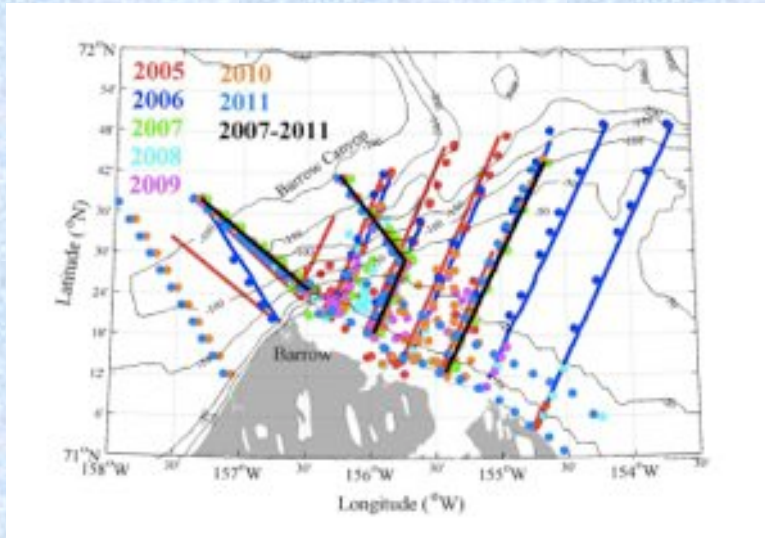


Our Main research question:

- **Why do bowhead whales stop at Barrow during their migrations?**
 - **Hypothesis: Bowhead whales stop at Barrow in fall because of dense patches of their prey that form there**
- What oceanographic conditions form these patches?
- How do the ocean conditions, and amount of whale prey, vary inter-annually?
- How might climate variability change this?

Scientific Method:

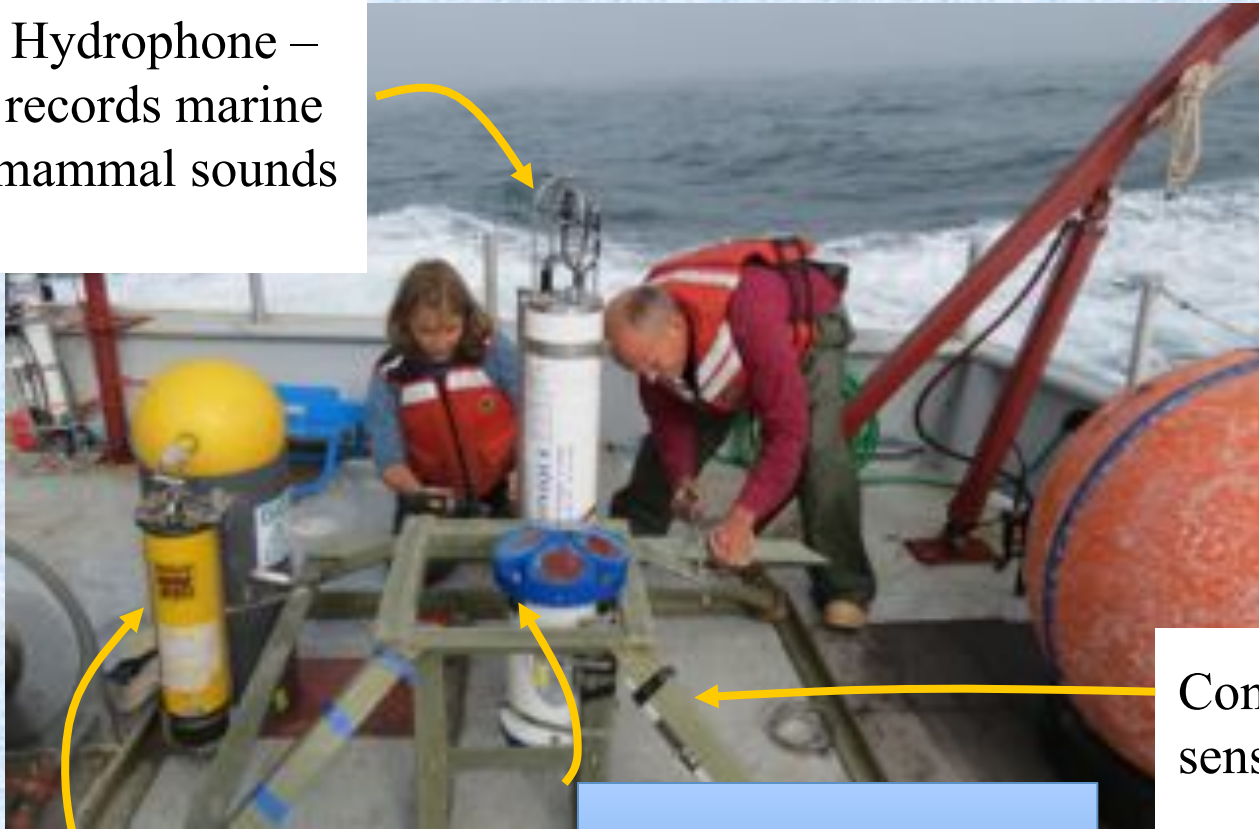
Design a research project where we can collect data to help answer our research questions.



Scientific Method: Materials

Tools used to conduct oceanographic research.

Hydrophone –
records marine
mammal sounds



Acoustic release and buoy
– mooring recovery
equipment

ADCP – measures/
records ocean current
speed and direction

On the cruise from Prudhoe
Bay to Barrow we deployed a
shallow- water, short-term
mooring.

Oceanographic moorings
measure and record ‘weather’
in the ocean

Conductivity Temperature
sensor – measures/records
ocean salinity and
temperature

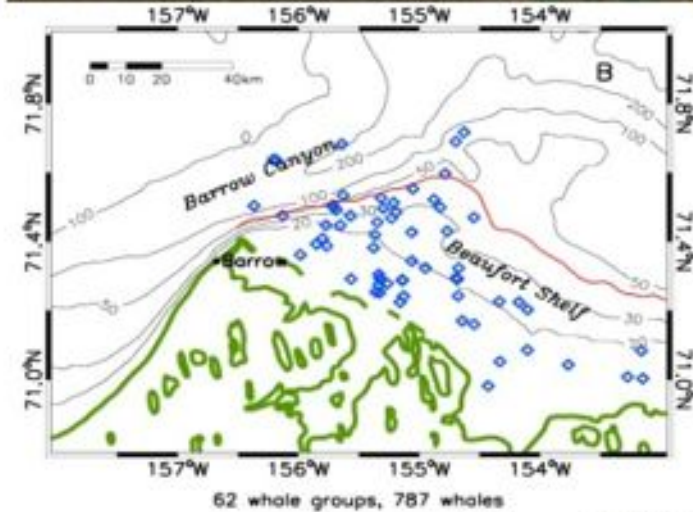
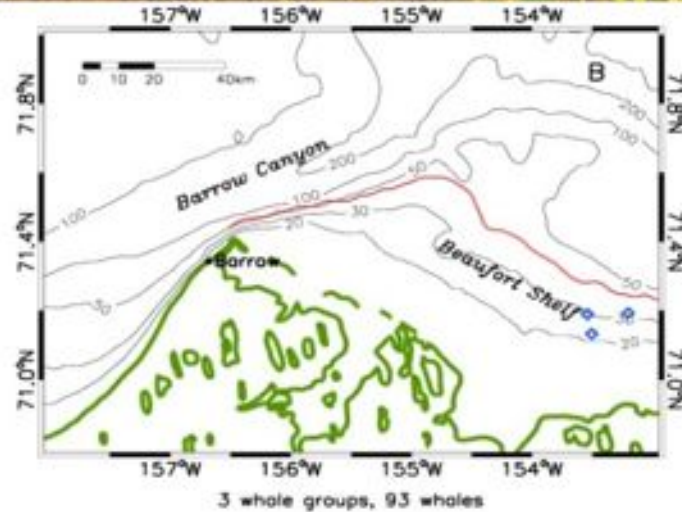
Scientific Method: Collect and Analyze Data

Let students analyze the data: Satellite imagery: Sediment and ice as tracers for krill

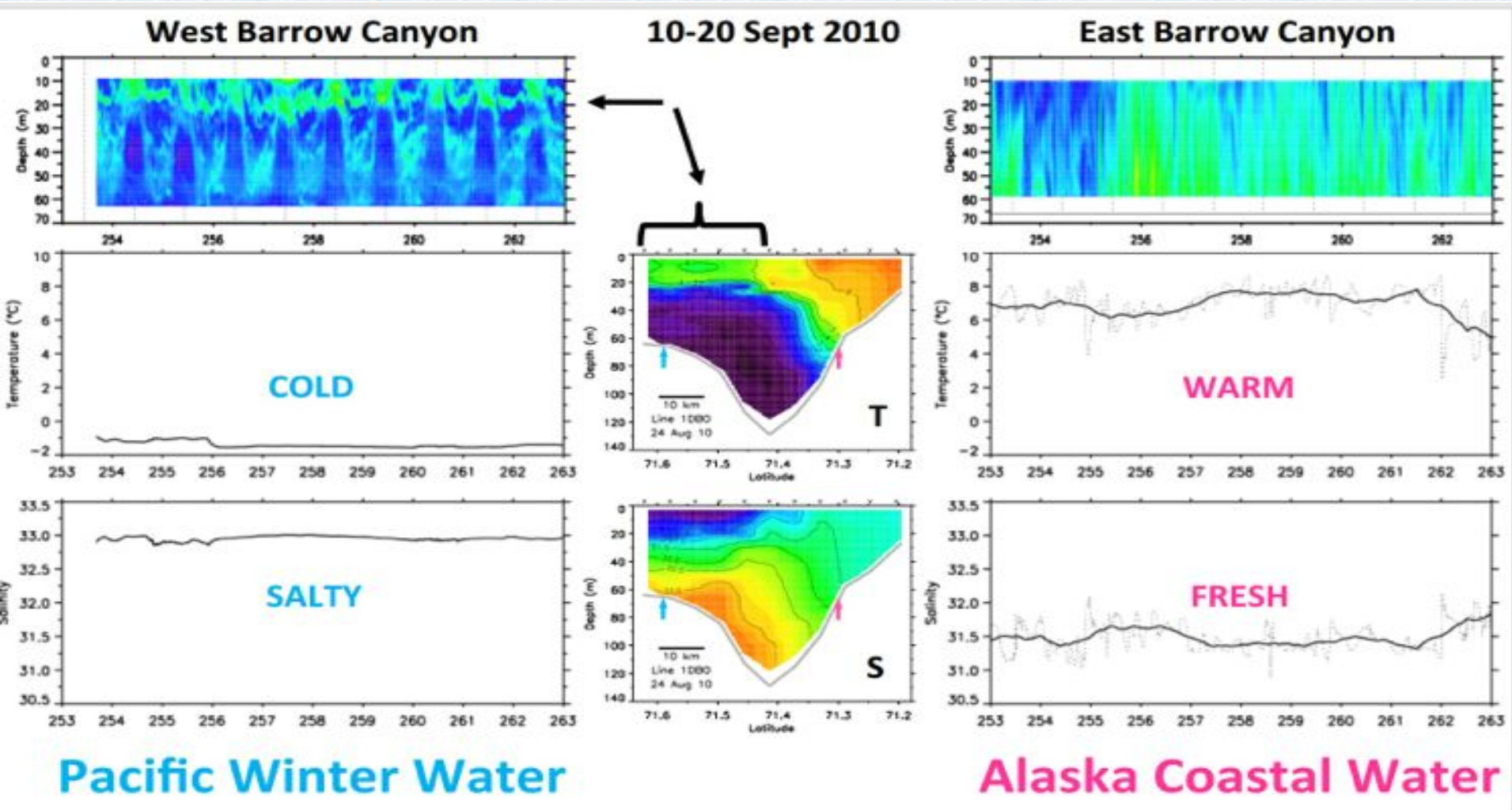
Winds from east $> 5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$



Weak winds $< 5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$

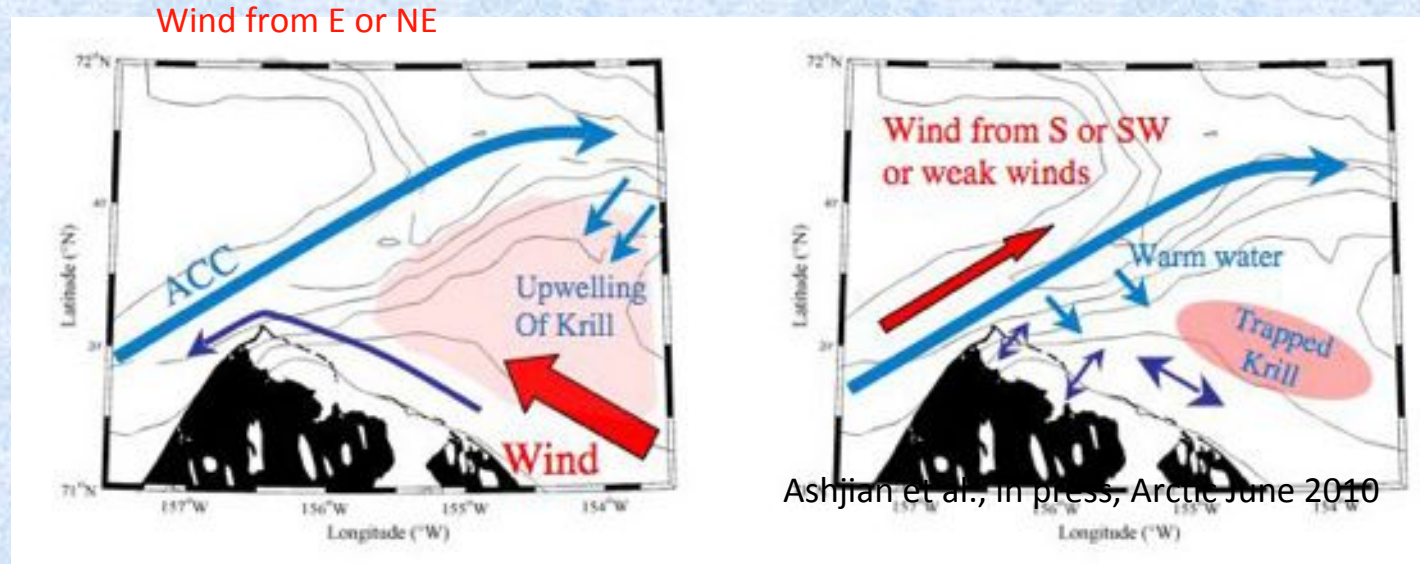


Final data translated from the acoustic Doppler current profiler (ADCP)



Conclusions:

Formation of the wind driven ocean current “Krill Trap”



- During periods of winds from the east, krill upwell along the Beaufort Shelf but are diffuse on the shelf. Water escapes around Pt. Barrow to the SW
- During periods of wind from the S, SW, or W or weak winds, the ACC is strong and close to the eastern side of Barrow Canyon, trapping water on the shelf and concentrating krill

Bowhead whale migration pathways in winter and summer-Western Arctic



Figure courtesy of Lori Quakenbush, Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Arctic Research Initiative Report March 2009
Interannual Variability in Physical-Biological Properties on the Shelf near Barrow, Alaska
Carin J. Ashjian, Biology Department WHOI.

North Atlantic Right whale migration pathways- East Coast of the United States



Credit: Adapted from E. Paul Oberlander, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Graphics; Data from North Atlantic Right Whale Consortium

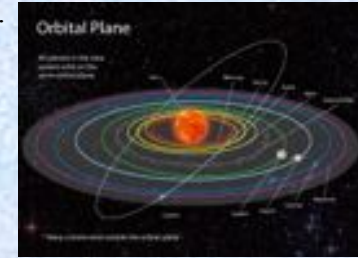


Bowhead Whale (*Balaena mysticetus*) pair / Photo by Dave Rugh courtesy NOAA, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

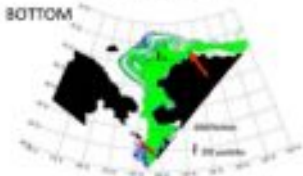
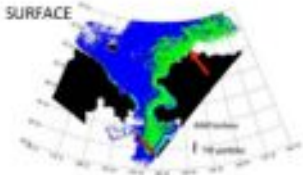


Right Whale and calf. http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2010/20101101_shipstrike.html

What many students picture when asked to describe a model used in science.



Where do the krill near Barrow come from?



GREEN = REACHED BARROW

Hoffey et al. (2008) using Makarewicz et al. (2004) model

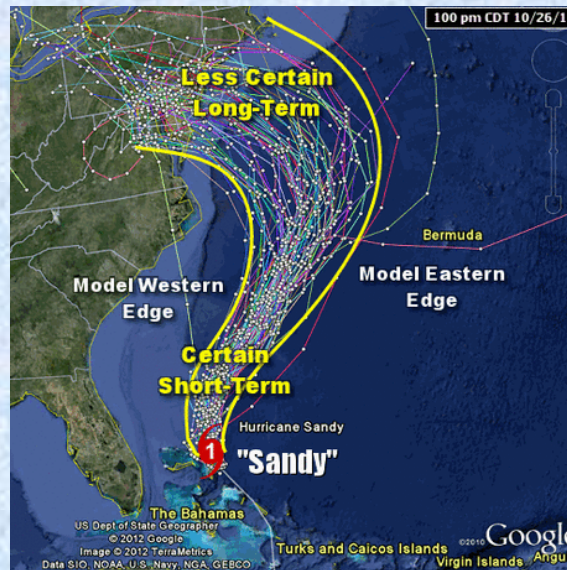
Ocean currents carry krill from the Bering Sea to the Barrow area

Numerical simulations indicate that:

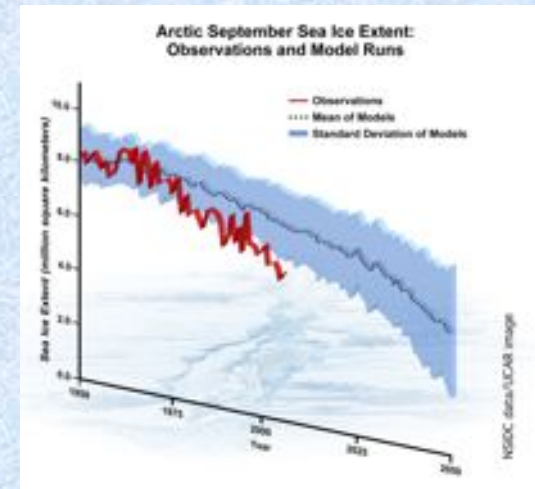
Few of the krill in the surface waters reach Barrow

Most of the krill in the bottom waters reach Barrow

Krill entering the Chukchi Sea in spring can easily make it to Barrow by fall, coinciding with the westward migration of the whales



These computer models from Oct. 26 of then-Hurricane Sandy show different predictions for the storm's path.
<http://www.npr.org/2012/10/31/164046039/high-def-storm-models-yielded-accurate-predictions>



Sea based ice melt vs. land based ice melt, what's the difference?



Postcards from the edge! Special delivery from Matt Conforti and the Barrow Post Office



Student game development based on the Earth's biological, chemical and physical oceanographic processes .



Photo from Argonne National Laboratory

Student research on local currents and plankton.

PolarTREC live Polar science webinars and “Ask the Team” help students to connect with the research in real time. Journals provide authentic non-fiction science written by educators and researchers in the field.



PolarTREC Learning Resources

Investigating Earth's Hydrosphere: Ocean Currents and Temperature

Region: Arctic
Grade Level: Middle School and Up
Completion Time: Less than an hour
Collections: Arctic Ocean Ecosystem

Excerpt: Overview to part two of the two-part lesson students work in pairs to explore the effects of temperature on ocean stratification using a simple plastic, window-iced container in which they create a mini-ocean environment. Students will apply what they learn in the lab setting along with.

[View Resource](#)

Ocean Currents and Salinity

Region: Arctic
Grade Level: Middle School and Up
Completion Time: About an hour
Collections: Arctic Ocean Ecosystem

Excerpt: Overview to part one of the two-part lesson students work in pairs to explore the effects of salinity on ocean stratification using a simple plastic, window-iced container in which they create a mini-ocean environment. Students will apply what they learn in the lab setting along with information.

[View Resource](#)

Zooplankton Bingo



Ring net student/teacher plankton collecting



Zooplankton net in the water! Three Mile Harbor East Hampton
Student class photos of zooplankton
Student quote: "Best class ever!" –Justin 7th grade



Sea level rise and climate change at home...

What Could Disappear

Map shows coastal and low-lying areas that would be permanently flooded, without engineering protections, in three levels of higher seas. Percentages are the portion of dry-land habitat lost within the city limits of places listed that would be permanently submerged.

Select sea level rise over current level:

- 0 feet: Today's sea levels and land area
- 3 feet: Today's sea levels and land area
- 6 feet: Today's sea levels and land area
- 9 feet: Today's sea levels and land area

Today's conditions Land submerged by rising oceans

Click on sea level indicator



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If the pace of the rise accelerates as much as expected, researchers found, coastal flooding at levels that were once exceedingly rare could become an every few year occurrence by the middle of this century...

Florida is the most vulnerable however Louisiana, California, New York and New Jersey are also particularly vulnerable, researchers found, and virtually the entire American coastline is at some degree of risk.

Published: March 13, 2012

New York Times

By Justin Gillis

The impacts of global warming will be a mixed blessing for Long Island farmers, who already are seeing signs of a longer growing season and hints that midsummer irrigation will become more important as weather patterns continue to change. Along with the warmer weather, farmers also are starting to see new invasive species of weeds and other pests take hold.

LI farmers discuss effects of global warming

Published: Friday January 11, 2013

By Mitchell Freedman Newsday

Temperatures measured at Islip are on average 1.5 degrees higher than they were 30 years ago. Over 40 years, the waters of eastern Long Island Sound have warmed 1.8 degrees.

Global warming affects life on LI

Published: August 13, 2011 7:10 PM

By Jennifer Smith, Newsday

Sea level rise and climate change in the Arctic...



Point Hope Aerial Photo, 2012



“The city has built a 10 foot (sea) berm for eight to ten miles along Nuvugalak Point.”
Willard Hunnicutt

“The ice cellars are thawing. We have to use buckets to get the water out.”
Joe Towksjhea



“There have been lots of mosquitoes and mosquito larvae. They plug up the bag filters and we have to change them every five to twenty minutes.”
Andrew Frankson, Water Operator

“Last two years the polar bears started coming to town, hungry. It is really dangerous to walk out.”
Joe Towksjhea

“The ocean is coming and eroding the beach, real fast. Some of the cellars are all gone—maybe a mile out, just eroded.”
Joe Towksjhea

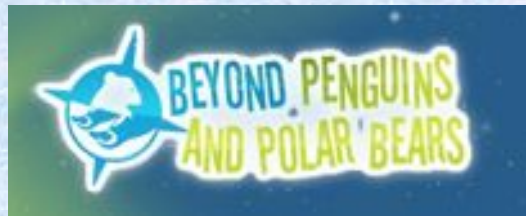
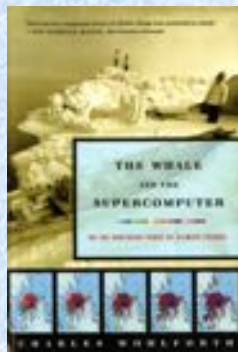
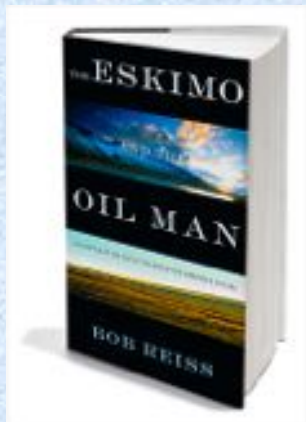
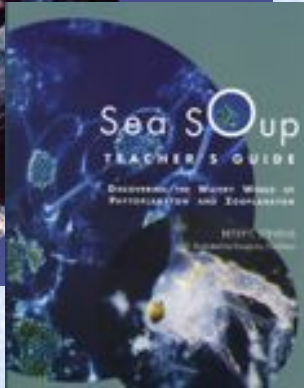
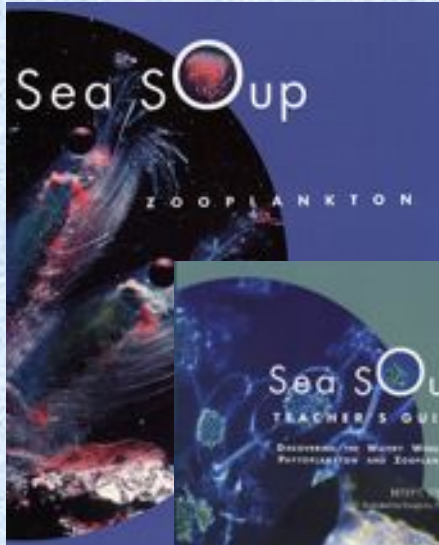
“The ice is no good for haul out and butchering of bowhead. Too thin.”
Ray Koonuk Sr.



Barrow Whale Boat May, 2012

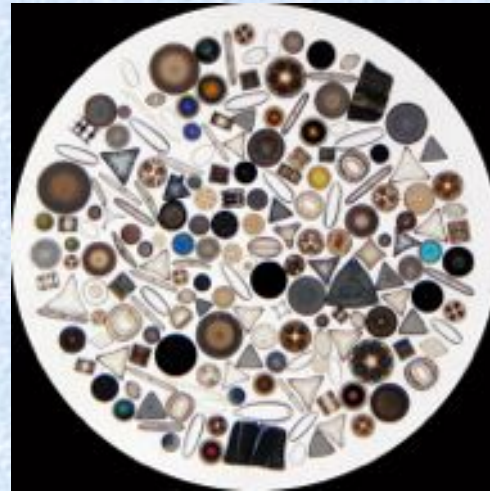
Quotes from:
Climate Change in Point Hope, Alaska
Strategies for Community Health
ANTHC Center for Climate and Health
http://www.tribesandclimatechange.org/docs/tribes_415.pdf

Books



<http://beyondpenguins.che.osu.edu/stories-for-students>

Artwork ideas



Diatom collection at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Diatom2.jpg>



Copepods from Ernst Haeckel's *Kunstformen der Natur*



Arctic animal masks UAF



Inupiat parka Artwork- Made from recycled plastic bags. UAF



Additional Resources:

Ocean Sounds in the Arctic: Sounds recorded during the RUSALCA cruise to the Bering Strait July 31-August 11, 2010. By Kate Stafford, Applied Physics Laboratory, University of Washington, with support from Mark Baumgartner, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=42I3n3brI78>

Winter Sounds of the Arctic Sea Ice Pack. The sounds were captured by hydrophones on moorings deployed in Bering Strait during winter of 2011-2012, and are the same as those so vividly described by early Arctic explorers. NOAA <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vjtX4GJPFrc>

[Hearing the Whales: NOAA Tracks Whale Calls Over Large Distances: http://www.magazine.noaa.gov/stories/mag190.htm](http://www.magazine.noaa.gov/stories/mag190.htm)

NOAA Ocean Explorer: A Collection of Sounds From the Sea
<http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/explorations/sound01/background/seasounds/seasounds.html>

Mosquito Video: Arctic Thriller from Tulik <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K1gnvKZFCq0>

Arctic Bears: Polar Bears Hunt for Seal Pups
<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/episodes/arctic-bears/video-polar-bears-hunt-for-seal-pups/783/>

“Criminal” Adelie penguin captured on camera by BBC film crew: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/15305502>

“Sea Cruise” PolarTREC Video by educator Lisa Seff. Oceanographic Conditions of the Bowhead Whale habitat.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xjbkk1TceAM>

“Mooring Anticipation” PolarTREC Video by educator Lisa Seff. Oceanographic Conditions of the Bowhead Whale habitat.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C5KsWEgr5lc>

Teachers: Join PolarTREC!

www.polartrec.com/about/join

Every teacher can participate in different ways:

- **Following Expeditions**
- **Participate in PolarConnect Events**
- **Join the Polar Education Email List**
- **Take Online Professional Development Courses**
- **Become a PolarTREC Teacher!**

Upcoming Events

Watch for and register for upcoming events at [www.polartrec.com!](http://www.polartrec.com)

Thank You!

An archive of the event will be available shortly.

<http://www.polar-trec.com/polar-connect/archive>

