

Hello! My name is _____
and I am a **Dall sheep**. I live in high rocky places up in the mountains and I need clearings so that I can see my predators. I can run really fast uphill and escape my predators, but I tumble downhill if I'm running. With this change in climate and warmer temperatures, the trees have been growing at higher and higher elevations. My grandparents tell me that they used to be able to see out at a special location 4000' in elevation. Now we have to be all the way at 4500' in elevation for a clearing because of all the new spruce trees. I worry that my *grandsheep* will have to be at 5000' or higher to see out and those locations are sparse. I'm not sure where they will go or how they will escape their predators.

Hello! My name is _____
and I am an **Alaskan brown bear**. I live in the hills near the tundra. However, I have distant relatives that live all over—some live in the desert, others on the coast, and some even live in the mountains. I am an omnivore—I eat plants and animals. I especially love salmon and berries in the summer. In the winter I hibernate. Last winter, my hibernation was three weeks shorter than usual. I woke up to flowers blooming and couldn't believe it was mid-April instead of mid-May. However, I didn't mind so much. Plus I can always move and live with some distant relatives in another environment. I am proud that I am flexible and adaptable. I am not really worried about the warming climate, I just want to make sure I can get my winter's rest.

Hello! My name is _____
and I am a **Golden eagle**. I migrate great distances—the Alaskan winters are way too cold for me, but the summers are perfect. Every winter I fly south to warmer weather in the lower 48 region. I eat small animals such as mice and squirrels. The change in climate and the warmer summers have not been bothering me personally, BUT I am really sick and tired of all this hub-bub about clean energy especially wind power. If I see one more commercial about how great and green wind power is, I'm going to scream. Just last fall, I lost two close friends to a wind farm. You can imagine the devastation to our population as each year 100's of birds lose their lives to the wind farms.

Hello! My name is _____
and I am a **polar bear**. My very, very distant cousin the brown bear says we should just adapt to these warmer climates, but that is just ridiculous for me! I need sea ice to survive! Just two years ago in the summer of 2012 we broke all previous records for sea ice losses! That means we may one day have no place to live! We depend on the sea ice to hunt, breed, and, in some cases, den. Changes in our distribution or numbers affect the entire arctic ecosystem. Some scientists predict that by the summer of 2040 there will be no more sea ice—this would be a disastrous thing for us—where would we live? Hunt? Breed?

Hello! My name is _____
and I am a **bearded seal**. I am a solitary animal which means I spend a lot of time by myself. I spend most of my time resting on drifting sea ice—it's also a great way to escape predators. The female bearded seal gives birth to pups on hard ice. As you can imagine, melting ice in the polar regions is quite disastrous for my family. We don't know where else our women could give birth or how we could escape from predators. Even though we are protected by the Endangered Species Act; this does not protect us from melting ice.

Hello! My name is _____
and I am a **caribou**. Here's the thing for me: scientists predict that climate change will mean more forest fires. As a caribou, I understand that forest fires are a good thing, but I really like old trees and forests where my favorite snack, the fruticose lichen, grows. If you've never tried the lichen, it's extremely healthy for me especially in the winter. So I need forests that are older than 80 years. If we have more and more forest fires, we will have a lot of young forests, and not enough lichens. I don't know what else I will eat. However, the possible good news is that with shorter winters and earlier springs, I will have more green plants when our baby calves are born. So there might be a plus side for all this change.

Hello! My name is _____
and I am a **walrus**. The ice is melting! This is incredibly bad for my species. We find our food in the sea and we rest on land or ice. Our adult male walruses leave the ice to spend summer along the coasts of Siberia and Alaska, but females and their young stay on the floes year-round. One ice sheet has been retreating steadily farther north each summer, to the point where it now moves off the continental shelf entirely and ends up over the deep arctic basin, in waters too deep for walruses to forage. As a result, females and calves have been forced to abandon the ice in midsummer and follow the males to land. The voyage leaves them emaciated and easily panicked. With the slightest disturbance, the herd desperately heads back into the water, often trampling one another to death as they flee. This hurts the young in our herds more than you can imagine.

Hello! My name is _____
and I am an **Alaskan native**. Every fall I have gone moose hunting to feed my family for the winter. This type of living is called subsistence. However, for the last 5 – 10 years or so we have had trouble catching our moose. We always timed the hunting season has been timed with the moose migration out of their summer feeding grounds into the territory where they perform their annual mating ritual. But lately the moose have been staying at their feeding grounds until later into the season. That means that they are not migrating until after our legal hunting period. This jeopardizes our subsistence culture because we cannot catch moose during the moose hunting period. We will need to adapt or change the hunting period so that it matches the changing migration pattern of the moose.

Hello! My name is _____ and I am a **moose**. For me this climate change is a mixed bag. The good thing is that as more shrubs and willows and alders grow instead of grasses; I will have a greater food supply. I also look forward to more forest fires because after a fire burns my favorite foods grow back first: young trees and shrubs. However, there are still some bad parts for me: first, my cousins in the lower 48 told me about this crazy winter tick that has made moose sick in our family has travelled all the way north through Canada to interior parts of Alaska. This is not good for our species. Second, these hot summers cause my older relatives to get stressed out. We call it “heat stress”. The truth is we die easier and quicker when we suffer from heat stress. So I’m a little worried about the longer hotter summers.

Hello! My name is _____ and I am a **CEO** of the EX oil company. The Alaskan pipeline has slowed down over the past decade, and Alaskan people need job security and they need to rely on their yearly refund from our oil. So with the opening of the Arctic ice shelf we, at EX oil company, are able to get to more oil. This will help all Alaskans—because more oil, means more money in our economy which means better schools and parks. Once all of the Arctic ice is gone, we will be able to access enough oil to drive all of our cars and trucks for the next 10 years at least.

Hello! My name is _____ and I am a **trumpeter swan**. I don’t see what the problem is. For me, the warmer weather in Alaska and the earlier springs have really helped my species. We have a longer breeding season so that means we can have more baby swans and more time to prepare our young for the winters. In addition to a longer breeding season, habitats that were previously inhospitable to us trumpeter swans have become available as a result of an extended ice-free period. We’ve even been able to spread our habitat north and move into areas where our long-lost cousin the tundra swan used to live. Now, they are not too happy us moving in and taking over their habitat—but you’ve got to adapt with the changing times, right?

Hello! My name is _____ and I am a **tourist**. I have been so interested and excited to hear about the warmer arctic temperatures. I’ve even found out that you can visit places that once were covered by glaciers and ice, but now are accessible to humans by plane. An adventurous traveller can even go by boat to explore where the ice caps once were. Warmer climates mean more places open for exploring—especially in Alaska. In fact, places that were once considered too cold to ever be a vacation destination are now home to hotels and golf courses. Although some tourist activities have dropped in Alaska because of fewer salmon, these new warmer temperatures have replaced the fishing tourism industry with warmer weather opportunities.

Hello! My name is _____
and I am a **Pacific gray whale**. We spend summers in a wide area from the Pacific Northwest to Alaska, and winters along the Baja Peninsula. There is less and less ice cover in the northern areas and that has helped our baby calf survival rate—good news for us! We also have more of area to winter-- far north as the Beaufort Sea, which is north of the Arctic Circle! Warmer temperatures have also resulted in our starting autumn migration southward an average of 6.8 days later in the year than we did in the 1980's. This gives us more time to eat the rich seafood of the north before migrating south. The expanded space and the increase in our calf survival rate mean that warmer climates may help us.

Hello! My name is _____
and I am a **climate change activist**. I believe that if we humans don't do something that not only animals, but humans will definitely suffer. I think we need to get rid of big cars that take use a lot of gas, and more people should walk, ride bikes, or take a bus to work. I also think factories should not be allowed to pollute. I support strong laws that punish factories for polluting the air. Alaska is seeing the most extreme consequences of climate change from melting permafrost to loss of sea ice. Scientists cannot predict all of the possible outcomes from climate change. Our way of life as humans may also have to adapt to these changes.

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