How do polar bears stay warm?

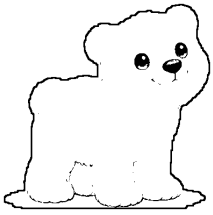
Whoa, Mom! A polar bear in icy water! How do polar bears stay warm?



Why?

1. **A blanket of fat.**
   Under the skin, a polar bear has a thick layer of fat. It's about as thick as your hand is wide! The fat is like a warm blanket inside the body.
2. **Two layers of fur.**
   Short, thick fur close to the skin, and long hairs on the outside. Together, they hold in the warmth, like a puffy winter coat.
3. **Black skin soaks up sunshine.**
   Under the fur, the skin is black, even the nose! Black soaks up the warm sunshine, like a dark t-shirt on a sunny day.

Color Snowy too!



Try it! Dark shirt, white shirt

You need: a dark shirt, a white shirt and a sunny day

1. On a sunny day, touch a dark shirt and a white shirt in the sun.
2. Which one feels warmer?

What happened? Black soaks up the warm sunshine.

Video + more questions:
whywhywhykids.com/polarbear

scan with a grown-up