

### **For Teachers and Parents:**

Explain to students that, just like us, animals have to eat food to live and grow. Some animals eat only plants. They are called **herbivores**. There are animals that only eat meat. Those animals are called **carnivores**. And some animals will eat both plants and meat. They are called **omnivores**.

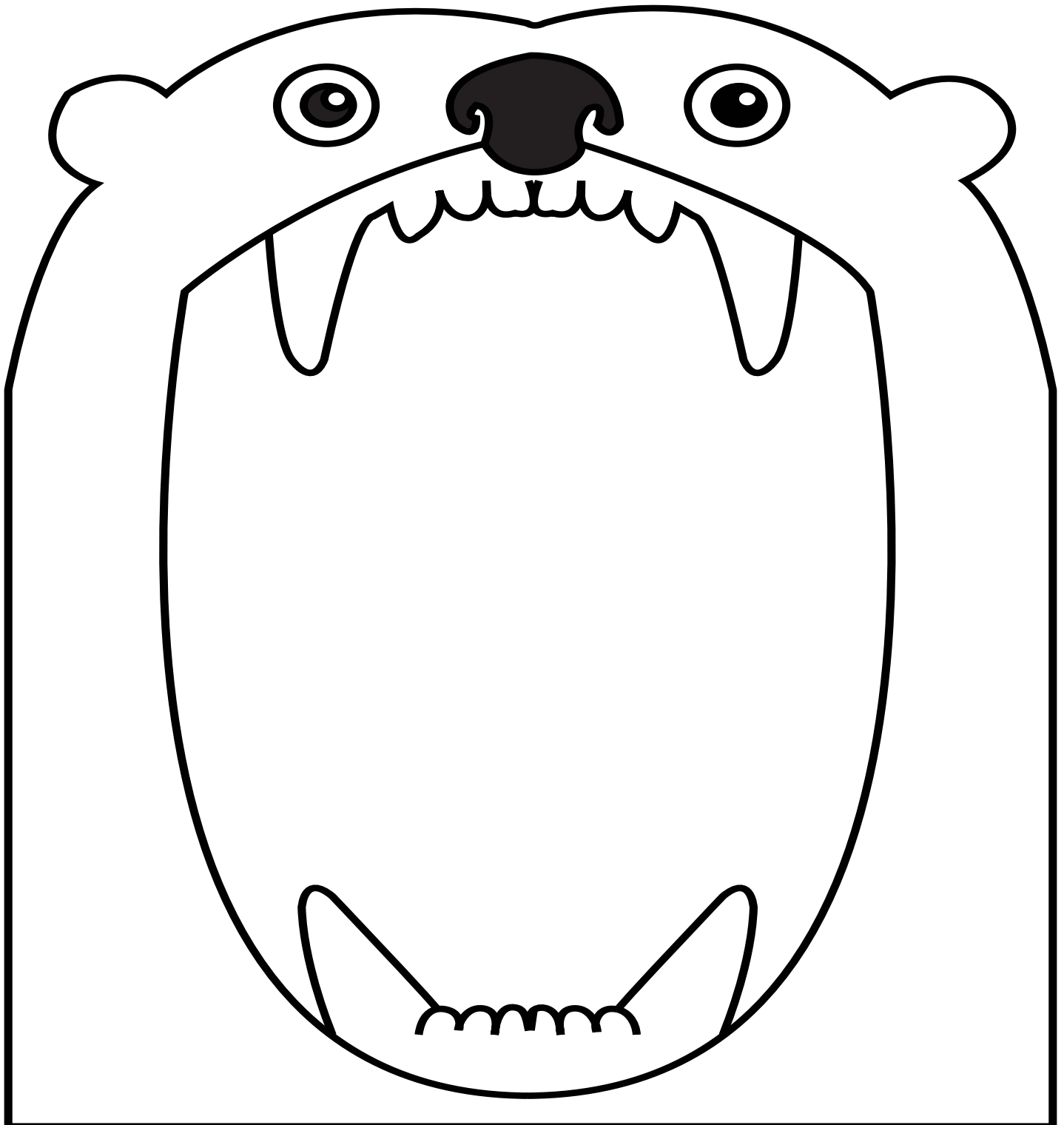
Observing what kind of teeth an animal has can help you figure out what it eats. Herbivores have big, wide, flat molars they use to grind up leaves and grasses. Carnivores have long, sharp teeth that help them grab prey. Omnivores have **diverse** teeth, meaning they have both kinds of teeth- the long, sharp biting kind and the wide, flat chewing kind.

**Activity:** Have students complete the sentences at the top of the 3 following pages and have them write or draw things that each animal likes to eat inside its mouth. Ask students to name other animals and say if they are herbivores, carnivores, or omnivores, based on what kinds of food they like to eat.

Name .....

A bear has teeth that are .....

A bear is an .....



Name .....

A lion has teeth that are .....

A lion is a .....



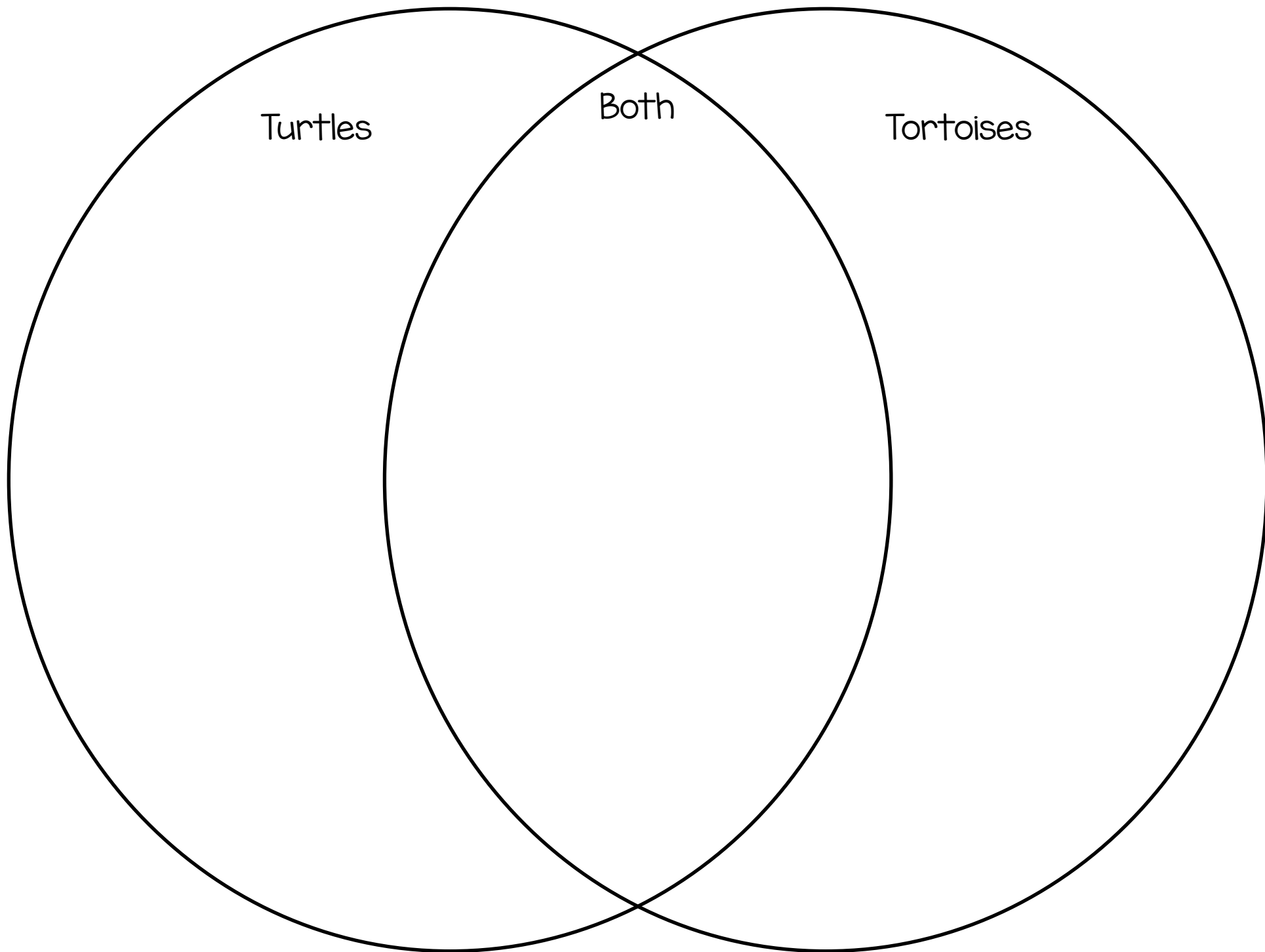
Name .....

A zebra has teeth that are .....

A zebra is a .....

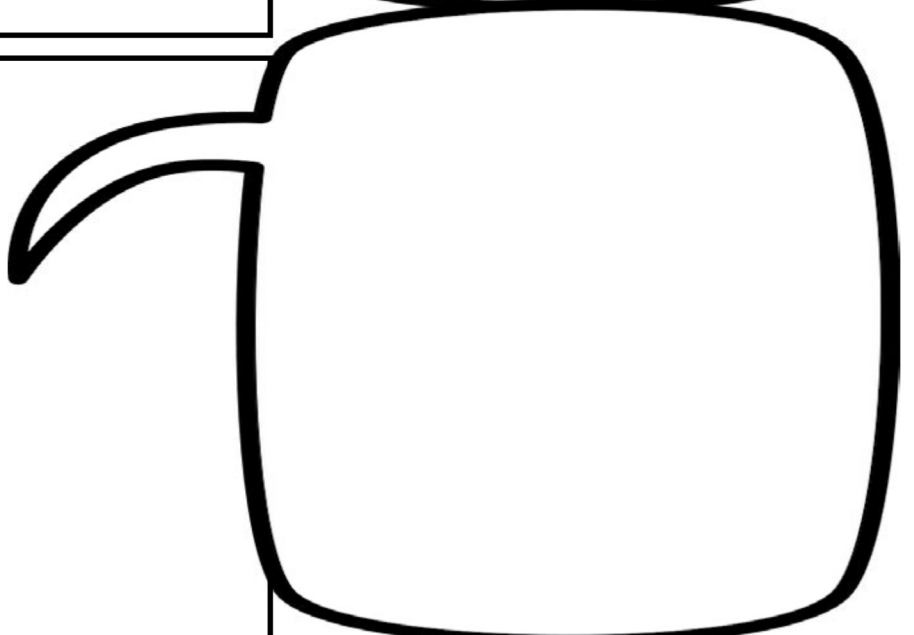
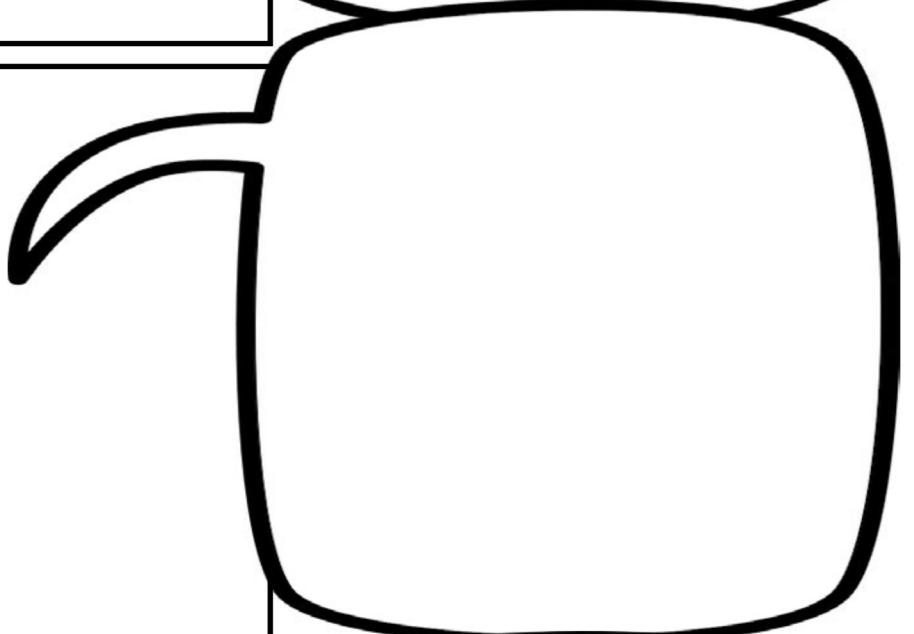
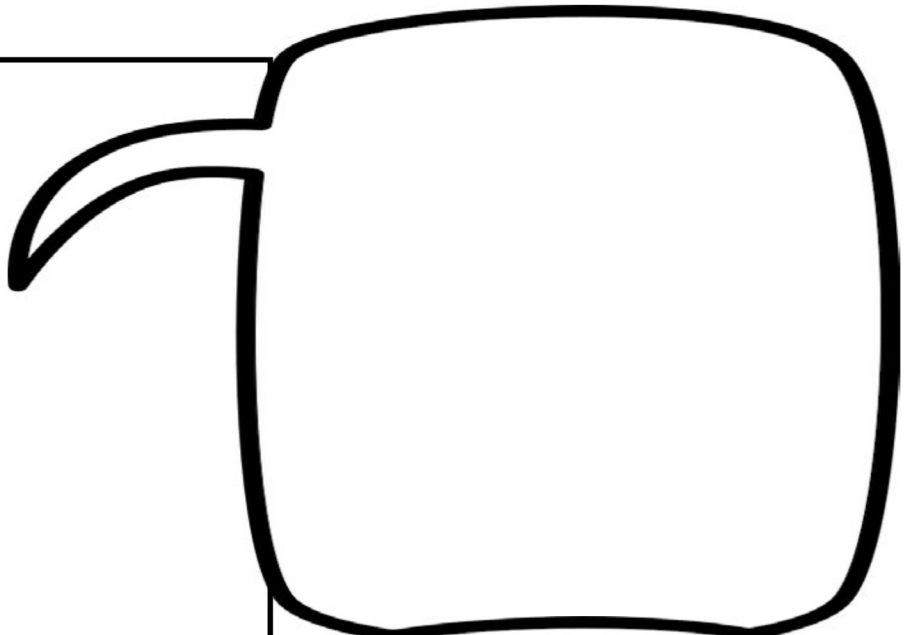






Traits	Turtles	Tortoises
Is a reptile	0	0
Is cold-blooded	0	0
Hatches from an egg	0	0
Lives mostly on land	0	0
Lives mostly in the water	0	0
Has protective shell	0	0
Shell is bumpy, shaped like a dome	0	0
Shell is flat, streamlined	0	0
Has short, sturdy feet and bent legs	0	0
Has webbed feet, with long claws	0	0
Eats fruits and leafy vegetation (a herbivore)	0	0
Eats vegetation and meat (an omnivore)	0	0
Usually lives for 80-150 years	0	0
Usually lives for 20-40 years	0	0





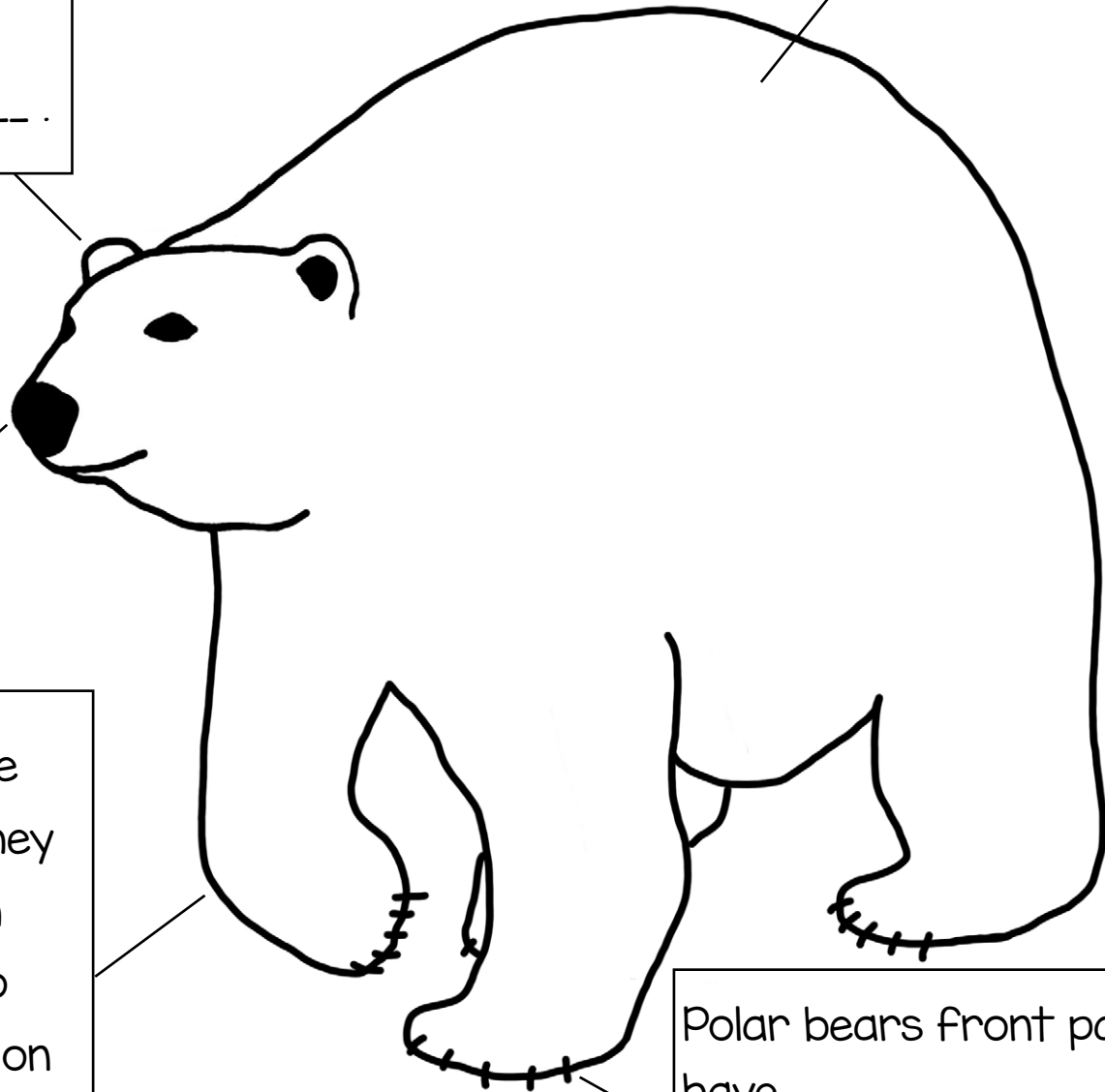
# What do you know about polar bears?

Polar bears have two small eyes and two small \_\_\_\_\_.

Polar bears have a big, black \_\_\_\_\_ and can \_\_\_\_\_ things that are very far away.

\_\_\_\_\_ are the biggest bears at the zoo. They have huge \_\_\_\_\_ with footpads that are like Velcro to keep them from slipping on the \_\_\_\_\_ when they walk.

Their skin is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Their fur looks \_\_\_\_\_.



Polar bears front paws have \_\_\_\_\_ toes to help them swim.

Use these words to fill in the facts: black, ears, ice, nose, paws, polar bears, smell, webbing, white

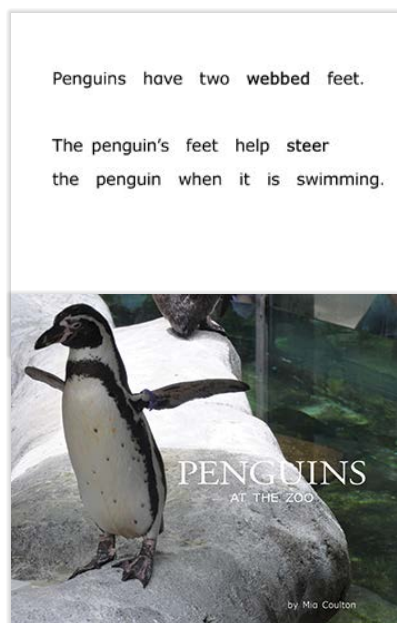


## What did the polar bear say to the penguin? Nothing... because they never met!

The Antarctic and the Arctic have the coldest, most harsh weather conditions on the planet, but they are very different places, with very different animal inhabitants. The Antarctic is a continent surrounding the South Pole. The Arctic is not a land mass. It is a large cap of ice surrounding the North Pole, above the Arctic Ocean. The two areas are similar in that they are both very cold, have long periods of darkness, and get very little precipitation, making it difficult

for plants to grow. Antarctica, however, gets much colder than the Arctic. While native people, polar bears, reindeer, hares, lemmings, arctic foxes, snowy owls, and many other land birds live in the Arctic, Antarctica has no native people and no significant land animal inhabitants. The largest native Antarctic land animal is a half-inch long insect. What Antarctica does have is a variety of sea life, including whales, seals, sea birds, and several types of penguins. Living at opposite ends of the world, penguins and polar bears would never cross paths.

Polar bears and penguins both love to swim, eat plenty of fish, and are well-suited for life in subzero temperatures with their specialized body adaptations. And they both depend on



the oceans that surround them for survival. After reading several resource books about polar bears and penguins, use the template on page 3 to make a classroom Venn diagram to compare the polar bears and penguins, noting their similarities and differences. We'll start you off with a few facts, on the next page. Can you think of others? Place each fact in the correct area on the diagram: **Polar Bear**, **Penguin**, or for traits they share **Both**.

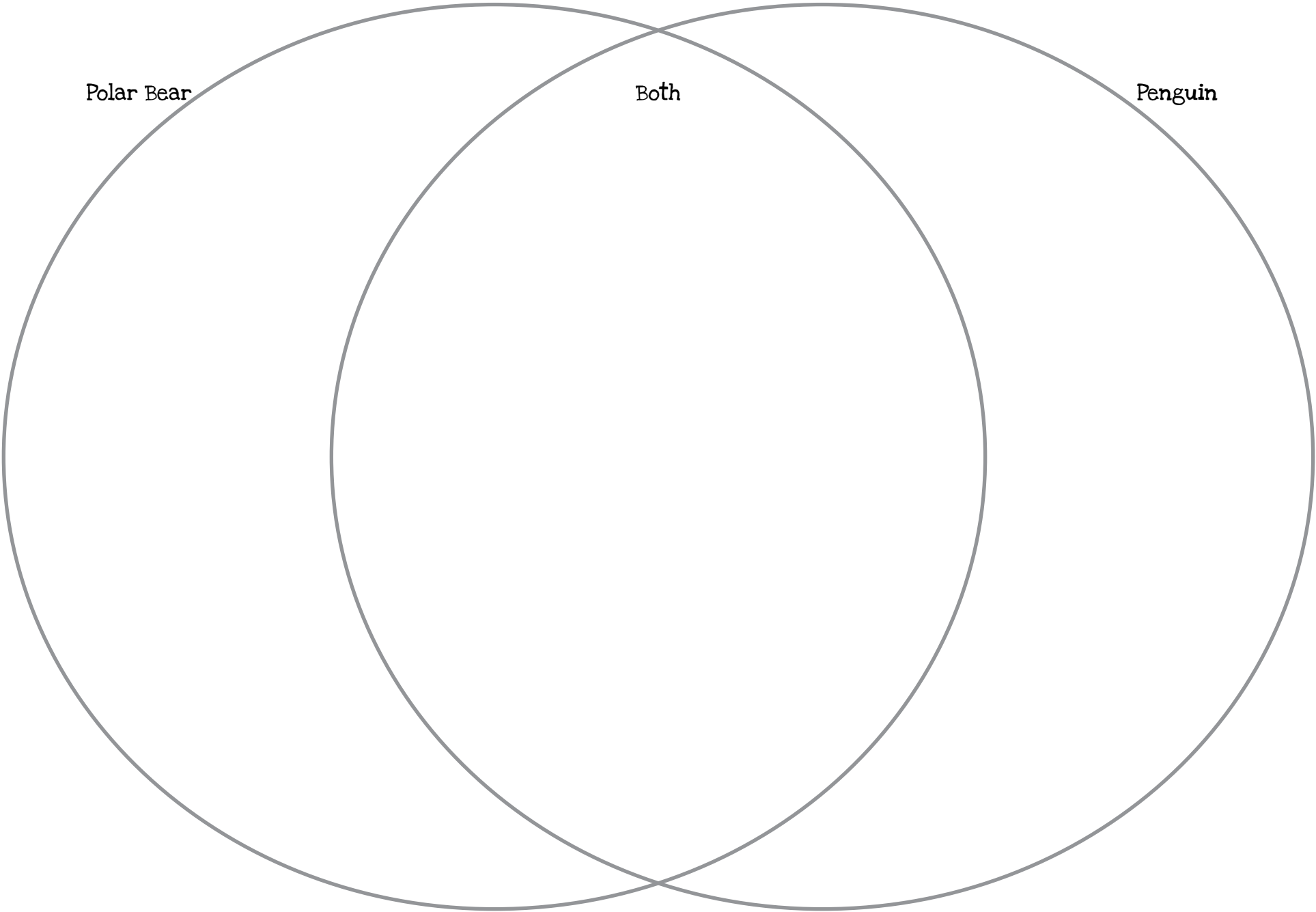
Look at the polar bear's paw.  
It is huge!

The big paws of the polar bear  
have footpads like Velcro.  
This keeps the polar bear  
from slipping on the ice.

8



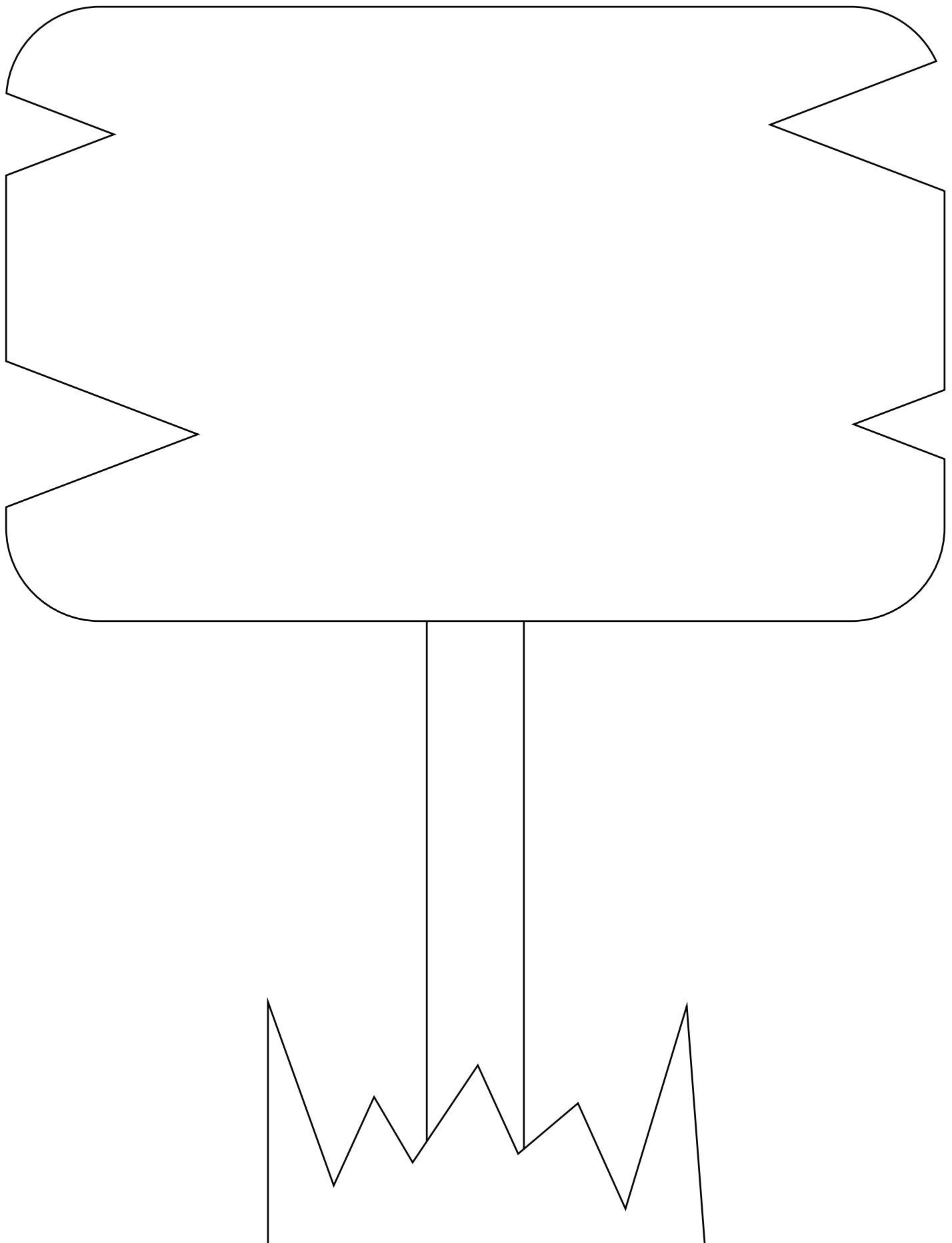
Polar Bear or Penguin? Or both?



## Polar Bear or Penguin? Or both?

1. They are usually white and black.
2. They have wings shaped like flippers.
3. They are very good swimmers.
4. They have webbed feet or paws for swimming.
5. They eat fish.
6. They have beaks.
7. They do not have teeth.
8. They walk on the ice by waddling.
9. They are covered in specialized feathers.
10. They have lots of fat (blubber) under their skin to keep warm.
11. They have small ears and a black nose.
12. They have a very good sense of smell.
13. They have specialized skin to help keep them warm.
14. They are covered in fur.
15. They have special pads on their paws to help them walk on ice.





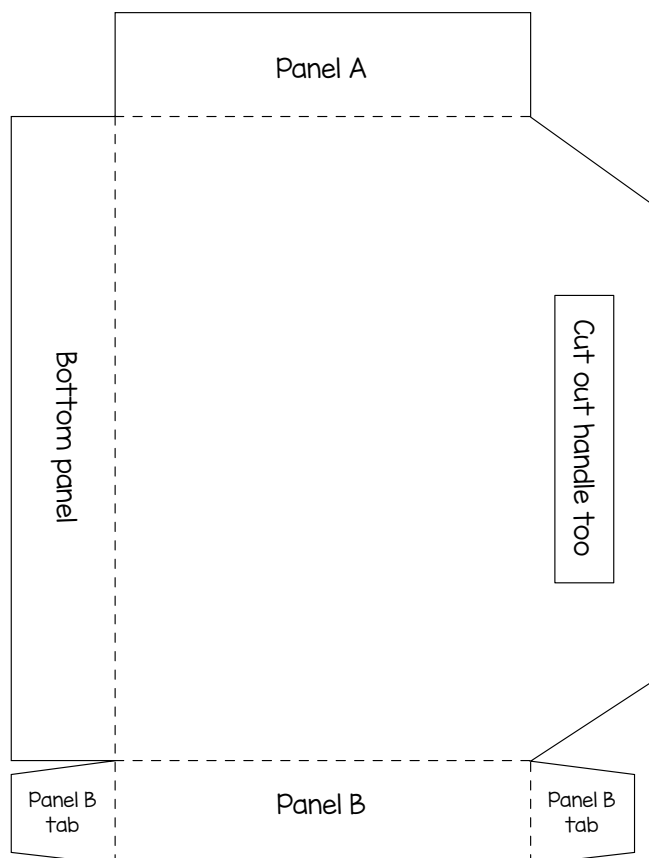
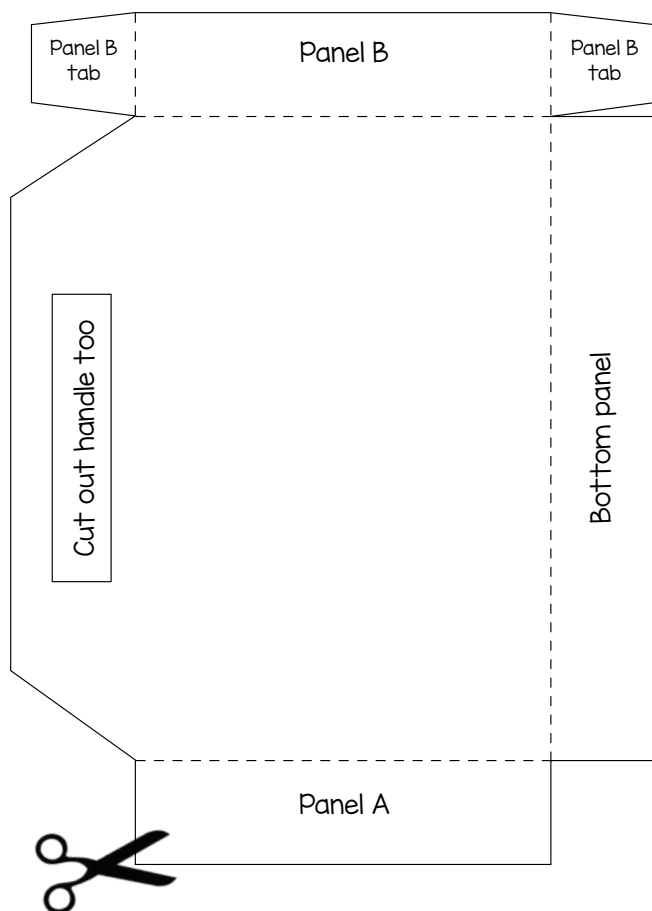
**Design** a zoo sign for a zoo animal's exhibit. **Include** facts and pictures on the sign.

# MaryRuth Books Animal Cracker Box

Take your MaryRuth Books zoo animal titles with you anywhere with our easy to make MRB animal cracker box. Download and print the box templates on heavy paper or cardboard. Don't have card stock on hand? Upcycle a cardboard cereal box by gluing your paper print-outs to it.

## Directions:

1. Print out two copies of the box template.
2. Cut out the templates along the solid lines.
3. Make a fold on each of the dashed lines.
4. Apply glue to the front (printed) sides of each panel A. Match the glued sides of both A panels to the back (blank) sides of each of the B panels. Press firmly together.
5. Apply glue to the front (printed) side of one bottom panel, and to the back (blank) side of the other. Press the glued sides together.
6. Apply glue to the back (blank) sides of all four panel B tabs. Fold the tabs over and press firmly to finish your box!



**To make the MRB Menagerie Animal Box:**

1. Print two copies of the MRB Menagerie Animal Box on heavy paper or cardstock.
2. Cut along the solid black line. Don't forget to cut out the handle!
3. Fold on the dashed lines.
4. Add glue to the SIDE A flaps on **each** copy and to the bottom flap of **one** copy.
5. Piece the box together. Add glue under the bottom and side tabs and secure the ends and bottom of the box.

SIDE A



# MARYRUTH BOOKS

## MENAGERIE



**179**  
Titles

Leveled  
Readers

Fiction  
and  
Nonfiction

GOOD SOURCE OF  
READING  
PRACTICE

Unlimited Servings per Package

MRB Menagerie



# MARYRUTH BOOKS

ZOO CREW



**17**  
Titles

Leveled  
Readers

Nonfiction

GOOD SOURCE OF  
READING  
PRACTICE

Unlimited Servings per Package

MRB Zoo Crew Menagerie