

How do arctic animals stay warm?

Materials:

Large bowl
Water
Ice
Plastic glove (optional)
Shortening
Plastic wrap

Instructions:

Fill the large bowl with cold water and add 1-2 cups of ice. Wait 1-2 minutes while the ice cools the water.

Put a bare hand into the cold water and count how long you can hold it there. For safety, remove your hand if you reach 30 seconds.

Then, put on the plastic glove. Cover the glove in a thick layer of shortening, and wrap plastic wrap on top of the shortening.

Now put your hand in the icy water. Can you hold it for 30 seconds? How about a minute?

Questions:

What was the difference between the first time you put your hand in the water and the second time?

What does this experiment tell us about arctic animals?

