The Bear Report

AUTHOR: Thyra Heder
ILLUSTRATOR: Thyra Heder
PUBLISHER: Abrams Books
COPYRIGHT DATE: 2015
ART MEDIUM: Watercolor and ink
GENRE: Fantasy

BOOK SUMMARY: A little girl is supposed to find three facts about polar bears to share with her classmates. She quickly comes up with her three facts (that aren’t very well thought out!) and goes to watch TV. To her surprise though, a real live polar bear greets her in her living room. She’s not interested in learning anything new about polar bears until she meets Olafur. Their adventure together shows her all kinds of wonderful facts about polar bears.

BOOK TALK: Have you ever wondered what it would be like to spend time with your favorite wild animal? The main character in this story gets a big surprise when a real polar bear takes her on an adventure where she learns more than she could ever imagine about this beautiful creature. What new things will Sophie discover about Olafur and his species? Pick up this book and read it to find out!!

CHALLENGING WORDS:
Arctic
glacier
moss
fantastic
avoid
buff-breasted sandpiper

AUTHOR BIO: Thyra Heder was born in Boston, Massachusetts but now lives in Brooklyn, NY. She was raised in a home that was filled with all kinds of art and small pets. Website: http://www.thyraheder.com/

ILLUSTRATOR BIO: See AUTHOR BIO

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
1. Could this story actually happen? Why or why not?
2. How did Sophie change from the beginning to the end of the story?
3. What new things did Sophie learn about polar bears?
4. How do Sophie and Olafur get rescued when they were floating out into the ocean?
5. What were Sophie and Olafur looking at in the sky at the end of the story?
When Sophie wrote her first set of three facts about polar bears, she wrote that polar bears are big, eat things, and are mean. Use a thesaurus to find words that would be good substitutes for Sophie’s words.

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Standards:

3.RV.1 Build and use accurately conversational, general academic, and content-specific words and phrases.

3.RV.2.2 Identify relationships among words, including synonyms, antonyms, homographs, homonyms, and multiple-meaning words (e.g., puzzle, fire).

3.RV.2.5 Consult reference materials, both print and digital (e.g., dictionary), to determine or clarify the meanings of words and phrases.