

THE ADVENTURES OF CAPTAIN POLO: POLE TO POLE



“No one is too small to make a difference”
Greta Thunberg

Professional endorsements

Captain Polo's adventures provide a powerful learning tool that raises awareness in a way that's both engaging and enjoyable on a very serious topic that affects us all. I highly recommend this adventure - it is timely and relevant to us all as global citizens.

Dr. Ashton Berry, Global Climate Change Programme Coordinator
[BirdLife International](#)

Alan Hesse's Captain Polo takes us on two journeys, a geographical journey that is a stark reminder of the warming oceans and what this means for the environment and countries experiencing ice-melt as well as the harsh realities for the hungry polar bear. The second is a clever journey through a whole number of climate change issues that are simply and creatively explained. The people our hero meets on his journey south for food reveal one big issue after another. What a great concept - the comic book where goodies and baddies have battled it out over time - provides such an easy, engaging and energetic medium to understanding one of the most important issues of our time. Thanks Captain Polo and friends - I am now better informed as well as having a great way to share a tough issue with family and friends.

Liz Carlile, Director of Communications
[International Institute for Environment and Development \(IIED\)](#)

This book combines wonderful illustrations with an equally well-constructed story of Captain Polo and his Penguin friend embroiled with Conor and his gang of ruffians as they journey from Pole to Pole. You are guaranteed lots of laughs even as you learn about climate change in a fun-filled story packed with crazy cartoons that add to the humour. Captain Polo's adventures are a great way to get your child started on climate literacy.

Asha Alexander, Principal and Executive Leader on Climate Change at GEMS Education
[GEMS Kindergarten Starters, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.](#)

Captain Polo's adventures are a light and clever way for readers to discover how the climate crisis is affecting people all over the world today and what solutions are available.

Ryan Hagen, Founder
[Crowdsourcing Sustainability](#)

Tragically, humans have been terrible custodians of the planet. Our greed and ignorance has resulted in widespread habitat destruction, mass extinctions, ubiquitous pollution, and global heating. It is therefore critically important that we persuade people to make the changes necessary to transition to a sustainable and regenerative economy. "The Adventures of Captain Polo: Pole to Pole" is the 4th in a series of comic books that teach about climate change in an entertaining and accessible way. Mr Hesse does an excellent job of making complex issues intelligible without talking down to the reader. This is a must-read book for kids and adults, especially if you enjoy comics.

Adam Thyer, Founder
[GreenExecutive.com](#). An online community for professionals and experts who are striving to build a green and fair economy.

Please leave a review!

Captain Polo has a favour to ask: once you've read this book, he would love it if you were to leave a rating or brief review. Honest reviews help other readers decide if they want to buy the book, and they also help authors obtain social proof to market their books, as well as improve them!

Review link: <http://mybook.to/CaptainPoloBook4>



Let's meet the main cast!

Captain Polo – the intrepid hero



Captain Polo, a polar bear formerly known as 'Polo the Bear', is the main character of this comic series.

Polo is no ordinary polar bear: he walks upright, speaks human languages, uses cash and sails a boat! Polo is a gentle, inquisitive bear, but if there's one thing that makes him mad, it's humans who don't care about each other or the environment. During his first adventure around the world (see books 1, 2 and 3), Captain Polo visited a lot of places and met many different people and animals. Polo's adventure taught him much about climate change and its effects, and also about all the solutions that already exist. From being just a hungry bear a long way from home, Polo gradually became a bear on a mission: show humans the errors of their ways, and help them fix planet Earth, our only home.

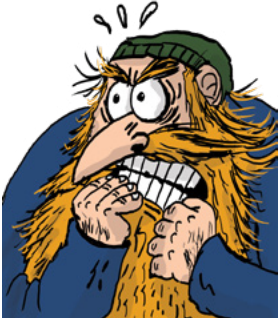
Famous from his travels, Captain Polo today is a celebrity messenger for climate education and action all over the world.

Penguin – the smart sidekick



Polo picked up this character by accident at the end of his first journey (see Book 3 of the series). Penguin's main ambition is to somehow get back home to the Antarctic. At the end of Book 3, Polo was set on returning north to his own home in the Arctic, and he convinced Penguin to come along and 'get used to it'. However, the north and south poles are actually very different, and Penguin never did get used to it, as the reader will find out in this book! Penguin is clever and resourceful, and he usually always gets his own way.

Conor O' Connor – the bumbling villain



Conor the fishing captain can't live without a certain cap, a treasured legacy from his grandfather. Readers who have not read the first book in the series should know that the cap Conor is so obsessed about is none other than the one sitting on Polo's head. Polo took possession of this cap by pure chance¹.

Convinced that the cap was stolen from him by 'a savage beast', Conor will go to any lengths to get it back, sometimes employing outrageous ploys (that usually always backfire).

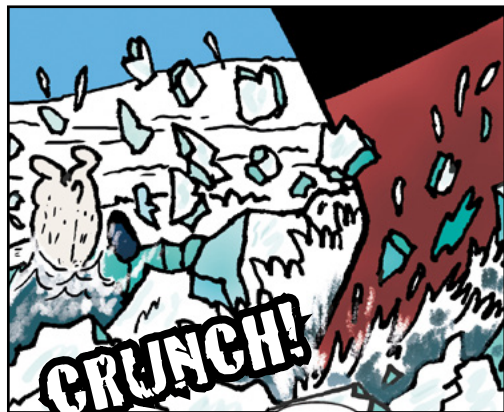
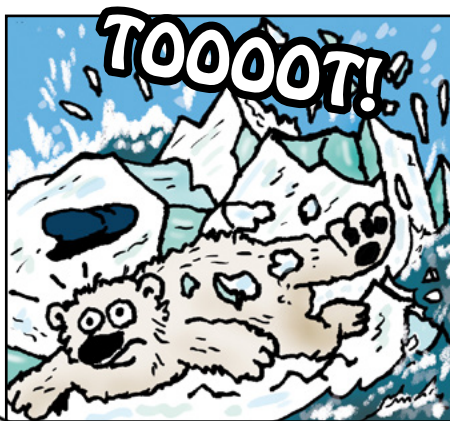
A word from the author

Captain Polo insisted that I include technical words in my book, so that all readers may continue their education on climate change and related issues. These words will be in **blue**, and you can find their meaning in the **glossary** at the back of the book.

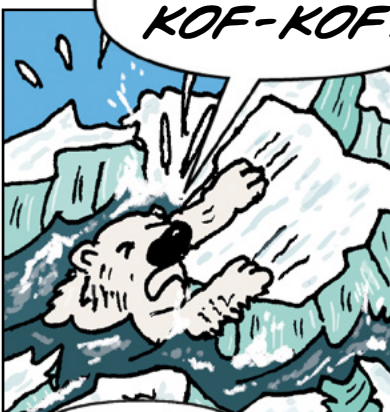
Let the story begin!

¹: See Book 1 in The Adventures of Captain Polo series.

Polo is taking a nap in his Arctic home. But suddenly...



GASP!
KOF-KOF!



LOOK
SLAVINSKI! A
POLAR BEAR!



DA', WE
NEARLY HIT.
POOR BEAR!

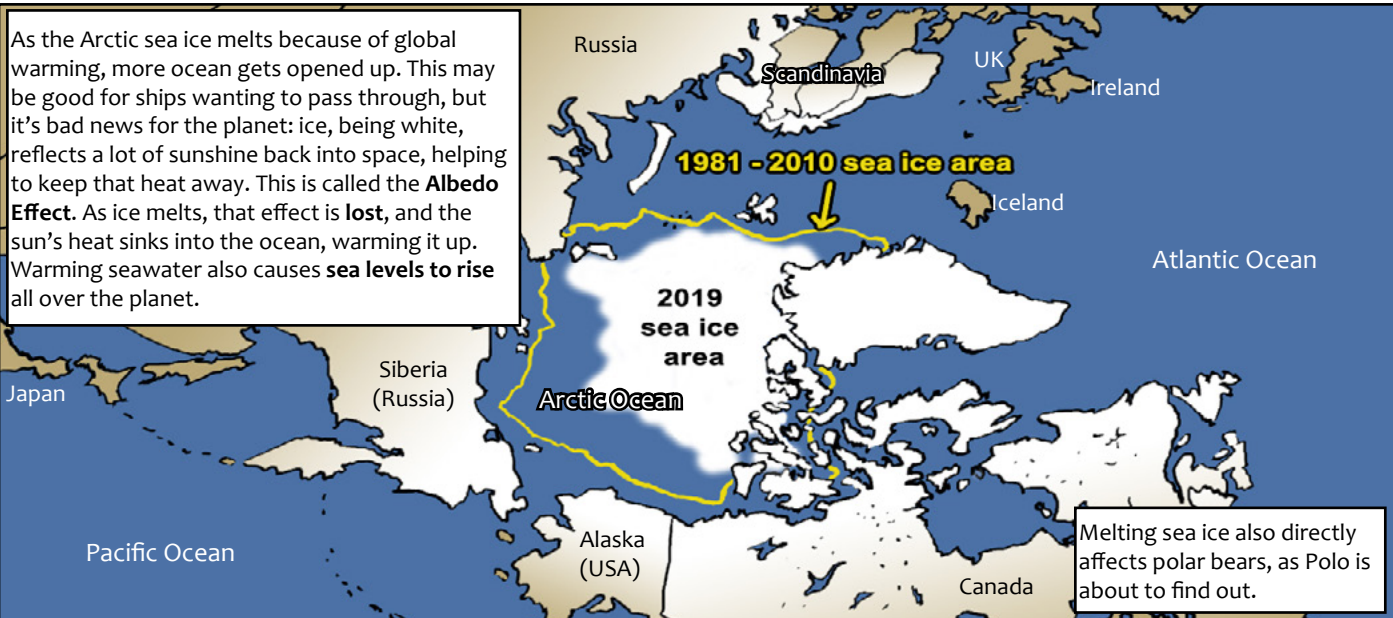
ARCTIC
ICE MELTING DUE TO
GLOBAL WARMING. MUCH
EASIER NOW FOR SHIPS TO
GET THROUGH



WE DRINK
TO THAT, YURI!
NASDROVIA! ²



As the Arctic sea ice melts because of global warming, more ocean gets opened up. This may be good for ships wanting to pass through, but it's bad news for the planet: ice, being white, reflects a lot of sunshine back into space, helping to keep that heat away. This is called the **Albedo Effect**. As ice melts, that effect is **lost**, and the sun's heat sinks into the ocean, warming it up. Warming seawater also causes **sea levels to rise** all over the planet.



Melting sea ice also directly affects polar bears, as Polo is about to find out.

1: Da: 'Yes' in Russian 2: Nasdrovia: 'Cheers!' in Russian

Polo hasn't found anything to hunt; he's hungry and tired. The melting sea ice forces him to walk and swim a lot more than usual. The more energy he spends, the hungrier he gets.



I CAN'T FIND A SEAL ANYWHERE! I'M SO HUNGRY!

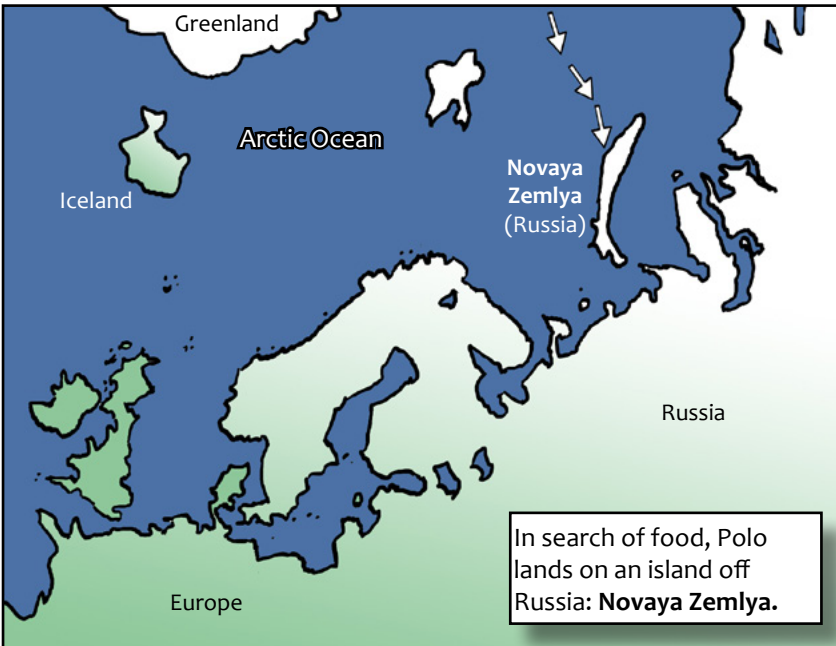
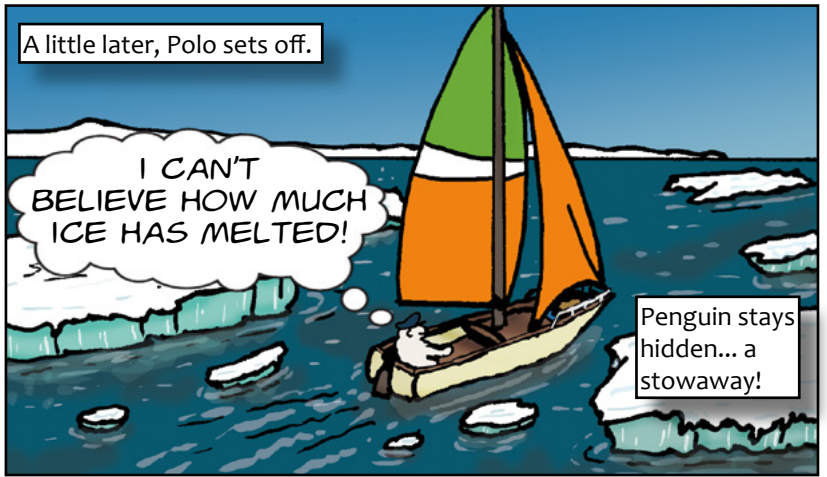
Suddenly...



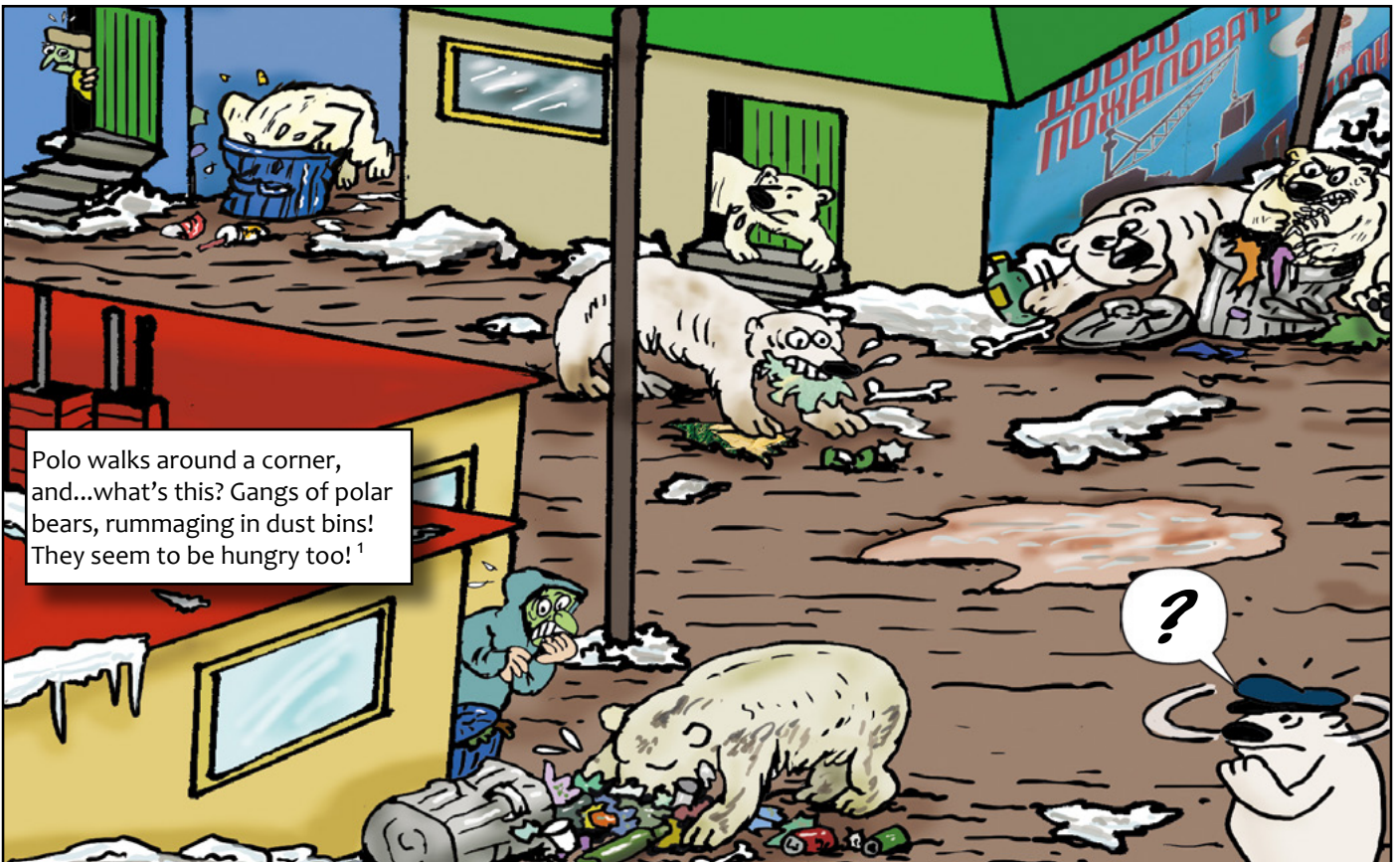
Seeing his chance to finally get back to Antarctica, his home, Penguin makes a daring decision!



A little later, Polo sets off.

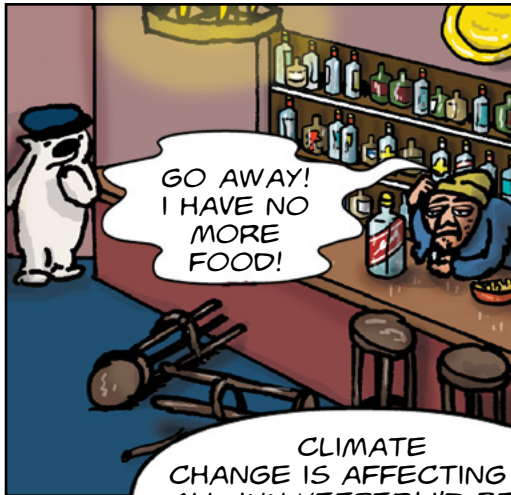


Polo walks into town. It is strangely deserted...quiet...

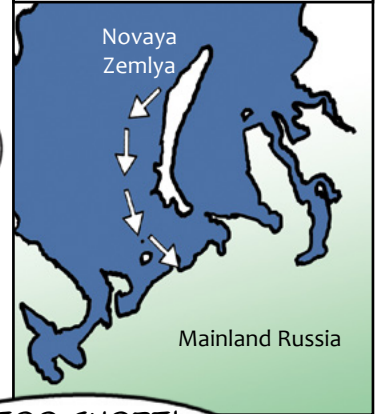


Polo walks around a corner, and...what's this? Gangs of polar bears, rummaging in dust bins! They seem to be hungry too! 1

1: In 2019 the main town in the Russian island of Novaya Zemlya was overrun by starving polar bears. Unable to hunt as normal because of ice-melt caused by global warming, the bears were forced to scavenge in rubbish dumps to find food.



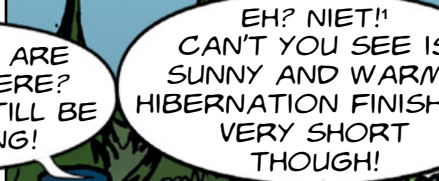
The peanuts helped, but Polo is still hungry. He decides to go a bit further south...



On the Russian mainland, Polo walks through a forest.



Suddenly he meets a brown bear!



TOO SHORT! THE WINTERS ARE MILDER, MAKING YOU THINK THE SPRING HAS COME, BUT IT HASN'T!?



