

Book Knowledge Organiser - The Last Bear

Characters

April	An 11-year-old girl who has a deep relationship with nature.
April's Dad	A widowed man and scientist with a specialism in measuring weather patterns and climate change.
Bear	A polar bear with a story to tell.
Tor	The son of the captain of the boat that took April and her father to Bear Island.
Lisé	Works for the Polar Institute.



Title of the book: The Last Bear

Date Published: 2022

Author: Hannah Gold

Illustrator: Levi Pinfold

Context

Ice caps are thick layers of snow and ice covering huge areas. Ice caps have been melting since the beginning of the 19th Century. Scientists think this is because of human activity. Without them the planet will heat up even more.



Key Vocabulary

anxious		To be nervous or worried.
caution		Taking great care in order to avoid danger.
courage		Doing something difficult or dangerous even when afraid.
deafening		A very loud noise.
decipher		To work out what something says even though it's difficult to understand.
frustration		Upset or angered.
gut-wrenching		Extremely shocking or upsetting.
imposing		Being bigger in appearance or behaviour.
lurched		Moved forwards suddenly.
majestic		Beautiful, dignified, impressive.
poised		Ready to move at any moment.
summit		The top of a mountain.
tentatively		Do something without confidence.
uninhabited		A place where no one lives.

Plot

April's father's research takes them to an Arctic outpost for six months to a place called Bear Island. There are no bears left of Bear Island but one night April catches a glimpse of something bear-shaped loping across the horizon.

Setting

A cold, remote island in the Arctic with a small mountain range, inland lakes, small coves and beaches.

Key Themes

Child/animal bonds; hope, courage, climate change