The Story of PIGLOO

Who is Pigloo and what is this book about?

The main character, or protagonist, is Pigloo. Pigloo wants to be an explorer. His destination? The North Pole. But he can’t get there without the help of his big sister Paisley. PIGLOO is a sweet story about an exploring pig, sibling relationships, patience, and bravery.

Author and Illustrator

Believe it or not, Anne Marie Pace, who wrote the words, and Lorna Hussey, who drew the pictures, have never met.

When a picture book is written by an author who isn’t also an illustrator, the publisher has to find someone to create the art. First, Anne Marie wrote the words; then Sally, the book’s editor, helped her make the words as good as they could be. Then Sally asked Lorna to draw the pictures. Lorna lives in Wales, a country that is part of the United Kingdom along with England and Scotland—all the way on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean from Virginia in the United States, where Anne Marie lives. So Anne Marie and Lorna have never met, but they are friends on Facebook!

Questions to Research

Sports
What Olympic sports involve types of sledding? Hint: there are three types.

Geography
The North and South Poles are both cold, but they’re different! Do the same animals live at both poles?

Vocabulary
What is an explorer? Stores? Expedition? Spyglass?

History
Is Paisley correct that Admiral Byrd found the North Pole? (Hint: not exactly.) What about Robert Peary or Matthew Henson or Roald Amundsen? Was one of those men first? Why do historians disagree?
Pigloo’s Breakfast

For breakfast, Pigloo and Paisley eat a traditional English meal of eggs, tomatoes and mushrooms. American children may not think of tomatoes and mushrooms as breakfast foods, but in the United Kingdom, where PIGLOO’s illustrator Lorna Hussey lives, eggs are often served accompanied by tomatoes, mushrooms, toast or fried bread, sausages, and even baked beans! It’s sometimes called a “full breakfast” or a “fry up”, and it’s yummy and filling on a snowy day!

Hot Chocolate

Want a quick way to make hot chocolate? Measure 2 tablespoons of powdered milk, 2 tablespoons of powdered confectioner’s sugar, and 1 tablespoon of baking cocoa into a coffee cup. Whisk it together until there are no lumps. Add 1/2 cup of boiling water and whisk again. Try marshmallows or whipped cream on top to make it extra-special! It’s delicious on a snowy day!

While Pigloo Waits for Snow — Snow Science!

Pigloo wants to go sledding, but he has to wait until it snows. Once it finally starts to snow, his mother warns him that if he goes outside, he’ll be sledding in mud. That’s because the ground is still somewhat warm; she thinks the snow will melt and mix with dirt to make mud, and Pigloo will get dirty! But by the next morning, the ground is cold and there’s plenty of snow to play in!

Snow falls when it is very cold. Water high up in the atmosphere freezes into tiny crystals, which join together to form snowflakes. If the air closer to the earth is too warm, the snowflakes will melt before they hit the ground and it will rain. But if the air near at the ground is cold enough, we get snowfall!