



Getting Warmer: Earth's Climate in the Future
<http://beyondweather.ehe.osu.edu>

People of the Whale
original text by Stephen Whitt
adapted by Jessica Fries-Gaither

Do you know where Alaska is? It is near the top of the world. North of Alaska is the Arctic Ocean.

It is cold. But people live there. They live near the Arctic Ocean. They call themselves the “people of the whale.”

They mean the bowhead whale. It is very special to them.

They hunt the whales every year. When the hunters kill a whale, everyone in the village helps to pull it onto the land. Everyone shares the meat.

The people's lives have changed in many ways. They used to build their houses with whale bones. Now they have to use wood and stone.

They used to live along the ocean. Now they live farther away.

Hunters from other places used to come on ships and kill too many whales. Then there were not enough whales to hunt. But the ships went away, and now there are more whales again.

Flesch-Kincaid RL = 1.9



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The world is getting warmer. The ice on the ocean is melting. This is bad for the whales. They have to be near the ice to find food.

The whales swim farther away from land to eat. This means that the hunters have to travel farther to find the whales. It can be dangerous to go that far to hunt.

Companies want to drill underneath the ocean to find oil. If they do, the whales will go away again. And the people need the whales to live.

What will the “people of the whale” do? How will they live in a warmer world?

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