2016

Polar Bear Night

Kati Penovich

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Title: Polar Bear Night
Author: Lauren Thompson
Illustrator: Stephen Savage
Reviewer: Kati Penovich
Publisher: Scholastic Press
Publication Year: 2004
ISBN: 9780439495240
Number of Pages: 29
Interest Level: Toddler, Preschool
Rating: Excellent

Review

On a cold, clear night, a polar bear cub wakes inside her den. Her mother is still sleeping, but she feels drawn to go outside. The curious little polar bear wanders past walruses, seals, and whales. Everyone is sleeping but her. An expectant hush covers the snowy landscape, and still she keeps walking. Finally, the cub finds herself on a snowy hill where she witnesses a beautiful star shower that illuminates everything around her. The little polar bear watches in awe and then, sleepy once more, returns to her mother in their warm, safe den.

Polar Bear Night is a calm, quiet bedtime story. The melodious language is perfect for reading aloud to help lull a child to sleep. The muted colors and soothing illustrations are pleasing to look at and capture the serene feelings of the little cub as she explores the peaceful, snowy landscape. The book describes the beauty of nature and the contentment of returning home, both of which provide a calm feeling that is just what a little one needs right before drifting off to sleep.