Name

Buddy _____

Compare the Bears

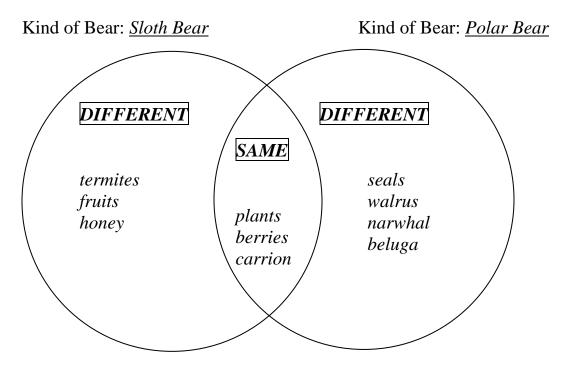
1) Directions: Pick two kinds of bears to study. Find out how big they are, what they eat, and where they live. Then think about how the bears compare.

(Note to the teacher: This page can be used as an assignment sheet by deleting the sample responses.)

Species	Sloth bear	Polar bear
Length	5 to 6 feet long	7 to 10 feet long
Weight	175 to 310 pounds	440 to 1760 pounds
Food	<i>Termites, fruits, plants, eggs, insects, honey, and carrion (already dead animals)</i>	Seals, walrus, a few narwhal or beluga, carrion (already dead animals), berries, and plants (there are not many to eat)
Range	Grasslands and forests around India	Way north, Alaska, Canada, Europe, Russia, and icy areas around the shorelines
Special Features	 Able to suck up termites, making a sound that can be heard over 330 feet away Shake trees to get fruit 	 Run up to 25 miles per hour Have black skin under their fur
Hibernation Pattern	Don't hibernate but may get slow and sleepy for a short time each year	Don't hibernate but may do "walking" hibernation
Endangered Species	Habitat loss and poaching	<i>Oil spills and toxic waste in their food supply</i>
Compare	The biggest sloth bear is smaller than the smallest polar bear. Polar bears are hunters, and sloth bears are not. A sloth bear eats nothing from the ocean. Both polar and sloth bears eat carrion and some plants, but their diets are very different. The polar bear lives near the north pole where it's really cold, and the sloth bear lives around India where it is hot. They both do not hibernate. They are both endangered species but for different reasons. A polar bear and a sloth bear would never meet, except maybe in the zoo.	

What They Eat

2) **Directions:** Write what each bear eats in the circles. Write the foods they both eat in the center, where the circles overlap.



3) Directions: Draw a picture of each bear on art paper. Show the bear doing what it does most of the time. Write sentences to tell what is happening in the picture.

Have your fifth-grade buddy help you write down where you got the information.

The Bear Den, www.bearden.org/slobear.html

Wexo, John. (2000). Bears. Wildlife Education, San Diego, CA..