



Polar Bear and Penguin

by
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Breaking the Ice

A polar landscape consisting of two icebergs with scattered ice pieces.

Day is slowly dawning

Ice cracking, wind blowing.

There is a play with time here and how long the day/night is. A series of sunrise and sunset throughout. We see the stars in the night sky twinkle. Like a time-lapse of Days/Nights. There is a little sparkle on the icebergs.

A flag depicting a Polar Bear emerges from SL iceberg.

A flag depicting a Penguin emerges from SR iceberg.

Flags collide.

Enormous crash.

Penguin pops his head out from SR iceberg

Penguin: That's new.

Penguin pops back in.

Polar Bear pops his head out from SL iceberg.

Polar Bear: That's new.

Polar Bear retreats back in.

*Penguin appears from behind his iceberg, walks quickly round to take in the new iceberg. He spots the floating pieces.
He sees Polar Bear's flag.*

Penguin: That's new.

Penguin scurries back behind his iceberg.

Polar Bear appears through the front entrance of his berg slowly walks around the front, sniffs about, steps back towards Penguin's iceberg and back over towards his own iceberg again. Polar Bear notices Penguin's flag

Polar Bear: That's new.

Polar Bear sniffs. Catches a scent and follows the scent around to the back of P's iceberg.

Polar Bear disappears behind P's iceberg.

*Penguin appears, from between the icebergs. Examines a little
Then waddles round outside Polar Bears iceberg.*

Penguin disappears behind PB's iceberg.

PB appears from the middle. Sniffs around and crosses over to his own berg and disappears around it.

P appears walking across upstage.

A plane flies overhead.

*Penguin comes back out to look at it
Polar Bear comes back out to look at it.*

Plane flies DSC to USC above audience and right over both their heads. Both are looking up really high and do not see each other.

Both watch the plane fly by.

Penguin: There goes another one.

Polar Bear: What is it?

Penguin: Looks like a big bird.

Polar Bear: A Very Big bird.

Penguin: Hmmm.

Polar Bear: Hmmm.

Suddenly realising they are talking to one another.

Both gasp and move away from each other.

Polar Bear: Who are you?

Penguin: Who are you?

Polar Bear: What are you doing here?

Penguin: What are you doing here?

Polar Bear: I live here.

Penguin: I live here.

Both pointing towards the two cave entrances.

Both: That's my cave.

They notice the floating pieces.

Penguin: You did this.

Polar Bear: I did not.

Penguin: They weren't here before.

Polar Bear: You must have put them there.

Face off...

*SFX – *Some Creaking* (little threat) of iceberg. Looking around at icebergs.*

They begin examining each other.

Penguin: Your Flippers?

Polar Bear: Your Paws?

Both: so...

Spoken Together

Penguin: Big / **Polar Bear:** Small

Polar Bear: Your snout

Penguin: Your beak

Both: so...

Spoken Together

Polar Bear: Sharp / **Penguin:** Flat

Both now take turns to assess each other and describe what they see. When one faces out to speak, the other faces in to assess...(Face in silent – Face out Speak)

Polar Bear: Beady eyes.

Penguin: Sniffy nose.

Polar Bear: Floppy feet.

Penguin: Huge claws.

Polar Bear: Smooth.

Penguin: Furry.

Both: So.....different.

Penguin: What are you?

Polar Bear: What are you?

SFX – a loud Crack, (Mid level threat). They grab on to their icebergs and tense.

The tension subsides and the creaking stops. Legs in the air.

Penguin: Let's start again.

Polar Bear: Yes, start again.

Penguin: Hello.

Polar Bear: Hello.

Penguin: I'm Penguin.

Polar Bear: Peng-eng.

Penguin: Penguin.

Polar Bear: Ping-wing.

Penguin: Pen-gwin.

Polar Bear: Pen-ginn.

Penguin: Yes.

Polar Bear: I'm Polar Bear.

Penguin: Polar hare.

Polar Bear: Polar Bear.

Penguin: Polder Pair?

Polar Bear: Po-lar Bay-yur.

Penguin: Pil-lar Bow-er.

Polar Bear: Sure.

Polar Bear talks about his last day home

Penguin: Hmmm.

Polar Bear: The day I left... I was being very bold. Mammy was going to teach me and Sister to swim. We got sooo excited.

“I’ll race you down” I said and off we went.

“Don’t go too far” said Mammy,

“OK Mammy!”

Both of us charging, a little ahead, a little behind, neck and neck, nose and nose... Sister was always faster than me and she started pulling away, but I had a trick. I dived into the snow, and hid...

“Don’t go too far” said Mammy,

Sister turned round, couldn’t see me, came plodding back. Then when she was close I jumped up and out of the ice and over her head and I hit the ground running.

Penguin: “Don’t go too far!”

Polar Bear: But I wasn’t listening, I was the biggest, bravest, bestest bear around and I galloped right up to the edge of the ice. Cham-pi-on.

Then a creak, a crack and a crumble.

I looked back. We were moving further apart.

The ocean had opened up its big mouth between us... and I thought... No problem... just swim back in.

(Tough) Go on Bear! Swim back in!

(Scared) But I don't know how

(Tough) Now Bear! Be brave! Be Strong. Swim back in!

(Scared) It's so far!

(Tough) Come on Bear, don't be scared!

(Scared) OK.

(Tough) Come on.

(Scared) Ok! I'll do it.

But I didn't swim back in. I just stood there and watched. Mammy and Sister got smaller and smaller, until I couldn't see them anymore. And here I am

Penguin: And here we are.

Polar Bear reflects on his options

Both sitting casually centre, facing out. 'Round the campfire' feel.

Polar Bear: I have a funny feeling in my tummy.

Penguin: That's because you eat too quickly.

Polar Bear: No. It's not that.

Penguin: You're probably hungry...

Polar Bear: No... Yes... well, I'm always hungry, but this is different. You feel hungry too, don't you Pingwing?

Penguin: Sometimes.

Polar Bear: And do you ever feel lonely?

Penguin: Sometimes.

Polar Bear: Hmm. Mammy said that sometimes, when animals get hungry, deep hungry, dark hungry that everything they see looks like food. And that's what I thought, when I met you first. And sometimes I still feel like I want to eat you... but then, if I eat you, you won't be here any more... and I'd be lonely.

Polar Bear thinks

Polar Bear: No more silly jokes, or funny walks, no big words or talking. No! Pengwin, you're not food. Not anymore.

Penguin: You make me laugh. I wonder what the Penguins back home would make of you. Would you survive? I would need to protect you from their beady stares and their endless questions.

“Why are you so big?”

Polar Bear: That’s just how I am.

Penguin: Don’t be so rude.

“Where are your flippers?”

He doesn’t have flippers.

Polar Bear: I have paws.

Penguin: “You eat like a savage.”

Polar Bear: Well, I like to gobble my food..

Penguin: Not very Penguin-like, I know, but each to their own.

“You should never trust a Polar Bear.”

Polar Bear: Says who?

Penguin: “They’ll steal your fish, gobble them down and won’t leave anything for later. Never trust a Polar Bear.”

Polar Bear: That’s not fair.

Penguin: I can trust you, Pillar Bower.

Polar Bear: And I can trust you.

Penguin: We made a deal. Besides. You’re my friend. I think.

Polar Bear: I’ll be your friend, if you’ll be my friend.

Penguin: And I'll be your friend, if you'll be mine.

Both: Deal.

They slap flippers. They bump paws.



SONG: Snow-one quite like you.

PB

I thought that I'd be spending
my days all alone,
nobody to help,
I'd do it myself

Each day became a struggle
but what could I do
alone and adrift
Until I met you

Then like a sudden snowstorm
our worlds did collide
together
side by side

P

The water got much hotter
the ice it grew thin,
another fine mess
I found myself in,

I sailed to the horizon
with hope in my heart
Cause the end of the day
meant the morning could start

Since your surprise arrival,
there's more stars in the sky
and I feel
like I could fly.

PB

At first I wasn't sure at all

P
the waters seemed rough

PB
A swell, a splash, a sudden crack

P
I found it quite tough,

P
but soon when we have got enough.
One for me, one for you

PB
And we'll nibble and gobble
them up together.

- (Reaction) - "Oohs" and "Ahhs" -

P
No more empty bellies,
once we're getting our wish

PB
and our seas are
full of ...

Both: Fish!

DANCE BREAK

BOTH:
And life is not as simple

as just white and black
Gotta keep moving on
there's no turning back

The world as we have known it
might soon meet its end

P
but at least now we know

PB
that we've found a friend

BOTH
A brighter day is dawning,
an-ice pearly blue,
there's-snow-one
quite like you.

It's hard to work together
find someone you can trust
there's-snow-one
quite like us.
