



Expedition Day 3 Questions and Answers

- 1) Have you seen any major changes in the occurrence of wildlife in the last decade?
Yes, increases in both caribou and whales.
- 2) How do the Inuit get seals out of their seal holes?
There are numerous way to get seals: out in open water, nets, and dens.
- 3) I've heard that the Inuit have something like 27 different names for ice. Can you explain that?
We have many more than 27. You would use many adjectives with the word ice to describe it, for instance rotting ice. Where as we have one word to describe that.
- 4) How do the Inuit hunt whales from pack ice?
We go out to the edge of the shore fast ice.
- 5) How do you study whales?
By listening for them or tracking them with sonar. We also take tissue samples.
- 6) How far out on the pack ice have you been?
A couple of hundred miles by air and 60 miles from land.
- 7) How safe is it to go out on the ice? (answered with another question)
- 8) What animals do you study? (answered with another question)
- 9) What animals do you hunt? (answered with another question)
- 10) Many experts have observed evidence of shrinking ice and changes in the arctic environment, have you observed any evidence of climate change?
It is definitely getting warmer, but why we don't know.
- 11) How long does the ice stay in Barrow? (answered with another question)
- 12) How many caribou inhabit the area around Barrow?
The western arctic herd numbers around 410,000 animals.
- 13) What kind of education do you need to become a wildlife biologist?
A degree in a biological or natural resource science.
- 14) What classes would be helpful to take in high school if I want to be biologist? (answered with another question)

- 15) What do you major in college to become a wildlife biologist? (answered with another question)
- 16) Can you explain the words: Inupiaq, Inuit, Inupiat? These are different forms of the word meaning people of the arctic or north.
- 17) What are some of the most important traditions in Barrows?
Many forms of hunting, traditional sewing, the blanket toss, respect for and knowledge of the environment.
- 18) Are any of you fluent in Inupiaq?
Yes, both Harry and Richard are and Craig even knows some after living here for 20 years.
- 19) Have you ever gone swimming in the ocean during the summer?
Sometimes on purpose sometimes on accident, it is always cold!!!!
- 20) Can any whale species mix (as in dogs or a horse and a donkey)?
There is some evidence that species do mix but not around the Barrow area.
- 21) Have you ever had dangerous situations on the ice? (answered with another question)
- 22) Can the ice be dangerous to animals? (answered with another question)
- 23) Do animals seem to know what places are safest (like Momma bear to build her den)?
Yes, the animals do seem to have a sense about things that we humans don't necessarily have.
- 24) What animal is the most plentiful? Bacteria, mosquitoes, lemmings, and on up to the larger mammals and birds (seals, whales, geese)
- 25) How did you learn to hunt?
From elders.
- 26) Has a whale ever attacked someone?
Yes, when they are being hunted.
- 27) Did your ancestors hunt animals that have gone extinct? (not answered)
- 28) Does the reflected bright light seem to bother any animal's eyes as it can bother people? (to be answered on discussion board)
- 29) Does the ice have a smell?
Freshwater ice smell almost like nothing, while the sea ice smell salty.
- 30) Does the dark color of building and houses cause the permafrost to melt? (not answered)

- 31)How many people live in the Barrow area? (not answered)
- 32)How do you heat your homes? (not answered)
- 33)Is fresh water hard to find? (not answered)
- 34)Do you catch crabs, clams and shellfish to eat? (not answered)
- 35)How much snow and rain does your area get in each season? (not answered)
- 36)Do the animals all migrate at the same time every year or are there variations? (not answered)
- 37)What do you like most about your jobs? (answered in another question)
- 38)Do dogs like the sea ice and pack ice or do they like to stay on land? (not answered)
- 39)Are there flies on the beach in the summer and can they be really bothersome? (not answered)