

A Student Guide to

# Seal Hunting

and safety (grades 4-6)

## Student Workbook

### Yup'ik Region



**Imarpigmiut Ungungssiit Murilkestiit**

*Watchers of the Sea*

2007

# *A student guide to Seal Hunting and Safety, Workbook Yup'ik Region*

The Seal Hunting Workbook accompanies *Seal Hunting and Safety, A Student Guide, Yup'ik Region* (2007, **Imarpigmiut Ungungssiit Murilkestiit**). Ideally, the *Seal Hunting Student Guide* will be covered in class prior to students attempting to complete the workbook. It is possible, however, for students to complete the student guide and workbook on their own, and in no required sequence.

Teachers are encouraged to utilize community resources when covering the seal hunting student guide and workbook; find a knowledgeable seal hunter in the community and ask them to come into the classroom. Student will need to ask questions from family and friends to answer some of the assignments.



Drawing by: Shannon Braden, Toksook Bay

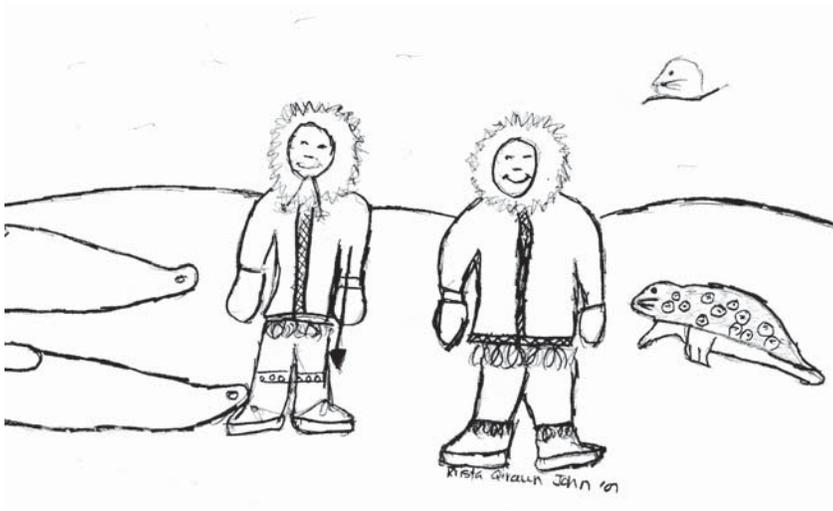
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# 1. Traditional Seal Stories

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Drawing by Krista Quiraun John: Toksook Bay

1. List 3 reasons why seal stories are important

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

2. What are 3 lessons you think are taught in the seal story in the guide?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

3. Ask someone at home to tell you a seal story.

- What is the story? Write a summary on a separate sheet of paper.
- What are the lessons that this story teaches?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. *The Ice Seals*

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1. Draw a line from the seal names to the seal

*Tungunquq*

*Bearded*

*Issuriq*

*Ringed*

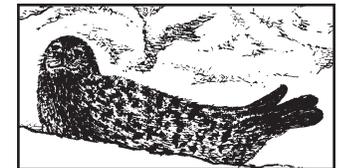
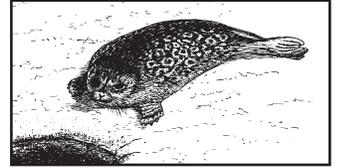
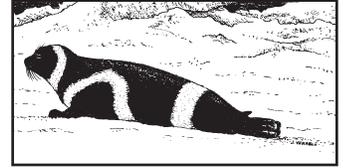
*Ribbon*

*Nayiq*

*Maklak*

*Spotted*

*Qasrulek*



2. What do these seals have in common.

3. **True of False**

Seals get fresh water from the fish they eat and from metabolizing their own blubber.

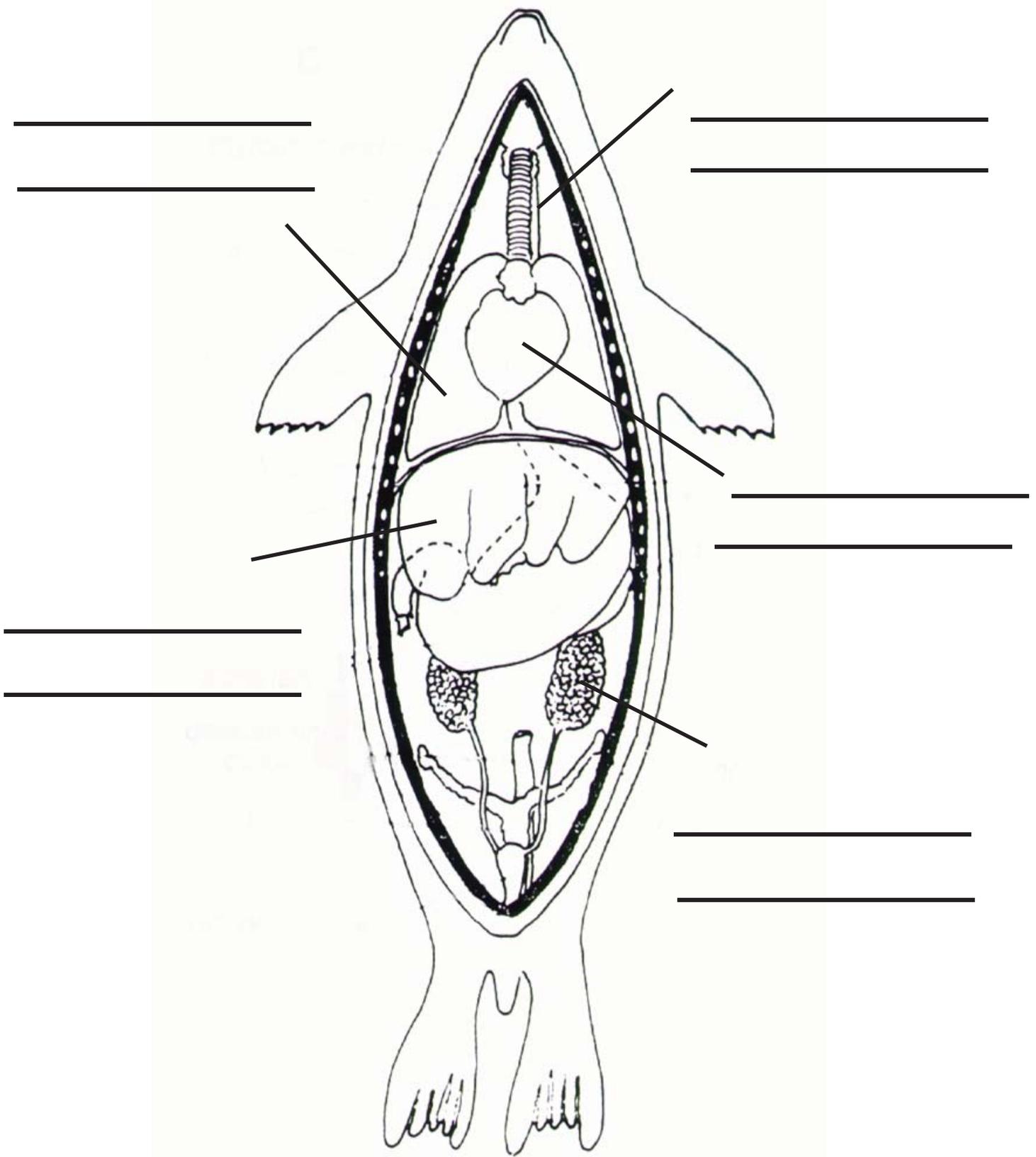
4. How does the shape of a seal help it to live in the water?

5. **Seals keep warm in frigid water by:**

- a) Being large
- b) Having thick blubber
- c) Having small arms and legs
- d) All of the above

6. How can seals dive so deep and stay underwater so long without breathing?

Can you label the organs in this seal? Do you know their Yup'ik name?



What other parts of the seal can you name?

# 3. Subsistence and Health

1. List all the wild foods that you have eaten over the past year.

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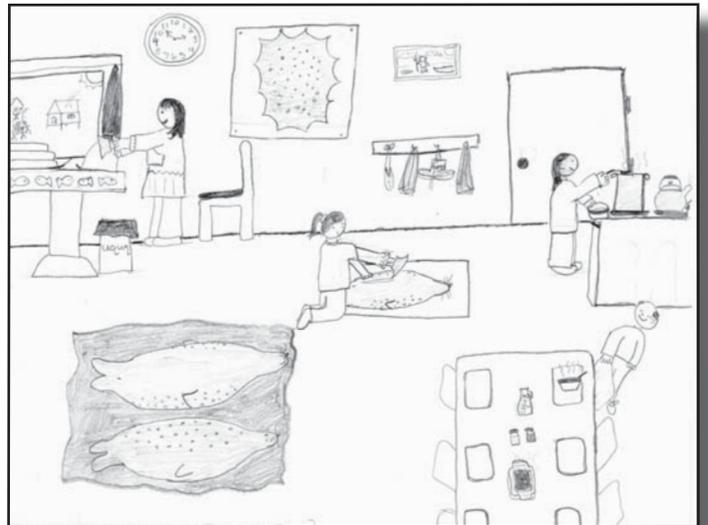
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Drawing by Christine Maayugaq Francis: Toksook Bay

2. Why do you think wild foods are good for you? Think about this, ask some of you friends and family.

3. True or False

Gathering your own food benefits YOU because it is healthy food to eat and it usually takes physical exercise to get the food.

4. List a couple of ways that gathering your own food helps your FAMILY.

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5. List a couple of ways that gathering your own food helps the COMMUNITY.

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6. seal meat is good for you because it is an excellent source of :

- a) Fiber
- b) Protein
- c) Vitamins
- d) Iron
- e) all of the above

# 4. Survival

“Fearless hunters face hardship because they take risk”

-experienced seal hunter

1. When it comes to good advice, many seal hunters will tell you:

“Don’t \_\_\_\_\_ out there”.

2. List two materials that you can use to make a shelter:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why is it better to use a canvas tarp in the winter.

Because plastic tarps create \_\_\_\_\_ which can freeze a person’s clothing.

4. True or False

- Sea ice that is over 1 year old has little salt and can be melted and drunk.

5. True or False

- If you have a pot you can melt snow, or if there is no snow around you can boil salt water in a pot with rag placed over the top. The steam will soak the rag and then you can drink what is in the rag.

6. List some items that you would pack in a survival kit:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

7. What are two natural insulators that you can use to help you stay warm?

\_\_\_\_\_

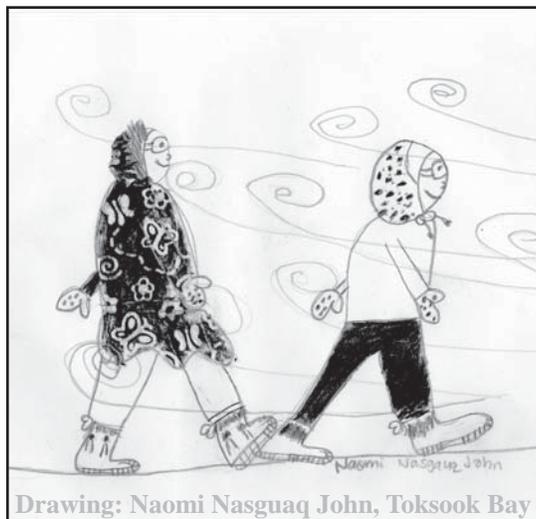
8. True of False

Dressing in layers of clothing is better than wearing one layer of warm material. Why?

9. How do you know if someone is getting hypothermic? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Discuss in class how you treat someone with hypothermia.



# 5. Navigation

“What do you have in your boat? You think you are coming right back but maybe you’re not.”

- experienced seal hunter



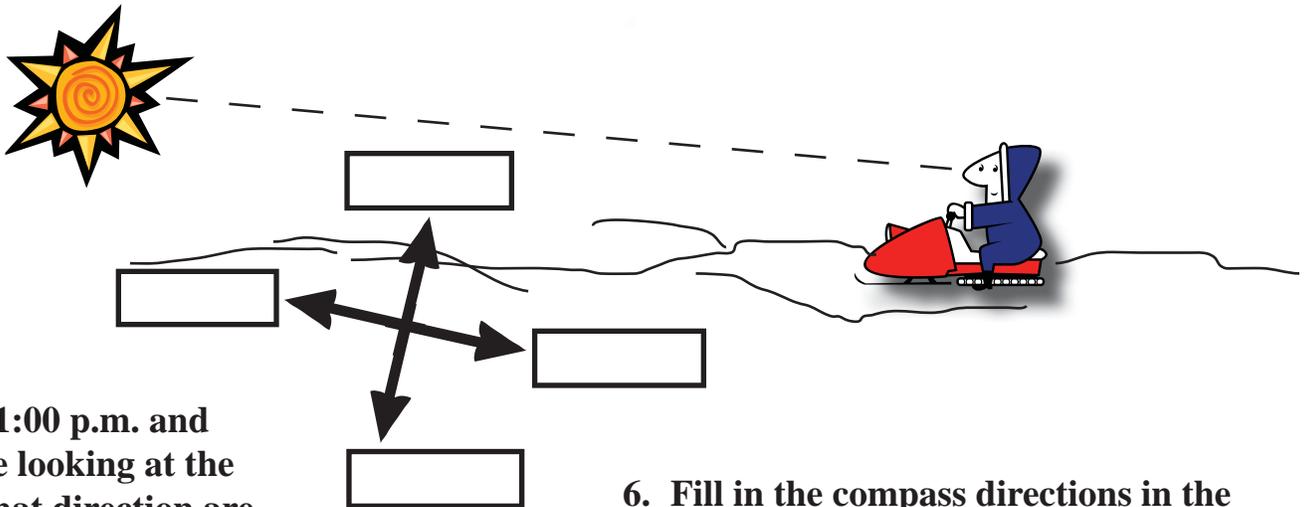
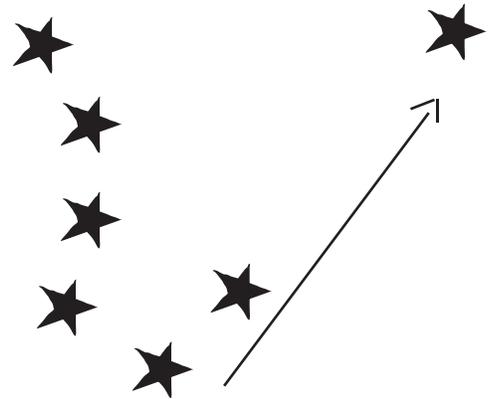
1. What features on the landscape can give you a clue about your location or what direction you are heading?

- a) pressure ridges
- b) bent grasses
- c) the sun
- d) animal tracks

2. A group of stars is called a

3. The group of stars to the right is called the

4. The arrow is pointing to the



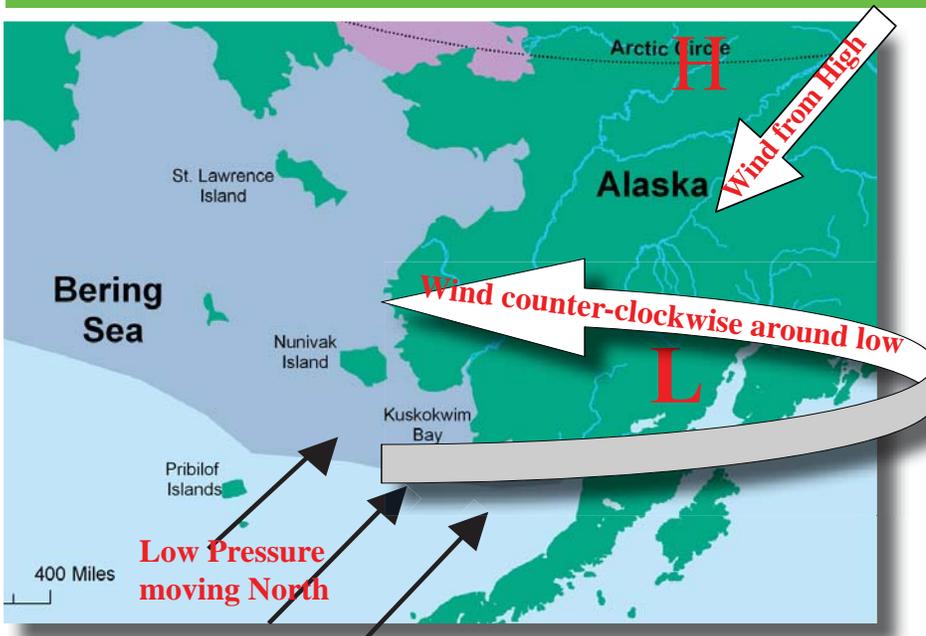
5. If it is 1:00 p.m. and you are looking at the sun, what direction are you facing?

6. Fill in the compass directions in the picture above if it is 1:00 p.m.

## Discussions for classroom

- How do you keep your GPS running in the cold so the batteries don't die?
- When you turn your GPS on, what must you first do to get an accurate direction of travel reading?
- Share some of the Do's and Dont's of taking a trip for seal hunting.

# 6. Weather and Ice



1. A low pressure system generally means \_\_\_\_\_ weather.
2. A high pressure system generally means \_\_\_\_\_ weather.
3. What direction do winds typically come from when a storm starts to pick up in the Bering Sea? \_\_\_\_\_



4. What are the two cloud types in the picture to the left?
5. What do they indicate ?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What is the feature in the picture below? \_\_\_\_\_



7. If you were travelling in a boat towards this horizon, circle the two best places to try and pass through the ice in front of you.

# 7. Seal Hunting

1. The best way to learn about seal hunting is:

- a) by doing it on your own
- b) from an experienced seal hunter
- c) from your friends brother, even though he doesn't hunt much

2. In the picture to the right, what weapon is the hunter using to hunt a seal? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Is this weapon still used today? \_\_\_\_\_

4. List some ways that seal hunting was different in the past.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_



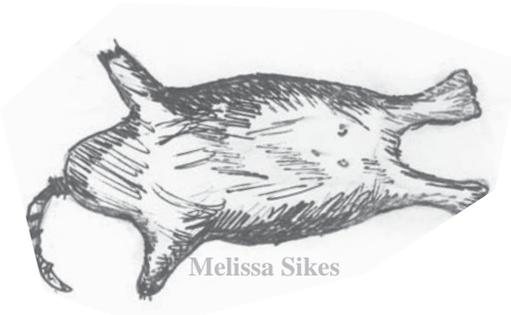
5. What caliber rifles do experienced seal hunters recommend? \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_

For bearded seals a \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ caliber is recommended. More important is to be a good shot! The more accurate you shoot the less chance you have of wounding and losing an animal.

6. One of the oldest and still most important pieces of seal hunting equipment is the \_\_\_\_\_

7. If you do not use a \_\_\_\_\_ your seal might sink.

8. Seals are more likely to sink in what seasons and why . \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



9. What is this drawing? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Do you have any at home? \_\_\_\_\_

11. What is it used for? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Class discussion or talk about this with an experienced seal hunter**

The two major seal hunting methods include **hunting in open water from a boat and hunting from the ice.**

- **How are the strategies different for each situation?**
- **In which situation do you try and tire the seal out by chasing it and shooting at it?**
- **Why do you do this?**
- **Once you shoot a seal in the open water, what must you quickly do next?**



*1. If this seal is on the ice, maybe near a breathing hole you want to kill it instantly so it can not escape. Draw a crosshair to show where you would hit the seal to kill it instantly.*



*2. If it is possible that the seal can sink, such as a bearded seal, or other seal in a fresh water bay, and you want to only “wound” the seal so you can harpoon it, where should you shoot the seal? Draw a crosshair on the seal above.*

*3. What is the Yup’ik word for “almost miss”?*

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**4. In your community, what type of seals are hunted during each of the seasons.  
Answer below.**

**Winter:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Spring:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Summer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fall:** \_\_\_\_\_

# 8. Uses of Seals



Drawing by: Patrice Uquviar Carl: Toksook Bay

**Bring an item into school that is made from seal.**

**Discuss this item in class:**

- What kind of seal is it made from?
- Who made it?
- How long did it take to make?
- How old is the item?
- What is it used for?
- Is there an equivalent item made from synthetic materials?
- Which is better? Why?

## Seal Uses Word Search Puzzle

O L K D R N U G E T N E D Y R Y  
 S N R U H O N M A K L U K S Y S  
 Z L O H K I Q J P F N X E I T I  
 E R E J H T F C P T O C T F Q F  
 S H F T P Q A Y A A G G A L A M  
 K U O O L L L X N O U R M Y S R  
 Z L A I N O M E R E C C U A R T  
 C U T Q I R U S S I Z G I O U D  
 T A E R O L I O D I T U L V L H  
 O Q U Q N U G N U T C V A E G E  
 A A D H S A A F L W B N X P E E  
 I T X E I H L C G E O H I P T B  
 D R Y M E A T S D T Z E O A E V  
 X E O G S A N W G O S R U H C R  
 A Q A Y A Q G T R B O J E E D C  
 Q I Y A N K W E P D R F R T S T

**Can you find the following words in the word search puzzle?**

oil, food, clothing, artwork, handicrafts, tegun, aliumatek, iqertaq, makluks, malaggaayaq, ceremonial, qasrulget, tungunquq, nayiq, atkuk, uluaq, qayaq, rope, drymeat, issuriq

<http://www.superkids.com/aweb/tools/words/search/>

### **Class Project:**

**Invite someone into your class who can show you how to skin and butcher a seal.**

**Invite someone into your class who can make some type of tool or craft with parts of a seal.**

# 9. Water Safety

When you go out hunting on the water, what are some things you should ALWAYS do?

1. Wear a \_\_\_\_\_
2. Tell \_\_\_\_\_ where you are going.
3. Check the \_\_\_\_\_
4. Carry \_\_\_\_\_
5. Don't take \_\_\_\_\_
6. Make sure you take a \_\_\_\_\_ so you can call for help if you need to.
7. In the picture below, is it safe for the hunter to shoot at the seal in the water? Why or Why not?



Albert Simon in Hooper Bay with a young bearded seal



# 10. Conservation and Management

Class Discussion:

- What does conservation mean?
- How do you conserve seals and why?

3. What are traditional methods of seal conservation? List some below.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

4. What law was passed by the U.S. Congress in 1972 to protect marine mammals? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Who can hunt marine mammals today? \_\_\_\_\_

