

White and brown bears: Are hybrid 'pizzly bears' better suited for our rapidly warming world?

As the sea ice melts, polar bears are forced to migrate inland, encountering new sources of food and other bear species in the process.

Adapting to this new environment is challenging for polar bears, accustomed to a diet rich in fat from seals, now facing a drastically different diet that includes blueberries.

But what about the beige-coloured hybrid bears that result from these unions?

Born from an ice-dwelling mother and a land-roaming father, could they potentially evolve into a superior type of bear?

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As the sea ice recedes, polar bears are compelled to venture inland.

"It's a complex transition," says Aars.

"Could the offspring of grolar and pizzly bears offer a solution?"

"While there has been considerable speculation, the likelihood is slim," says [Jon Aars from the Norwegian Polar Institute].

These hybrids inherit characteristics that are less advantageous for survival on land and in water.

"Unfortunately, they get the worst of both worlds," he says.

It is much easier for a seal to see a beige bear sneaking up on it.

"And then there will be no food," he says.

There have been several hybrid bears through the ages, but they have usually not survived.

[**This is an excerpt. Read the full article here**](#)