

POLAR EXPEDITIONS

A MESSAGE IN INUKTITUT

Soon you'll be visiting the Polar World at the Montréal Biodôme, where you can see different species of birds that live in the Polar regions and learn about the culture of the Native people in the Far North. First, though, read this message from Siqiniq, our correspondent, an Inuit girl who lives in Nunavut. Since English is not her mother tongue, she sometimes uses Inuktitut words. Luckily, she has sent along a glossary—see if you can use it to understand her message.

Ai !

Qanuikit ?

My name is **Siqiniq**. I am an **Inuk**. When you visit the Biodôme, **ivvit** will become a polar biologist, like my **anaana**, conducting research regarding the ecosystems of the Polar World. The Arctic is the area surrounding the North Pole. That's where I live, with my **ataata** and my **anaana**. There are no trees in this **nuna**, which is known as the tundra. There are little **timmiaak**, though, which belong to the auk family. The Antarctic is the region surrounding the South Pole. **Ikiinartuq** there, even more than in the Arctic! **Ivvit** will see **sitamât** species of penguins at the Biodôme. They are the big white and **krernertok timmiaak** that can't fly.

Atsunai to iluunnatik,
Siqiniq

INUKTITUT GLOSSARY

Humans and animals

Inuktitu	English
inuk	Inuit (singular)
inuit	Inuit (plural)
qallunaaq !.....	non-Inuit person
ataata	father
anaana	mother
nuliaq	wife
uik	husband
arnaq	woman
irniq	son
panik	daughter
ivvit	you
iluunnatik.....	everyone
kiinaq	face
iji	eye
timiaak	birds
nanuq	polar bear
qilalugag	beluga, whale
natsiq	seal
iqaluk	fish
tuktu	caribou

Things

Inuktitu	English
ukiuq	winter
upirngaaq	spring
auja	summer
siqiniq	sun
imaq	water
imiq	drinking water
tariuq	sea
sitamat	four
nuna	land
krenertok	black
amerk mitkrolik ...	fur
kamik	boot
qamutiik	sled
niqi	food
ullumi	today
quakpat	tomorrow
ippaksaq	yesterday
aput	snow

Expressions

Inuktitu	English
ai	Hello
qanuikit?.....	How are you?
qanuingitunga	I am well
kinauvit?	What is your name?
nakurmik	Thank you
iaali	You're welcome
aa	Yes
auka	No
aatsu	Maybe
atsunai	Goodbye
assunai	Bye!
ikajurtau!	Help!
iqaluniarumavunga	I want to go fishing
ikiinartuq	It's cold
kinauna?	Who is it?
sunaua?	What is it?
takugit!	Look!
qaigit!	Come here!
atii	Let's go!
taima	That's all, it's done