



First Friends Polar Set

An iceberg, a five-piece magnetic igloo, three polar figures, a husky with a sledge, and the animals of the ice — whale, seal, polar bear, walrus and penguin. Who lives on the ice, and how do they keep warm?

AGE

1 – 5 years

CONTENTS

Iceberg, igloo, 3 figures, 5 animals, husky and sledge

MARKET

Dual — Home & Education

ARTICLE NUMBERS

76055 · 76054 · 76047 ·
76048 · 76049 · 76050 ·
76051 · 76052 · 76096

WHAT IS IN THE SET

 76055 Igloo Set 31 × 17 × 21 cm	 76054 Sledge Set 20.5 × 14 × 16.5 cm	 76047 First Friends Polar Boy	 76048 First Friends Polar Girl	 76049 First Friends Husky	 76052 First Friends Polar Bear	 76051 First Friends Seal	 76050 First Friends Penguin
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WHAT CHILDREN LEARN



Understanding the world

A place where it is always cold: what lives there, what people wear, how they travel and where they sleep.



Problem solving

Five magnetic pieces make one igloo — but only in the right order. The first construction puzzle.



Sorting & matching

Swims or walks, feathers or fur, big or small. Animals that share a home but not a shape.



Language

Cold, ice, snow, slippery, dark. Polar words and animal names in a story a child can move.



Water play

The whale floats and squirts. The polar set is the First Friends set that goes in the water tray.



Social play

Who rides the sledge? Who feeds the husky? Roles to share and turns to take.

TOPIC LINKS

Polar world

Habitats

Weather and seasons

Hot and cold

Animals that swim

Journeys

Homes around the world

Please check — Follows the September 2026 sets list (TL0199 without the dinghy). Walrus and iceberg are not current singles and carry no article number; the whale is from 76096. Set photograph to follow the 28 September shoot.



ONE SET, FIVE YEARS OF PLAY



FOUR WAYS TO USE THE SET



Solo discovery — 12 months+

The whale in the water tray, or one animal and the sledge on the floor.



Adult-led pair — 2 years+

Build the igloo, sort the animals, count on the iceberg. The adult asks; the child places.



Small group — 3–5 years

A sledge journey or a polar story with one figure or animal each.



Continuous provision

On a white cloth with blue paper for the sea, or in the water tray, for a whole 'cold places' topic.

IN THE SETTING



No small parts; igloo magnets sealed inside; safe for teething



Wipe clean; the whale and animals go in the water tray



Igloo and sledge store flat; animals in one shallow tray



Every animal and figure available singly — replace one, not the set

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Does the child predict float or sink before testing? | ☐ Does the child turn an igloo piece to find the join? |
| ☐ Can the child sort the animals and say the rule? | ☐ Does the child wait for the sledge to come back before their turn? |
| ☐ Does the child use the last number counted as the total? | ☐ Does the child say 'because' when explaining how animals keep warm? |

AREAS OF LEARNING

Physical development

Communication & language

Personal, social & emotional

Understanding the world

Mathematics

Expressive arts

EXTEND THE SET

Add more of the polar cast and a boat for the sea — or set the polar animals beside the Animal Safari animals and ask which ones could swap homes.



76096

Whale and Polar Boy Set



76062

First Friends Elephant



76065

First Friends Lion



76068

First Friends Panda



1 Float and Squirt

 12–30 months
 1–2 children + adult

YOU WILL NEED

The whale. A water tray or a washing-up bowl. Aprons.

WHAT TO DO

1. Float the whale. Say "the whale is swimming". Let the child push it along.
2. Push it under and let go — it comes back up. "Up it pops!"
3. Fill it and squeeze: a squirt. Aim at the water, not at friends.
4. Add the seal or the penguin: which ones float? Which sink? Test each.

LEARNING FOCUS

Water play

Cause & effect

Float and sink

Vocabulary

Easier — Whale only, adult squeezes, child watches and splashes.

Harder — Guess before testing: "will the polar bear float?" Then check.

WATCH FOR

Does the child predict before testing? A guess followed by a test — and a changed mind if wrong — is early science.

2 Build the Igloo

 2–4 years
 1 child + adult

YOU WILL NEED

The igloo pieces, spread out on a flat surface.

WHAT TO DO

1. Show a built igloo, then take it apart. "Can we make it again?"
2. Hand the child one piece. Let them find where the next one snaps on.
3. If a piece won't join, turn it — the magnets show the way.
4. When it is built, put the polar girl inside and close the door.

LEARNING FOCUS

Problem solving

Fine motor

Shape

Persistence

Easier — Two pieces already joined; the child adds the rest.

Harder — Build it without seeing the finished igloo first.

WATCH FOR

Does the child turn a piece that won't fit, or try to force it? Turning to find the join is the problem-solving step; persistence after a failed try is worth noting too.

3 Swims or Walks?

 2–4 years
 1–3 children + adult

YOU WILL NEED

All five animals. A blue cloth for the sea, a white cloth for the ice.

WHAT TO DO

1. Lay out the sea and the ice. Name each animal.
2. "Where does the penguin go?" Let the child place it. Then the seal, the bear.
3. Some do both — the seal, the bear. Put them on the edge. Talk about it.
4. Sort again another way: feathers or fur; big or small.

LEARNING FOCUS

Sorting

Reasoning

Habitats

Vocabulary

Easier — Whale and bear only — one swims, one walks.

Harder — The child chooses the sorting rule and the others guess it.

WATCH FOR

Can the child explain a placement? 'The seal swims but it sleeps on the ice' shows classification with more than one rule.



4 Sledge Ride

 2–4 years
 2 children + adult

YOU WILL NEED

The husky, the sledge, two figures, the igloo at one end of the floor.

WHAT TO DO

1. Stand the igloo at the far end. "How do we get home across the ice?"
2. Seat one figure on the sledge. Put the husky in front. Pull or push it along.
3. Arrive, go inside, close the door. Then send the sledge back for the second figure.
4. Swap: the other child drives the second trip.

LEARNING FOCUS

Gross motor Turn taking Journeys Role play

Easier — Adult pushes; child sits the figure on and off.

Harder — Something is in the way — an iceberg. Go round it, and say how.

WATCH FOR

Does the child wait for the sledge to return before their turn? Waiting for a shared vehicle is turn taking with a reason.

5 Penguins on the Iceberg

 3–5 years
 1–3 children + adult

YOU WILL NEED

The iceberg and all five animals. Optional: number cards 1–5.

WHAT TO DO

1. Put the iceberg on the floor. Add animals one at a time, counting each.
2. "How many on the ice?" Say the total together.
3. One dives off. Count again. "How many now?" Then another.
4. Turn a number card: put exactly that many on the iceberg.

LEARNING FOCUS

Counting One more, one fewer Cardinal number

Number words

Easier — Three animals only, adult counting alongside.

Harder — "Two on the ice and three in the sea — how many altogether?"

WATCH FOR

Listen for the last number being used as the total, and for the child saying 'one fewer' without recounting.

6 How Do They Keep Warm?

 4–5 years
 2–4 children + adult

YOU WILL NEED

All the figures and animals, the igloo. A woolly hat and a scrap of fur fabric or a fluffy sock.

WHAT TO DO

1. Feel the hat and the fur. "Which animal has fur? Which has feathers?"
2. Look at the polar boy's hood. "What are the people wearing? Why?"
3. Put the figures in the igloo. "Why is the igloo round? Why is the door small?" Talk about it.
4. Ask: "what would you take if you went to the ice?" and let each child choose.

LEARNING FOCUS

Understanding the world Reasoning Vocabulary

Speaking

Easier — One question only: fur or feathers?

Harder — Ask what would happen if the ice melted — where would the bear sleep?

WATCH FOR

Listen for 'because'. A child who links fur to warmth, or a hood to cold, is reasoning about cause, not just naming.

