

Southern Exposure Glossary

Adapt (v) – to change behaviors or physical traits to survive in a specific environment.

Analyze (v) – to carefully examine something.

Austral (adj) – of or relating to the southern hemisphere.

Blubber (n) – an insulating fat possessed by many marine mammals.

Collaboration (n) – the action of working with someone to do or create something.

Data (n) – values of something measured.

Data logger (n) – a device that measures and stores data on the activity or condition of an animal.

Engineer (v) – to design or build something.

Energetics (n) – things that an animal does that cause it to gain and use/lose energy.

Fast ice (n) – sea ice that is attached (“fastened”) to the shore.

Forage (v) – to search for and collect food.

Hypothesis (n) – a proposed explanation to a question that must be tested.

Ice shelf (n) – a floating sheet of ice, attached to a landmass.

Interpret (v) – to find the meaning of something.

Life history (n) – the series of changes a living thing goes through during its lifetime.

Migration (n) – seasonal movement from one area to another.

Model (n) – in science, a representation of data that makes something easier to quantify, predict or understand.

Monitor (v) – to keep surveillance over something.

Outside variable (n) – something not being tested in a study that could impact the data.

Phocid (n) – a member of the group of true, earless seals.

Physiologist (n) – a biologist who studies the processes that help living things function.

Physiology (n) – a branch of biology dealing with the study of how living things function.



Polar (n) – describing the area of the Earth’s surface around the North and South poles.

Pupping season (n) – the time during the year when seal pups are born.

Recapture (n) – to capture an animal again.

Thermoregulation (n) – the ability to maintain a constant body temperature under changing conditions.

Tidal crack (n) – a broken area of sea ice, caused by the movement of the tides.

Variable (n) – something that can be changed or adapted.

