**Asset Information Page**

**Walrus**

**Sticky Note 1:**

**Walruses are large marine mammals known for their distinctive long tusks, whiskers, and bulky bodies. They are native to the Arctic and sub-Arctic regions and play a crucial role in the ecosystem.**

**Appearance:** Walruses have a thick, wrinkled skin covered by sparse hair, with a layer of blubber underneath for insulation. Their most notable features are their long ivory tusks, which can grow up to 3 feet, and their stiff, bristly whiskers, used to detect food on the ocean floor.

**Habitat:** Walruses are typically found in cold Arctic waters, often near ice floes, which they use for resting, breeding, and as a platform for accessing food. They are commonly seen along the coasts of Russia, Greenland, Canada, and Alaska.

**Movement:** Walruses are strong swimmers, using their powerful flippers to propel themselves through the water. On land, they move by shuffling on their bellies, using their tusks to help pull themselves onto ice or rocky terrain.

**Diet:** Walruses are carnivorous, primarily feeding on benthic invertebrates such as clams, mollusks, and crustaceans. They use their sensitive whiskers to locate prey on the ocean floor and their powerful suction to extract it from the shell.

-------------------------------------------------------End of Sticky Note 1---------------------------------------------------------

**Sticky Note 2:**

**Walruses are social animals, often seen in large groups called herds. They are known for their vocalizations and strong social bonds, particularly between mothers and calves.**

**Reproduction:** Walruses mate in the water, and after a gestation period of about 15 to 16 months, females give birth to a single calf on the ice. The calf is nursed for over a year, during which it stays close to its mother for protection and learning.

**Social Structures:** Walruses live in herds that can range from a few individuals to thousands. These herds are usually segregated by gender, with males and females forming separate groups except during the breeding season. Dominance hierarchies are established through displays and sparring with their tusks.

**Communication:** Walruses communicate through a variety of sounds, including bellows, grunts, and clicks. These vocalizations are used in social interactions, especially during the breeding season. They also use body language, such as tusk displays, to assert dominance or attract mates.

**Survival Skills:** Walruses are well adapted to the harsh Arctic environment, with their thick blubber providing insulation against the cold. Their tusks are used not only for defense and establishing dominance but also for breaking through ice and climbing out of the water. However, they face threats from climate change, habitat loss due to melting ice, and human activities, making conservation efforts vital.

-------------------------------------------------------End of Sticky Note 2---------------------------------------------------------