



Save The River® / Upper St. Lawrence RIVERKEEPER®

Protecting the St. Lawrence River now, and for generations to come

Out on the Ice Vocabulary

A Guide for Students and Educators

Rigorous vocabulary can be learned within the context of this story both during the read and in follow up classroom conversations. Even the youngest learner enjoys learning new words in a story such as this.

Aquatic birds	Birds that live on or near water.
Migration	Flies south until finding open unfrozen water and food.
Hibernation	To pass the winter in a torpid (sluggish) or resting state.
Habitat	The place or environment where a plant or animal naturally or normally lives and grows.
Ectotherm	A cold-blooded animal
Endotherm	A warm-blooded animal
Reptile	A cold-blooded, air-breathing, egg-laying animal that includes alligators, lizards, snakes, and turtles.
Amphibian	A cold-blooded animal that has gills as larva and is air-breathing as an adult. Includes frogs, toads, and salamanders.
Mammal	A warm-blooded animal that feeds its young with milk. Includes humans, foxes, deer, and rabbits.
Bird	A warm-blooded animal that is covered in feathers and has wings. Includes eagles, herons, and geese.
Fish	A cold-blooded aquatic animal with fins and gills. Includes pike, perch, and bass.
Raptor	A medium- to large-sized bird with a hooked beak and sharp talons. Feeds on meat.

Save The River envisions a healthy Upper St. Lawrence River that provides safe drinking water, is home to a thriving range of indigenous species and supports sustainable economic activity.

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Waterfowl	A swimming bird, such as a duck or goose.
Muskrat	An aquatic mammal with a long thin tail, webbed hind feet, and glossy brown fur. Builds lodges out of cattails.
Lodge	A shelter or den for animals.
Cattails	A tall reedy marsh plant with brown furry “fruit” spikes.
Frazil Ice	Ice crystals or granules resembling slush.
Pancake Ice	Thin ice that forms and resembles pancakes.
Sheet Ice	Thick ice formed by freezing the surface layer.
Freezing Point	When a liquid solidifies. Freshwater freezes at 32°F/0°C.
Auger	A corkscrew-like tool used to cut a circular hole in the ice.
Tip Up	A device used while ice fishing to suspend bait at a set depth. Detects when a fish strikes.

REFERENCES

Merriam-Webster Dictionary: www.merriam-webster.com

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