

Arctic Adventure Maze



Age: 4-8

Education Blurb: Children will learn the challenges animals (either beluga or polar bears) face when travelling in the arctic.

Steps and materials

Materials:

- Tarp with grid taped on it (or markers on the floor)
- Seal and Polar Bear Stuffie OR Beluga and Killer Whale Stuffie
- Answer key
- Your own creative stories

How to Play:

1. Lay out the tarp and put a stuffed polar bear on the start square and the seal stuffie on the finish square.
2. Tell the children they are polar bears hunting in the arctic and they must follow their nose to find the seal pup hiding in its den. BUT the ice has begun to melt early this year due to a warmer climate and the dark soot on the ice causing it to heat up and melt faster so the polar bears must be careful not to step on the weak disappearing ice.
3. Children will line up and one at a time attempt to make it to the finish line. Children take one step at a time and may only move forwards, backwards or side to side; children cannot step diagonally.
4. If a child steps on a square without ice, you will tell an elaborate (but somewhat realistic) story explaining what happens to the polar bear next (falls in the ice and can't climb out, or ends up swimming for days). The child must go to the end of the line and wait. The next child now attempts to make it.
5. Once a child has made it to the end, each other child can try and see if they remember the path.
6. You can play multiple times with different paths.

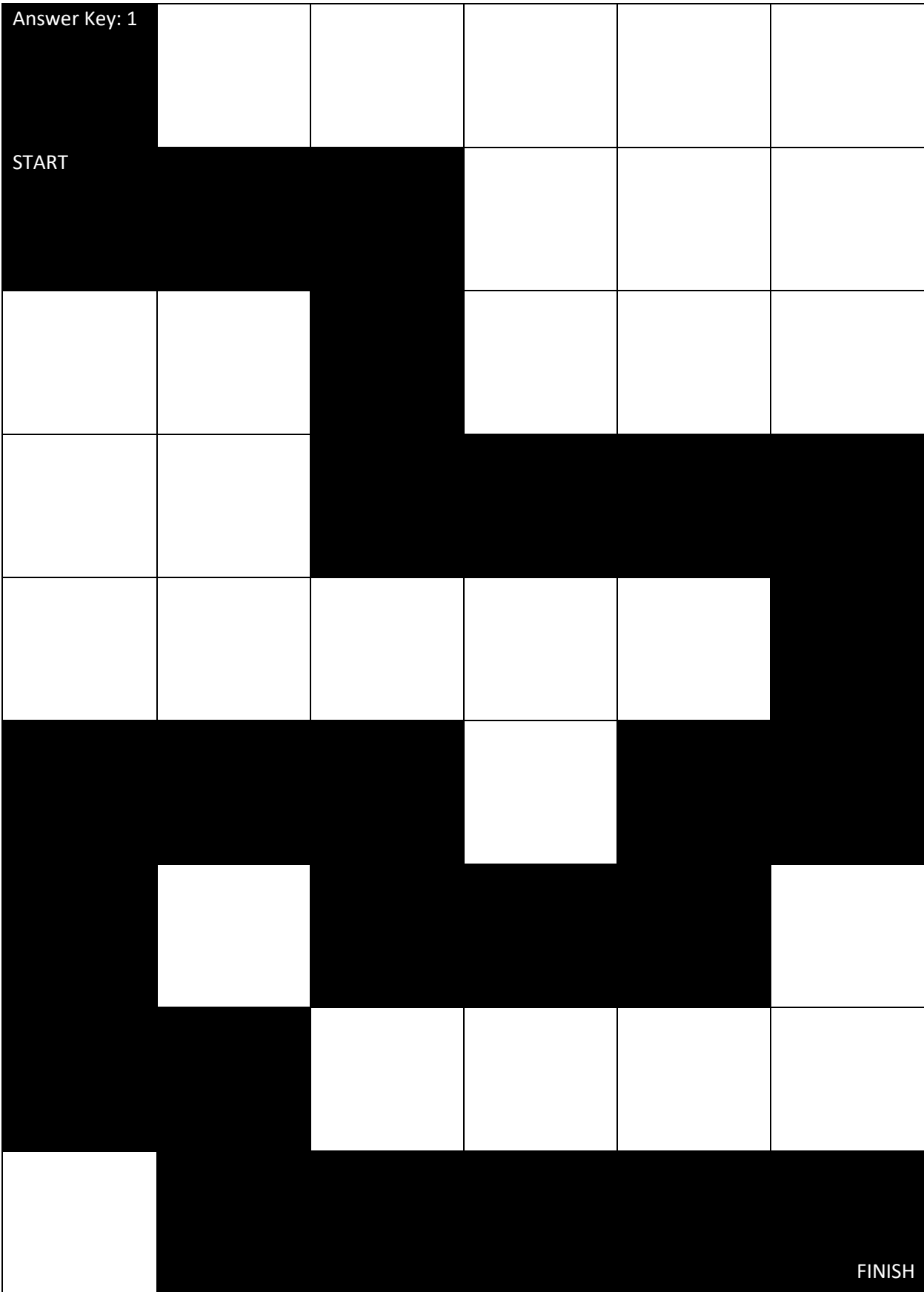
An alternative to a polar bear hunting can be a Beluga looking for breathing holes. If they go two squares without a breathing hole they must start over. (This one uses answer keys 5-8, black squares are breathing holes. Children can step on a white space but every second step must be a black "breathing hole").

A second alternative is a beluga travelling through the ice, if they end up in open water; Killer Whales are able to hunt them. (This one can use answer keys 1-4, same as polar bears)

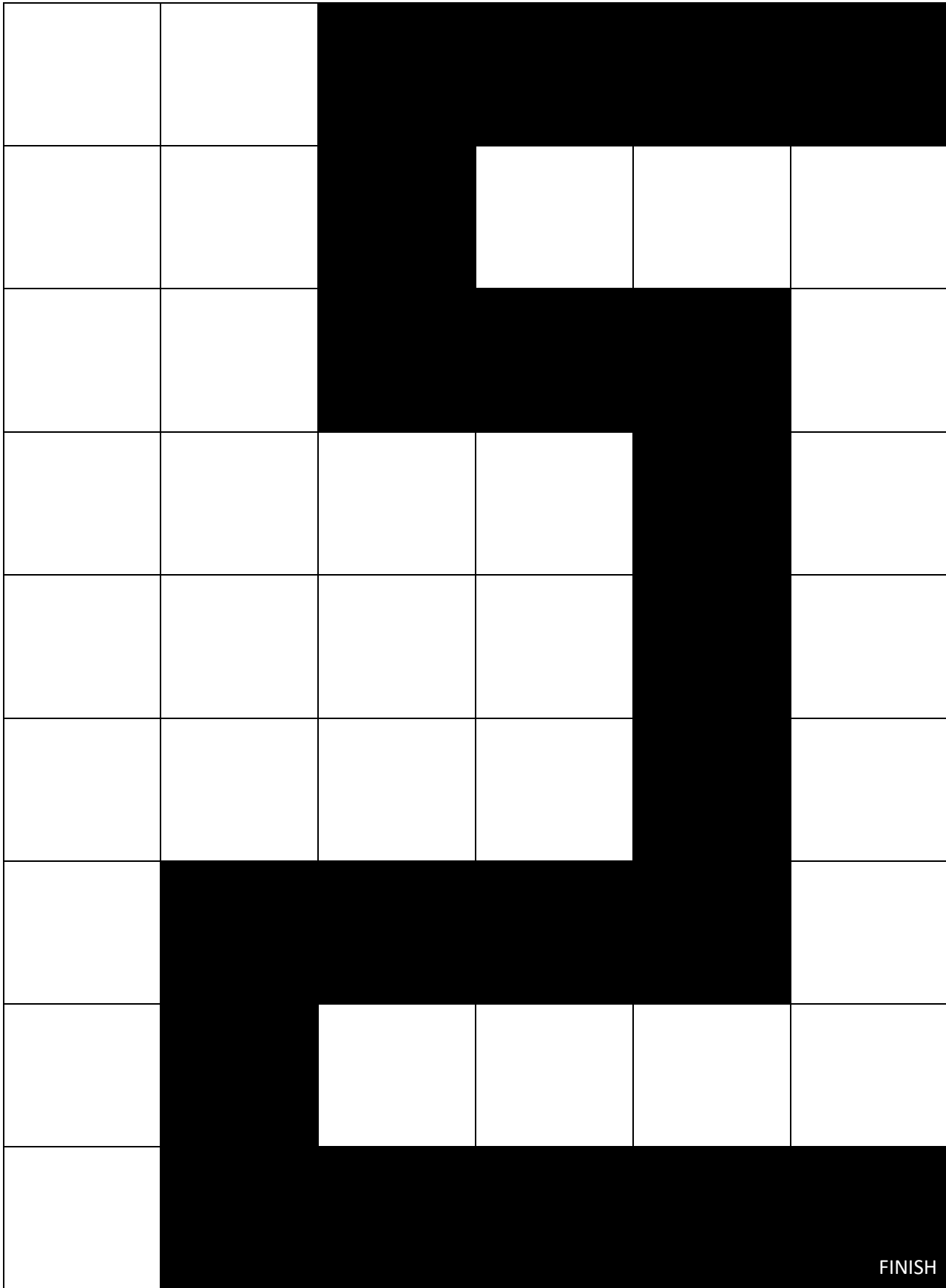
Answer Key: 1

START

FINISH



Answer Key: 4



These resources are brought to you by:

Camps, Clubs and Youth
CampsAndClubs@ocean.org
(604) 659-3493

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
education.ocean.org



OUR VISION IS A WORLD IN WHICH OCEANS ARE HEALTHY AND FLOURISHING