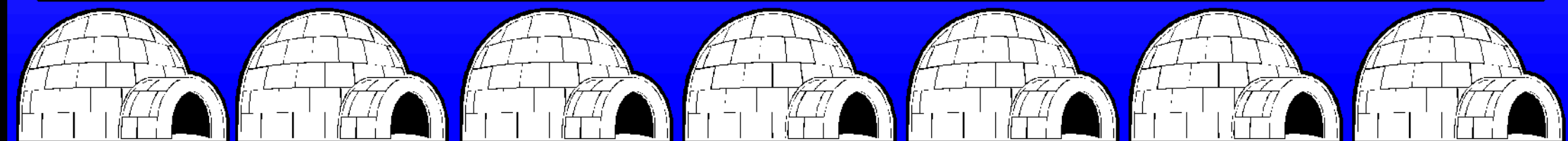
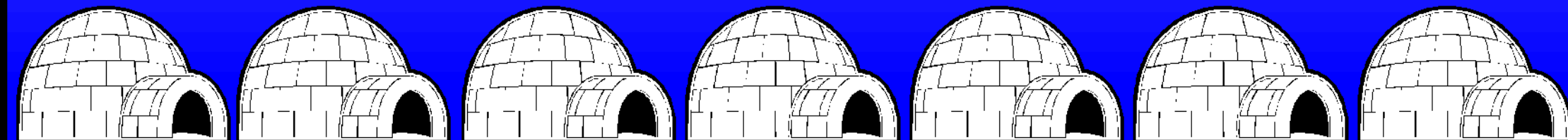


All
About
Igloos



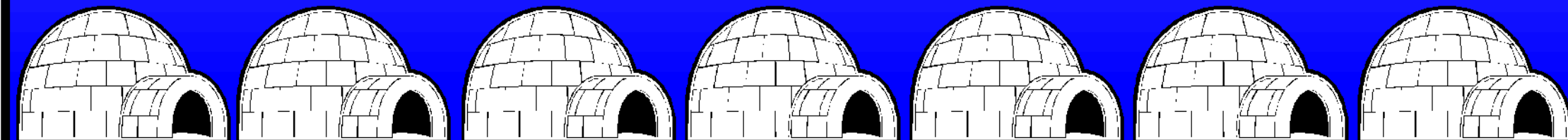
What is an igloo?

The word "igloo" comes from the Inuit word "iglu," which means snow house. Igloos are temporary houses made of snow and ice. They were first built by the Inuit people of Canada. They are an important part of Canada's history and culture.



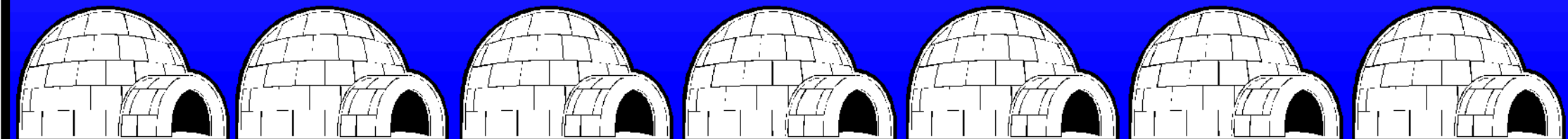
What are igloos used for?

Igloos were mainly used as winter shelters for groups of traveling families. Some igloos would house only a single hunter or a small group of hunters or fishermen, while larger igloos could serve as community meeting centres – or even wrestling halls.

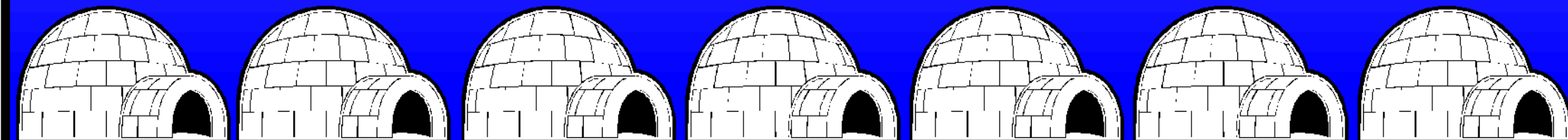


Did the Inuit always live in igloos?

A larger igloo might have housed families during the coldest months of winter, but tent like shelters housed them during the milder months of the summer. Today, the Inuit live in traditional houses, built of wood or brick, but igloos are used if they're out hunting far from home.

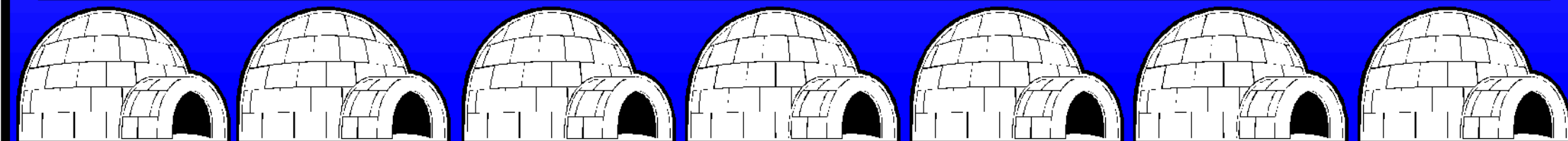


A detailed map of Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada. The map shows the province's coastline, major cities, and geographical features. Key locations include Killiniq, Hebron, Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, Cartwright, Goose Bay, Labrador City, Churchill Falls, Shefferville, Fermont, Blanc-Sablon, St. Anthony, Harrington Harbour, Natashquan, Fleur de Lys, Catalina, St. John's, Lamoline, Harbour Breton, Channel-Port aux Basques, Bathurst, Edmundston, Riv. du Loup, Rimouski, Gaspé, Ile d'Anticosti, and Sept-Iles. The map also shows the Labrador Sea to the north and the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the west. The province is divided into two main regions: the northern part (Labrador) and the southern part (Newfoundland).



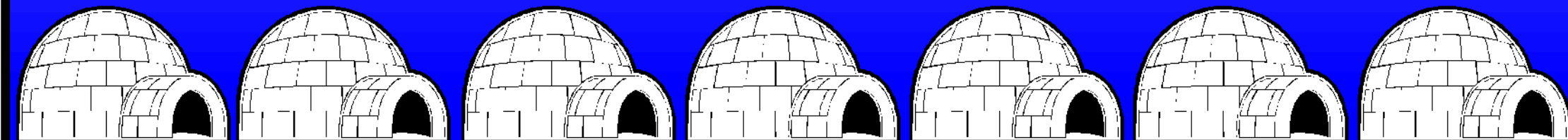
What does Inuit and Eskimo mean?

“Inuit” means “the people” in the Inuktitut language of northern Canada. The term “Eskimo,” which means “those who eat their food raw,” was used by some people to describe these northern people, who often ate raw fish and meat when cooking fuel was not available.



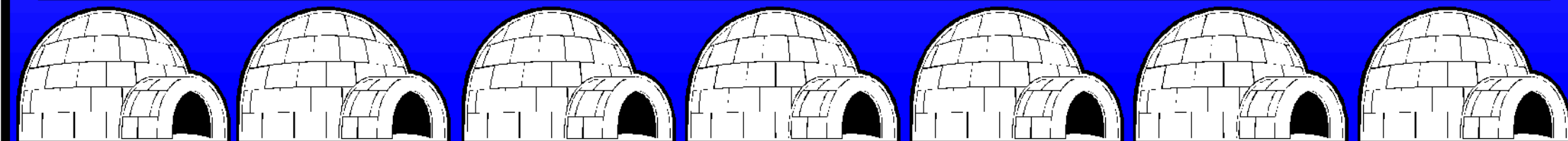
How big are igloos?

Igloos ranged in size from very small one-person shelters built for overnight stays, to large buildings consisting of many small igloos linked together. Larger, more permanent igloos reached sizes of 4 metres in diameter and about 3 metres high.



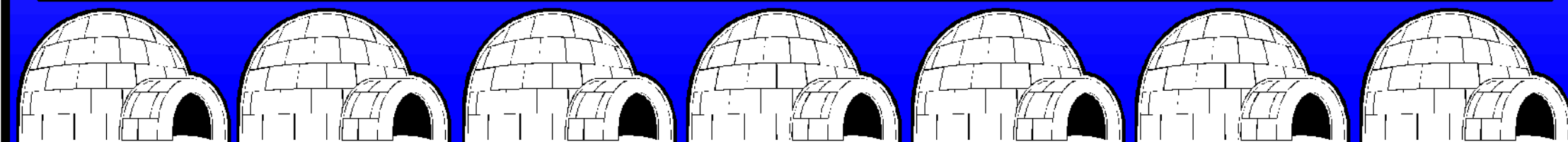
Igloos today

After World War II, the Inuit way of life greatly changed. The outside world became much more interested in the Arctic, and set up military bases and radar stations in the region. All of the travel into the tundra meant that more permanent building materials and jobs were available, and so few Inuit still use igloos today.



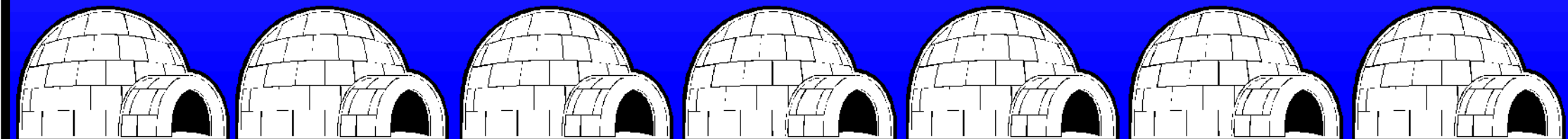
Why did the Inuit live in igloos?

Inuit people had to travel from season to season, following their animal food sources. In the winter months, they used ice-fishing to sustain themselves, which meant that they needed temporary winter housing: igloos.



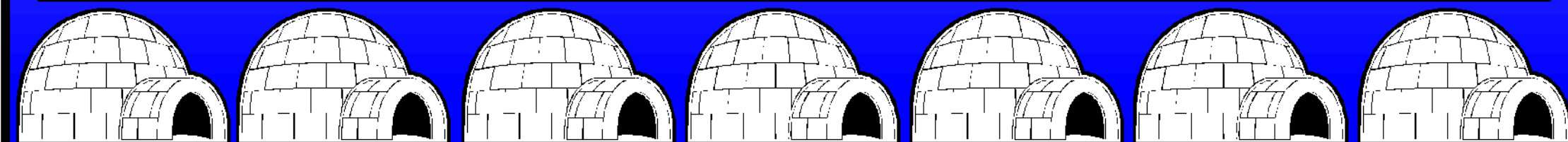
Building an igloo

An igloo is built from blocks of snow in the shape of a dome. To build an igloo, you must arrange blocks of snow in a ring on the ground. The next row is tilted slightly inward, so that fewer blocks are needed as you build. Snow is used to fill any holes or cracks, and to make the igloo warmer.



How do igloos keep warm inside?

The blocks of ice and snow keep the cold wind outside. The igloo's ice and snow walls work in the same way as a blanket. They soak up heat and keep the warm air inside. You can also build a fire inside the igloo to keep warm.



Melting Igloos

The walls do melt, but this makes the igloo stronger. The melted ice and snow from the inside walls eventually touches the colder snow and ice on the outside of the igloo. This colder ice and snow causes the water to freeze again, so the igloo changes to ice, which makes a stronger structure than one made of snow.

