

# Excerpts from the Online Conference for Alaskan Students 2001

Hosted by Caryn Camp

# Introductions and Sharing

From C. in North Pole

Hi, my name is C. I am 11 years old. I am in the 5 grade. In North Pole we have a Santa Clause House and there are real reindeer that we can see. At Pizza Hut Santa delivers Pizza. Have you ever seen Santa do that? It doesn't rain a lot but it snows. This winter we hardly got any. I sometimes wish I was in Hawaii.

From T. in Naknek

I read that C. in North Pole has a Santa delivers her pizza and she gets to see reindeer. Does anyone else get to see reindeer?

From L. in Wales

In July we have corral sometimes in June kids my age wrestle fawns or grab horns. Corral is where we wrestle reindeer. They come right when it is corral time. I grab horns I wrestle fawns with my friend K. from Wales she is my first cousin and my best friend or I wrestle with my cousin C.

**From M. in Point Hope:**

Hi, my name is M. I'm from Anchorage AK. I moved to Pt. Hope with my family to experience something way different from the city. We definitely got what we wanted. Pt. Hope is amazing comparing it against Anchorage. There are all new things here, I have never heard of. If anybody out there has just moved to one of these villages, please tell me what you thought when you moved there. These are some of the things I have heard that I would never have known Hunting whales, Blanket toss, eskimo dancing, baleen baskets, ivory and whale bone carving, and lots of festivals. I LOVE animals and love to save them and I think that's what's special about me. I'm not very good at sports, but I'm very fond of soccer. I have 1 dog, 1 cat and 1 fish my favorite color is Blue.

**From J. in Diomedede:**

I am J. I am 10 years old. I live at Little Diomedede, Ak. I was on a plane that crashed when I was 3 days old. One thing I hate about Diomedede is when there is lightning. I love Eskimo dancing and boating. My first time going to Wales, Ak was when I was 4 years old. My favorite game is snowball fighting. We used to play it until it is time for curfew. We go murre eggging by the cliffs for some eggs in the summer. I like to eat murre eggs for breakfast. Diomedede looks like a big rock. It does not have trees and that is cool. sometimes we get light blue ice. Sincerely, J.

# Regions of Alaska: Geography & Culture

From Aysha in Juneau:

In Point Hope: Is there a lot of whales there? How do you hunt whales and what kind of whale do you like to hunt? How do you like to save animals? What is Point Hope like?

From James in Point Hope:

In Fall time the men go out in the ice and catch a seal and bring it back to the town and give it to the ladies and they sew the skin together and the men put the skin on the boat and the men get ready for boating. It is fun. We get to see a whale in real life. The men go out and go hunting for the whale. There are between 3 and 8 men in each skin boat. The skin is bleached seal skin. The elderly women (akaa) bleach the skins and the men and boys build the boats. One man in the back steers the boat. One man harpoons the whale while the others paddle. They use a bomb on the harpoon. When a whale is caught they use a block and tackle system to pull the whale up on the ice. The whole village pulls.

# Environmental Concerns: *Garbage Bears*

From K. in North Pole:

We have a concern about guns in our schools. Some people have threatened to bring guns and shoot them in the schools around here.

The dumpsters we have are getting to full and over flowing with the trash we haave that we fill up every year.

H. in Juneau:

A concern in Juneau is that we have garbage bears and they get into the garbage. The garbage can kill the bears and people don't want to kill the bears and make them suffer. People don't want the bears dieing of eating the garbage.

Do people really bring guns to school in the North Pole? That's not good. That is very dangerous. Has any body ever got engered?

From J. in North Pole:

What my concerns are is that when the bears get shot and they keep getting shot they keep getting died off (extioncit). And the more they get extioncit we will have no more. And when we have no more then what will we have? beside's Polar Bears?

From S. in Bettles:

If you want help with the garbage bears you should get a good strong Bungee cord and put it over the trash can. That way the bears can't open it.

# Environmental Concerns: *Mad Cow Disease*

F. in North Pole:

My environmental concerns are that the mad cow disease will be spreading towards Alaska. And now I havent seen many rabbits, and I'm wondering why. And its not just rabbits, its that I havent seen very much wildlife. I wonder whats happening?

C. in Juneau:

I heard that F. in North Pole has a concern about the mad cow disease. Im concernd too because who knows what will happen. But I dont think it will come over here that soon. Maybe it will be here in about 2-3 years so its not my biggest concern. My main concern is...

E. in Juneau:

F. in North Pole says that the mad cow disease is going around and he says that he isn't seeing any wild life maybe that he is not seeing any wild life has to do with the mad cow disease.

**K. in Juneau:**

F., I havin't seen that much wild life ether. But my cunsern is fast ferries and rodes because some peopel wont ferries and some wont rode. But I wont a fast ferries because I like rideing them.

**B. in Juneau:**

I read about F's concern about the Mad Cow Disease. If I were Frankie, I would stop hunting because if I killed an animal with the Mad Cow Disease and I had it for dinner, I would probably get the Mad Cow Disease and get sick and die.

**A. in North Pole:**

C. in Juneau mad cow disease is not ever going to get in to Alaska. It's not even in the lower 48. Know I do not have an environmental concern. But some people are mad because oil is gotting in to their water and poisoning the water.

**M. in North Pole:**

One of my other concerns is about the mad cow disease. This goes out to all the people who were writing back to F. and the people who wrote it as a general concern. Mad cow disease is starting to spread around the U.S.!! It is especially bad because we have a supermarket and we get large shipments of meat. I am scared that the next time my mom goes to the store the little germyish disease bug might be in the meat that she will feed my family.

**A. in North Pole:**

I was reading C. in Juneau and he was wondering what mad cow disease does to you. What mad cow disease does to you is it will start eating your brain and it will kill you. The thing that I am concerned about is the wildlife. People keep on dumping garbage in the water...

**J. in Bettles:**

This is J. in Bettles. The same thing is happening here too. That is just the cycle doing its part. This year there is a lot of predators. Next year there will be a lot of prey. Like no rabbits this year but I see more foxes than usual. Next year there will be no foxes and a lot of rabbits.



# Environmental Concerns: *Global Warming*

*Students from North Pole, Alaska shared their concerns about how Global Warming may end up affecting Alaska:*

I am concerned that we will be flooded. Why we would be flooded is because it will get so warm that Antarctica will melt. When it melts there would be more water in the ocean. The water would have to go somewhere so it would rise over the land. If Antarctica completely melts all the water would come exactly as high or close to be the same high as the Empire State Building.

One thing I am afraid of is the global warming. The green house gas is starting to happen to the earth the green house gas is like if you are in a room with a window and the sun can't get back out and you get very hot. It's starting to effect our plants and other foods.

We are behind 20 inches of snow this year. That is because Global Warming we just got about 4 inches of snow. We have bad water here in North Pole But we have a solution but it is confusing. The water smells like routine eggs. Global Warming is a big concern because if the sun goes 2-3 degrees higher we will burn but if it goes down 2-3 degrees we will freeze!! The tundra will melt and the berries will stop growing and the wild life will leave! Cutting down trees is a problem to because they give us oxygen. Since we have global warming Antarctic will melt and we will get covered with water and the ocean will get more water and over flow!! Got to go Bye.

# Environmental Concerns

*A girl in North Pole, Alaska wanted to comment on every issue that had been discussed:*

My concerns about the environment is that there is that there are to many poachers. They go out and just kill the animals without taking the meat. I mean if they are going to kill the animal, they minus well eat it. Like in the summer of 1999, on moose creek, I saw a moose just lying on the side of the road. I think that we should kinda worry about Mad Cow dieseis. We also have a little problem with the garbage to. Sometimes Fox, rabbits, sometimes bears (when your camping), and wolves though it's not likely. Then there's Global warming. If the Global warming keeps going on, We will have Alaska be Hawaii and Hawaii be Alaska. That's going to be a bad thing.

I have concerns about Politics, drugs, doctors and animals. The concern I have about Politics is that there is to many dumb people in the world. They are greedy and will do anything to get money, even if that means killing people. And that doctors, they need to stop with all of the stuff using electronics to try to keep people alive. They do that so they can keep that alive when it is there turn to die. If they don't die then we will all die, because there won't be enough food to go around and we will all die. Then drugs. Other continents try to sell the drugs to us and try to make us weak when it comes to war. Guess What? It is working.

# Life in the Future

From K. in Juneau:

In 20 years I think that Juneau won't be much different except for more high tech stuff and bigger malls. That's what I think will happen in Juneau. What I wish will happen to Juneau in 20 years is Juneau will have the biggest mall in the world. I also think that the Loch Ness monster will be found and more of them will come. I also wish there will be a floating bridge to Hawaii.

From C. in Wales:

I think that Wales will be different in twenty years. There might be running water in everybody's home. Maybe people won't need to use honeybuckets anymore.

# Book Discussion: *Harry Potter*

From L. in Healy: Harry Potter Rules

I'm on the second book. I'm reading were they get the book out of the restricted area. They just found the Pollyjuice potion. And they are in Moaning Myrtles bathroom. My favorite part in the first book about the dragon. And my favorite part in the second book is the part were nearly headless nick distracks Snape.

From S. in Juneau

I thought that Harry Potter is a good book. My fav character is Professor Flich. The reason I like him is beacuse he is strict and serious. My other fav. Character is Snape Because his is snooply (in the first book when someone let the troll in).

From B. in Juneau

I like Lord Voldormoot because he's evil and he's trying to hurt Harry. And I don't like Harry because he's always so chicken. He doesn't get in any action.

From F. in North Pole:

Excuse me Bryce I think voldermort is cool to but you should read book 4 it's better than them all and Harry does get lot of action.

# What do I think about this Online Conference?

I like the online conference because it can tell your opinion to everybody and it's fun at the same time.

I think it is cool to be a part of this conference because I like to talk to different people and different places.

I like that you can learn about other stuff around the world. I think it is useful being in the conference because you can get to learn about other people and learn about things around the world.

I like the online conference because its nice to read other peoples opinion about the state.

I like being in the conference because you get to know about other kids and thier culture.

I think it is good because you can find a lot of intresting information and you can find peoples life and about them.

I think the conference is use ful because it is fun an educational at the same time it is educational because the other kids give you information.

I like the online conference because you can talk to people in places you do not know where they are.

The thing I like best about the online conference is that you get a chance to communicate and have a discussion with other people in the state. I liked the environmental issues best because kids can talk to other kids about their city and what is an environmental concern and maybe help. I think this online conference is useful for kids in school because they get a chance to talk and communicate by computer and talk to kids that are most of the same age as them.

I like the online conference because it allows us to use the web to easily communicate with other cultures. The discussion I like best was the environmental issues it's important to know concerning. I think the most useful thing is we (the students) can now easily communicate to get info about the people who do the stuff from the people who do it.

I like that you can talk to different people across Alaska and talk about the issues.

I think it's cool that we get to communicate with other kids that we don't know. I think other kids in the state like it because they write to people personally or to the whole state and they sound like they're excited and they really like to tell about themselves and what people ask them.