



Title: <i>The Snow Man</i>	Author: Jonah Winter & Jeanette Winter
Genre/Unit: Biography	Warm Up: <i>I Miss Winter</i> by Jamie Ad

Like scientists everywhere, Billy Barr (He does not capitalize his name) observes, measures and records. Over the years, he notices a disturbing pattern... *"the snow arrived later and melted sooner - and there wasn't as much of it."*

Objective: biographical narrative nonfiction

Knowledge Building: a gentle introduction to the effects of climate change

Vocabulary

Tier 2 Word	Page	Student Friendly Definition (kids.wordsmyth.net, collinsdictionary.com, ldoceonline.com)
abandoned	4	to leave someone or something with no intention of returning
companion	5	a friend or someone who keeps you company
record	13	to put in writing as evidence
arrive	16	to reach a certain place
notice	26	to observe or see; to come to your attention

Warm Up Poem

I Miss Winter

Is it snowing?
I wish it was.
No sign yet
Of winter fuzz.
Is it blowing?
Yes, of course.
Rain and sleet
show no remorse.
Is it winter?
Hard to tell.
Global warming
casts a spell.
I miss winter,
as it used to be.
I long for frost,
a covered tree.

By JamieAdStories

Reading

Page #	Accountable Talk Vocabulary, comprehension strategies, think alouds, and student talk.	JOYcabulary Getting students to own their words: speaking, reading, and writing.
Before Reading	Let's study the covers. Wow! It is really snowing! the older man is glancing back at something. He looks deep in thought, but doesn't seem very happy about it. I don't see a snowman and he doesn't look like he is going to build one. I'm noticing the title says "snow man," not "snowman." I wonder if that is important.	
During Reading P. 1-5	It is almost like he is camping! I see a chimney on the shack, so he must have something to keep him warm. I guess he doesn't mind being alone. I'm not sure I'd want to live with a skunk, though! I don't know what a pine marten is, so let's look it up. It says it is a cat-sized member of the weasel family. So I guess it's like having a wild cat of some sort.	abandoned companion
P. 6-11	He seems to be some kind of weather scientist - the way he creates a way to take measurements and record them. It looks like he made his own ruler. I noticed he also set up a wind sock. Why would he take the measurements twice a day? I wonder why he kept doing it year after year.	
P. 12 - 17	He watches - and records - lots of the things happening in nature all around him: the weather, the plants, and the animals. I wonder what he plans to do with all this information.	recorded arrived
P. 18 - 23	He must be very talented and smart to build all the things he needs. He must like India - the movies and the food. Imagine having to ski 8 miles to get your groceries and supplies! I wonder how he carried them back home.	
P. 24 - 29	Ah! Finally! All of his records are being used! He proved that the earth was getting warmer. Scientists all over the world could use his information (data)... especially now that he records it on a computer.	notice
P. 30 - 36	Were you surprised to learn that he is a real person? The <i>Author's Note</i> reveals information about his background, so now we know why he behaved like a scientist. He is one! And to think this came about just because he was bored. Amazing!	



<p>After Reading</p>	<p>What messages/lessons are the author sharing with us?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● climate change ● perseverance ● needs vs. wants <p>What are the elements of a biography? How is this biography similar to and different from other ones you have read?</p> <p>Why do you think the author selected this particular title?</p> <p>How did the character change over time? What remained the same?"</p>	
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Extensions

Writing

- writing a powerful ending that leaves the reader thinking long after the book is done
- showing time passing

Science

- What is climate change?
- What is the scientific method? Why do scientists collect data over long periods of time?

Other titles you may enjoy:

- *Snowflake Bentley* - Jacqueline Briggs Martin
- *A Warmer World: From Polar Bears to Butterflies, How Climate Change Affects Wildlife* - Caroline Arnold
- *A Kid's Guide to Saving the Planet: It's Not Hopeless and We're Not Helpless* - Paul Dougless
- *Global Warming* - Seymour Simon