

By Roselynn Akulukjuk and Danny Christopher

Illustrated by Astrid Ariyanto

Putuguaq & Kublu

AND THE QALUPALIK!



EDUCATOR'S
RESOURCE



Putuguq & Kublu and the Qalupalik!

About the Book

Putuguq & Kublu and the Qalupalik! follows another adventure of the siblings Putuguq and Kublu. Their grandfather loves to pass on stories that he heard when he was a child. Grandfather tells Putuguq and Kublu to be cautious as they head towards the water, for there might be a *qalupalik* scratching at the ice nearby, searching for children to take away!

About the Authors

Roselynn Akulukjuk was born in Pangnirtung, Nunavut. In 2012, Roselynn moved to Toronto to pursue a career in film, and attend the Toronto Film School. After finishing her studies and working in Toronto, Roselynn returned home to Nunavut, where she began working with Taqqut Productions, an Inuit-owned production company in Iqaluit. In 2015, Roselynn wrote and directed her first film, the live-action and puppetry short *The Owl and the Lemming*, on which her book by the same title is based. Her film won Best Animation at the 2016 American Indian Film Festival.

Danny Christopher has travelled throughout the Canadian Arctic as an instructor for Nunavut Arctic College. He is the illustrator of *The Legend of the Fog*, *A Children's Guide to Arctic Birds*, and *Animals Illustrated: Polar Bear*, and author of *Putuguq and Kublu*. His work on *The Legend of the Fog* was nominated for the Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Illustrator's Award. He lives in Toronto with his wife, four children, and a puppy.

About the Illustrator

Astrid Arijanto is a designer and illustrator who spent her childhood drawing on any surface she could get her hands on. Since then, her work has appeared in various media and publications across Canada and Asia. She lives in Toronto and spends most of her days designing and illustrating beautiful books. In her free time, she enjoys travelling with her partner, exploring the great outdoors, and chasing after their wild and rambunctious puppy, Spanky.

Note to Educators

This educator's resource is written for Kindergarten to Grade 3 classrooms. The suggested discussion questions and activities can be adapted for each class according to the experiences of students.

Teachers can use this book to teach about topics such as:

- Legends, stories, folklore, and myths
- Qalupalit
- Nunavut and the Arctic
- Basic mapping skills



- Comic strip writing characteristics
- Humour
- Fiction versus non-fiction

Pre-Reading Discussion Questions

- What kind of a story do you think this is? Funny? Scary? Happy? Sad? Why do you think that?
- What can you learn about the Arctic tundra from the illustration on the cover? (For example, it must be cold because they're wearing warm clothing, you can drive a snowmobile, there is a lot of snow and ice, you can go hunting.)
- Have you heard of qalupalik before? If so, what do you already know? If not, what do you think they are?
- What do you think this story is going to be about? What do you see in the background of the cover illustration?

During and Post-Reading Discussion Questions

The following questions and discussion points can be used during and after reading *Putuguq & Kublu and the Qalupalik!* Provide students with the chance to voice their own opinions, share their experiences, ask questions, or point out anything else they may notice about the book.

- Page 7: Kublu agrees to let her brother come with her to the shoreline. Sometimes siblings don't get along or want to play together. Do you have any siblings or other close family members, such as a cousin? What is something you like to do together?



- Page 9: If you have siblings, are you the oldest, middle, or youngest in your family? Do you like being in that position? Why or why not? If you don't have siblings, what do you like about being an only child? What do you think it would be like to have siblings?
- Page 12: What do you think a qalupalik is?
- Pages 14–15: Notice that the colours in the images have changed. Why did the illustrator do this?
- Page 17: Putuguq is feeling quite scared at this point in the story. How do you think you might feel after hearing this information from Grandpa?
- Page 20: Where do you think Lisa is?
- Page 25: Would you go look over the rock to see what was making the strange sound?
- What questions do you still have about qalupaliit? What else would you like to learn?
- Do you think Putuguq will go near the water again?
- Why do you think parents and Elders tell children the story of the qalupaliit? How does it help keep the children safe?
- Who is your favourite character in this story? What do you like about them?

Extension Activities

The following activities could be used to help strengthen students' understanding of the story. Adapt these suggestions to the ability level of your own students as necessary.

Writing Prompts

Use these writing prompts to give students the opportunity to connect to the story and share their own ideas and questions. Differentiate the prompts depending on students' reading and writing abilities.

- Rewrite the story from Lulu's point of view.
- Write a paragraph describing each of the book's characters. You can use words from the story or words that you think of yourself to describe each one.
- Write about a time you felt very scared.
- Write about a time you played a joke on someone. How did they react?

Hunting Trip

Pretend you are going on a hunting trip like Grandpa. Make a list of all the things you will need. Think about food, clothing, hunting materials, safety equipment, and anything else you may require. Plan your meals for the trip. Who would come with you? What would you hunt? How long would you go for? Do a timed quick write with as many details about your hunting trip as you can think of.

- During an imaginative play time, create your hunting trip scene. Use props to pretend that you are on the land. Use all of the things you wrote about in your list.

Talking Circle

Sit in a circle on the floor or in chairs. Pass around a talking piece and allow each student to have a turn answering a question about the story. Here are some possible questions:

- What part of this story did you like best?
- Did this story remind you of any other stories you've heard or books you've read before?
- Can you tell about a time that you felt very brave?

Songwriting

Using descriptions from the book, write a short song about a qalupalik. You could make it silly or spooky, depending on your word choice. Write the words, or say them out loud and have the teacher help you write them. Sing your song to the class.

