We depend on the sea:
The Importance of Walrus to Little Diomede

The Inuits, people of Little Diomede, maintain a long-standing and complex relationship with walrus. Traditionally, every part of the walrus had its own specific use so that no part was wasted. Walrus meat provides nourishment, the stomach can be made into drums, the hide can be used to make boats, and the tusks can be made into harpoon tips and jewelry, just to name a few of the many uses Diomede people have for walrus. Great cultural value and meaning are attached to walrus, as the community has relied heavily on the harvest of walrus to sustain them for millennia. Although this relationship between Diomede people and walrus has changed over time, walrus remain a critical resource for people on Little Diomede today.

A special thanks to all who contributed:

Many Diomede women are skilled at preparing walrus foods in a variety of ways. Hang to dry (iziksraq frame), as walrus hunting, that their ancestors have practiced since time immemorial, as a way to provide much needed items for their families.

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