





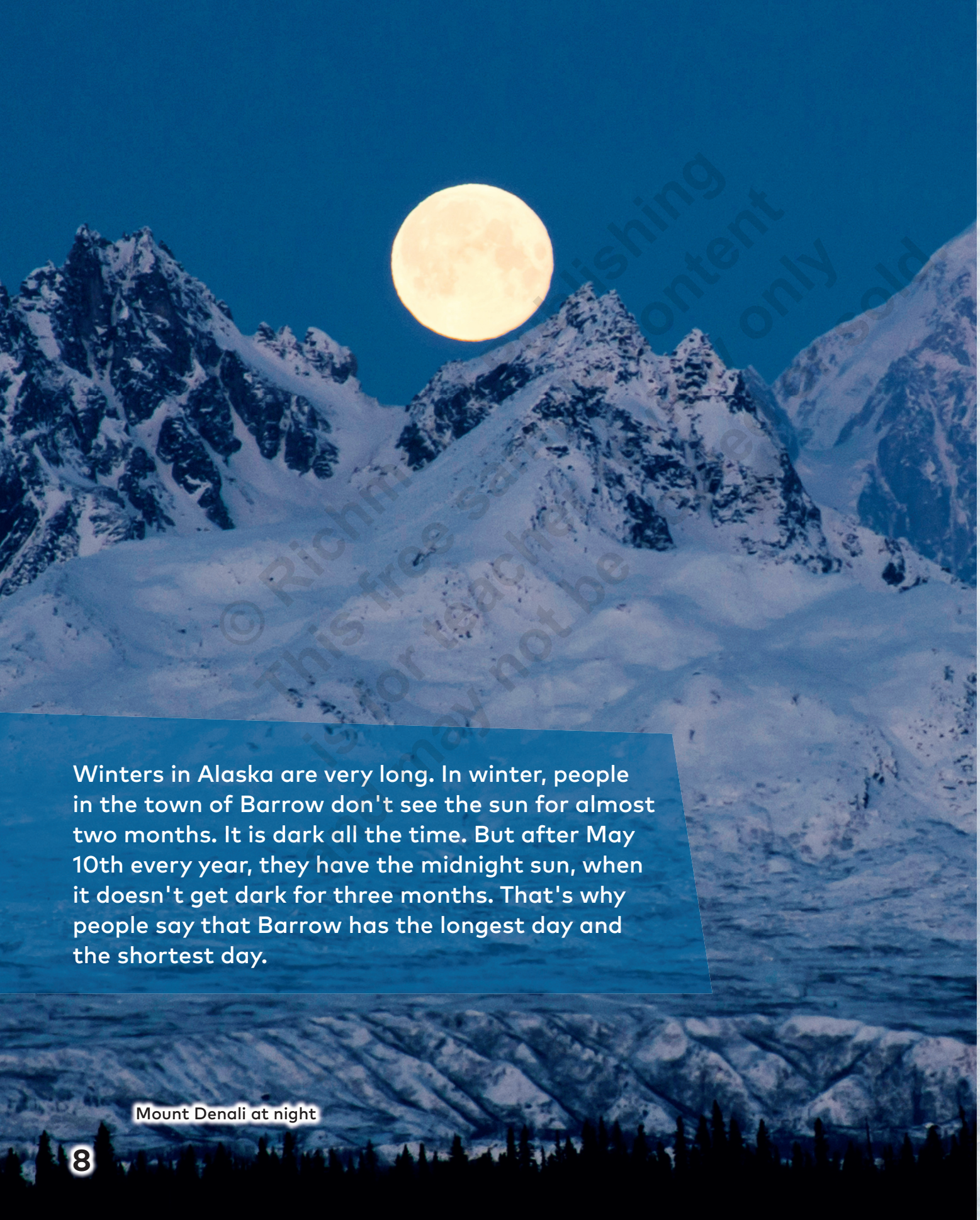
Alaska is a place of extremes.
It is the biggest state in the USA,
and it has the coldest weather.
In winter, the temperature is
sometimes minus 60 degrees!

Glacier Bay National Park in Alaska

In some parts of Alaska, there are no roads. People travel by plane. Some planes, called seaplanes, have a special system so that they can land on water. There are more than 3000 rivers in Alaska and over 3 million lakes.



A seaplane taxi



Winters in Alaska are very long. In winter, people in the town of Barrow don't see the sun for almost two months. It is dark all the time. But after May 10th every year, they have the midnight sun, when it doesn't get dark for three months. That's why people say that Barrow has the longest day and the shortest day.

Mount Denali at night

One of the most famous winter sports events in Alaska is the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. The race happens in March when the weather is still very cold. Dogs pull sleds over the snow for almost 1000 miles. The winner usually takes eight or nine days to finish the race.



Iditarod dogs

Alaska is a great place for active vacations. You can take a boat trip to see glaciers and sea lions, or you can go camping and sleep in a cabin in the woods. You can look for fossils on the beach or you can go hiking, skiing, or climbing in the mountains at Denali National Park. Mount Denali is the highest mountain in North America.



Denali National Park in the fall



Bear fishing

Summer is the best time of year to visit if you want to see animals. You can see whales and dolphins on the coast. Bison and moose (a type of large deer) live in the forests. Alaska also has a lot of bears. One of the most exciting sights in Alaska is when the bears go fishing for salmon. There's just one problem—mosquitoes! Alaska has millions of mosquitoes in summer!

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