

Lion

The lion is the second biggest living cat after the tiger.



Wild lions currently live in Africa and in Asia.

They typically inhabit areas of savannah and grassland.



Two lionesses (female lions).

The most distinctive and well-known characteristic of the species is the mane of the adult male lion.

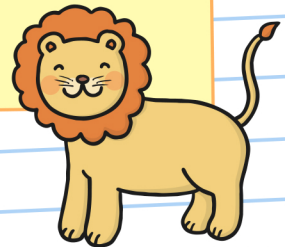
The lion is an endangered species due to habitat loss and conflict with humans.



A lion cub.

Did you know?

The lion's closest relatives are the tiger, the jaguar and the leopard.



Zebra

Did you know?

Zebra stripes come in different patterns, unique to each individual.



Zebras are a species of the horse family, united by their distinctive black and white stripes.



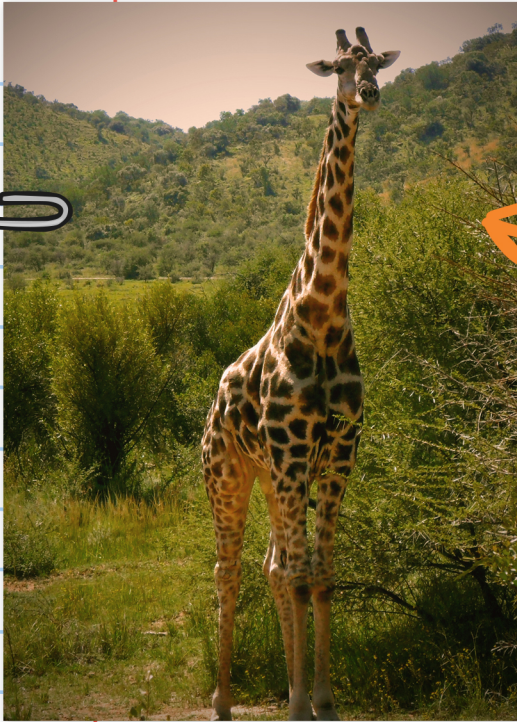
Zebras are social animals that live in herds.

Zebras live in a variety of habitats: grasslands, savannahs, woodlands and mountains.

Zebras are herbivores, which means they only eat plants and grasses and no meat.



GIRAFFE

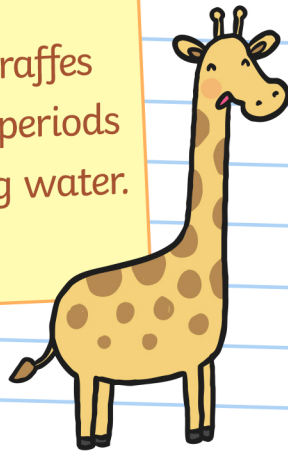


The giraffe is the tallest living mammal that lives on land. It is around 5-6 metres tall.

The giraffe has an extremely long neck which can be up to 2 metres long in fully-grown adults.

Did you know?

Like camels, giraffes can go for long periods without drinking water.

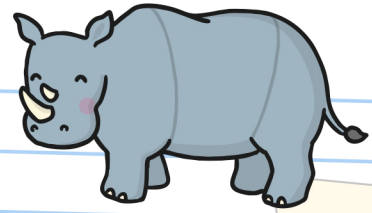


Giraffes usually live in savannahs, open woodlands and grasslands.

Giraffes use their long necks to eat the leaves at the top of trees where they are more nutritious.



Rhinoceros



The rhinoceros, often called rhino, is an animal native to Africa and Southern Asia.

Rhinos are characterised by their large size, often weighing around a tonne or more in weight.

Rhinoceroses have a diet of leaves, buds, shoots and grass.

The rhino is an endangered species. Rhino populations have declined drastically because it is hunted by humans for its horn.

Did you know?

Most Rhinos have two horns but there are some species that have only one.

To prevent extinction, many rhinos are now kept in fenced sanctuaries and safari parks.

ELEPHANT

Did you know?

Pregnant elephants give birth to one calf which stays with the mother for many years.

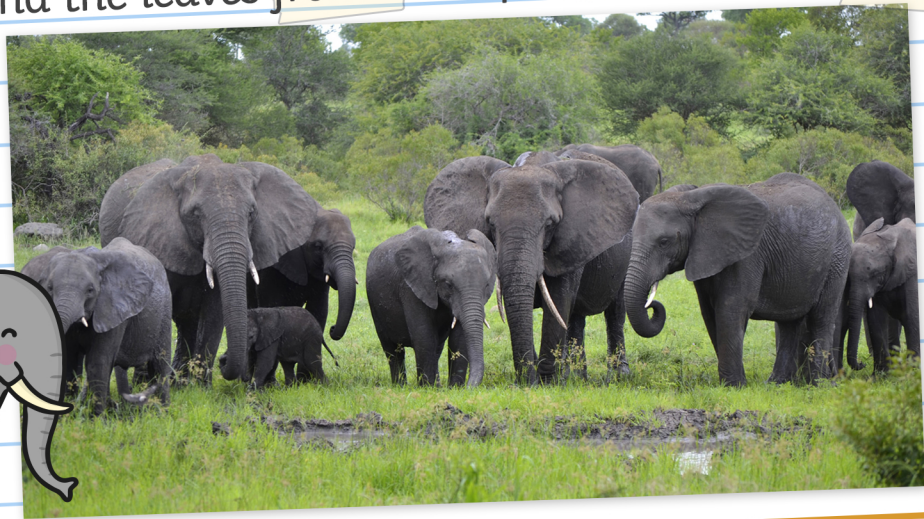
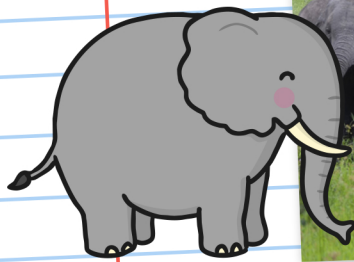


There are two species of elephant: the African elephant and the Asian elephant.

The African elephant is the largest living land mammal.

Elephants have high levels of intelligence and are very sociable.

Elephants use their long trunks to smell, dig, dust themselves and to collect water and food such as berries and the leaves from the tops of trees.



Meerkat

The meerkat is a small mammal belonging to the mongoose family.



Meerkats are burrowing animals and they live in large underground tunnels which they leave only in the day.

They are very social, living in large colonies of around 20-30 meerkats.

Meerkats have keen senses of smell, hearing and vision.



The meerkat diet is mostly insects, but they will also eat small scorpions, reptiles, eggs and plants.

Did you know?

Meerkats are immune to certain types of venom, including strong scorpion venom.





OSTRICH

The ostrich is the tallest and heaviest of all birds.

Although ostriches have wings, they cannot fly.

Ostriches have long, powerful legs and can run at speeds of over 40 miles an hour.



Ostriches live in Africa's savannahs and deserts.

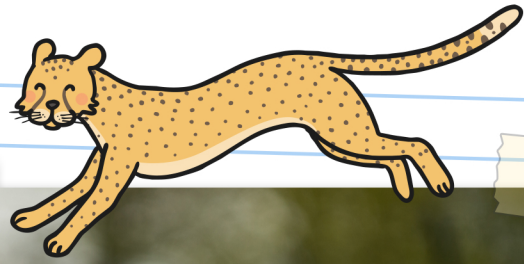
Ostriches are mainly vegetarian. They have a diet of roots, leaves, seeds and flowers but they will also eat insects and small lizards.

Did you know?

One ostrich egg is about the size of 24 chicken eggs!



CHEETAH



The cheetah is the fastest mammal on land, it can reach speeds of over 60 miles an hour!

The cheetah is well camouflaged because its spotted coat blends with the tall, dry grass of the plains.

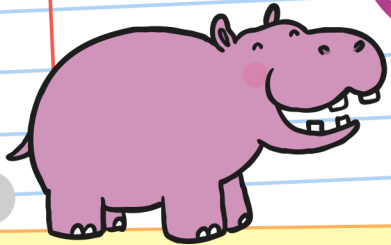
Cheetahs eat animals such as hares, wildebeest calves and gazelles.

Did you know?

After a cheetah has chased down its prey, it needs half an hour to catch its breath before it can eat.

The cheetah's excellent eyesight helps it find prey during the day. Sometimes it perches in high places and watches for prey.

Hippopotamus



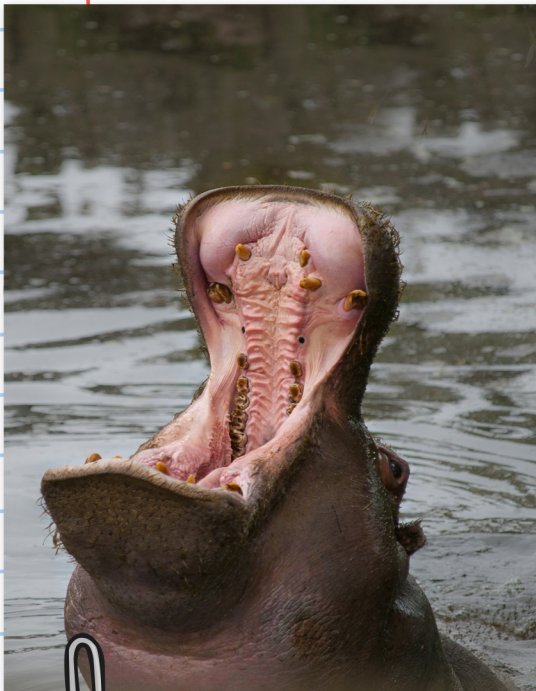
Did you know?

Baby hippos are born underwater. They can swim almost from the moment they are born!



Hippopotamuses live in rivers and lakes in central and southern Africa.

A group of hippos is led by one large male. The other members are all females and young hippos. The leader of the group fights off any rivals to keep control of his mating territory.



Hippopotamuses spend most of the day in the water to keep cool in the hot, tropical climate.

The hippo's nose, ears and eyes are on top of its head and they stick out above the water, allowing them to breathe, see, and hear while their body is submerged.

Buffalo

The buffalo is a type of mammal, natively found in Africa and Asia.



Buffalo are large animals that are mostly black, brown or grey. They range in height from about 0.75 metres to 2 metres. Some kinds of buffalo have large, curved horns and others have straight horns.

The Cape buffalo can be found in Africa. It typically inhabits grasslands or plains.

The buffalo of Asia include the water buffalo, the anoa and the tamarau. The water buffalo can be found in Southeast Asia. Its habitat is swamps, forests and grasslands near water. The anoas and tamaraus buffalos typically inhabit forests.



African buffalo



Water buffalo

Did you know?

Buffalo are closely related to bison, cattle and yaks and are usually found in groups called herds.



Leopard

The leopard is a nocturnal, powerful big cat, natively found in Africa, Asia, India and China. Their typical habitats are rainforests, forests, mountains and savannas and usually near to trees.

They are closely related to lions, tigers and jaguars. They are usually solitary animals (live on their own), although females will break solitude when raising cubs.

Leopards can be identified by their light colour and distinctive dark spots. These spots are known as rosettes because they look similar to the shape of a rose. These patterns help camouflage their bodies.

Black leopards appear to be almost solid in colour because their spots are hard to see. These are commonly called black panthers.

Many of their population are endangered, especially outside of Africa.

Did you know?

Leopard cubs are born with barely visible spots.

