



THE WILDCAT SANCTUARY



Fun Cat Facts

Tigers

1. The tiger's saliva is antiseptic and comes in handy for cleaning their wounds.
2. Tiger stripes are individually as unique as the human finger print.

Lions

1. Lions are the only feline that live in a pride and hunt cooperatively.
2. All females in a pride are related.
3. Both males and females roar and can be heard up to 5 miles.

Leopards

1. Leopards will stalk and eat their prey in trees to avoid conflict with other predators like lions.
2. The strongest climber among the big cats, a leopard can carry prey twice its weight up a tree.

Jaguars

1. Fossil records from two million years ago show evidence of jaguars.
2. Jaguars have the strongest jaws amongst cats, second strongest in all land mammals.

Cougars

1. After humans, mountain lions have the largest range of any mammal in the Western Hemisphere.
2. Cougar's hind legs are larger and more muscular than their front legs which gives them great jumping power.
3. The cougar holds the Guinness record for the animal with the highest number of names with over 40 names in English alone. (mountain lion, puma, panther, etc.)

Lynx

1. Lynx are known to jump 7' into the air from a sitting position to catch game birds in flight.
2. Lynx eyesight is so strong that they can spot a mouse 250 feet away.

3. Lynx large fur covered feet act as natural snowshoes in order to help stalk their prey in deep snow.

Bobcats

1. The deep low growl of a bobcat can be easily confused for a mountain lion's call.
2. Bobcats living in the north tend to be larger than those in the south.

African Servals

1. Servals have the longest legs relative to body size of all cat families.
2. While hunting, the Serval may pause for up to 15 minutes at a time to listen with it's eyes closed.
3. The Serval is reputed to be the most effective hunter of all mammals in the animal kingdom.

Caracal

1. A Caracal's ears, which it uses to locate prey, are controlled by 20 different muscles.
2. Caracals are best known for their spectacular skill at hunting birds, able to snatch a bird in flight, sometimes more than one at a time.
3. The pupils of a Caracal's eyes contract to circles rather than slits.

Jungle Cats

1. Often seen in groups, the Jungle Cat is perhaps the only feline where both male and female come together to actively partake in the rearing of the young.
2. Jungle Cats were revered by ancient Egyptians and sometimes mummified and placed in their tombs.

Geoffroy's Cat

1. Geoffroy's kittens are able to stand after only four days.
2. Geoffroy's Cats are agile climbers spending most of the daytime in a tree and hunting at night.

Exercises

Cheetahs chasing Antelope

Cheetahs can run fast for about 20 seconds before they get tired. Try this game to see how quickly you become tired.

- You'll need at least three friends, an open space, and a stopwatch or a watch with a second hand.
- Choose one person to be the timekeeper. One person pretends to be the cheetah chasing its prey.
- Everyone else pretends to be the antelope running from the cheetah.
- The timekeeper starts the game and counts 20 seconds.
- The cheetah must tag an antelope in 20 seconds.
- Take turns being the cheetah, the antelope, and the timekeeper.

A cheetah can run 550 feet in just 20 seconds. It must catch its prey before it gets too tired. It must rest awhile before it can hunt again.

The Tiger's Roar

A tiger's roar is a warning to others to stay away. Try this exercise to see how far your roar can be heard. You'll need at least two friends and an open space (tape measure is optional.)

- The friends should face each other and one person roars.
- Back up 10 feet and roar again. Continue doing this until you can barely hear the person roar.

How far away are you before you can barely hear them? A few feet? An entire backyard? Use the tape measure to see how far.

A tiger's roar can be heard up to 2 miles away.