



Disney nature

AFRICAN CATS

ALL ABOUT LIONS

The most powerful carnivore on the African Savannah, the lion's physical characteristics help it catch its prey. Female lions hunt in groups, which helps them take down large prey such as zebra, antelope, cape buffalo, and giraffe.

EYES

- Binocular vision and large eyes provide excellent eyesight allowing a lion to correctly judge distances when stalking prey.
- Excellent night vision helps a lion hunt. A lion's night vision is six times more powerful than human eyesight.

EARS

- A lion relies heavily on its keen hearing when hunting.
- Lions rotate and move their ears constantly to listen for their prey when hunting.

TEETH

- The lion's large, sharp canine teeth help catch and kill their prey.
- Scissor-like teeth, or molars, are used to rip off chunks of flesh from prey.
- A lion's tongue is rough and covered with tiny hooks called papillae that help to scrape flesh off the bones of their prey.
- Their powerful jaws help a lion grab and kill their prey quickly.

BONES

- Strong front legs and muscular shoulders help knock down large prey that might otherwise outrun a lion.

FUR

- Solid tan fur helps a lion blend in with tall savannah grass when stalking prey.

TAIL

- Their long, powerful tail helps with balance.

LEGS

- Short but strong, sturdy legs enable a lion to sprint and catch large prey.

FEET

- The lion's padded paws increase traction while running and allow a silent approach when stalking prey.

CLAWS

- Long, curved claws, like fish hooks, are used to grab and hold prey.
- Lions are able to retract their super sharp claws to protect them from getting worn down while walking.

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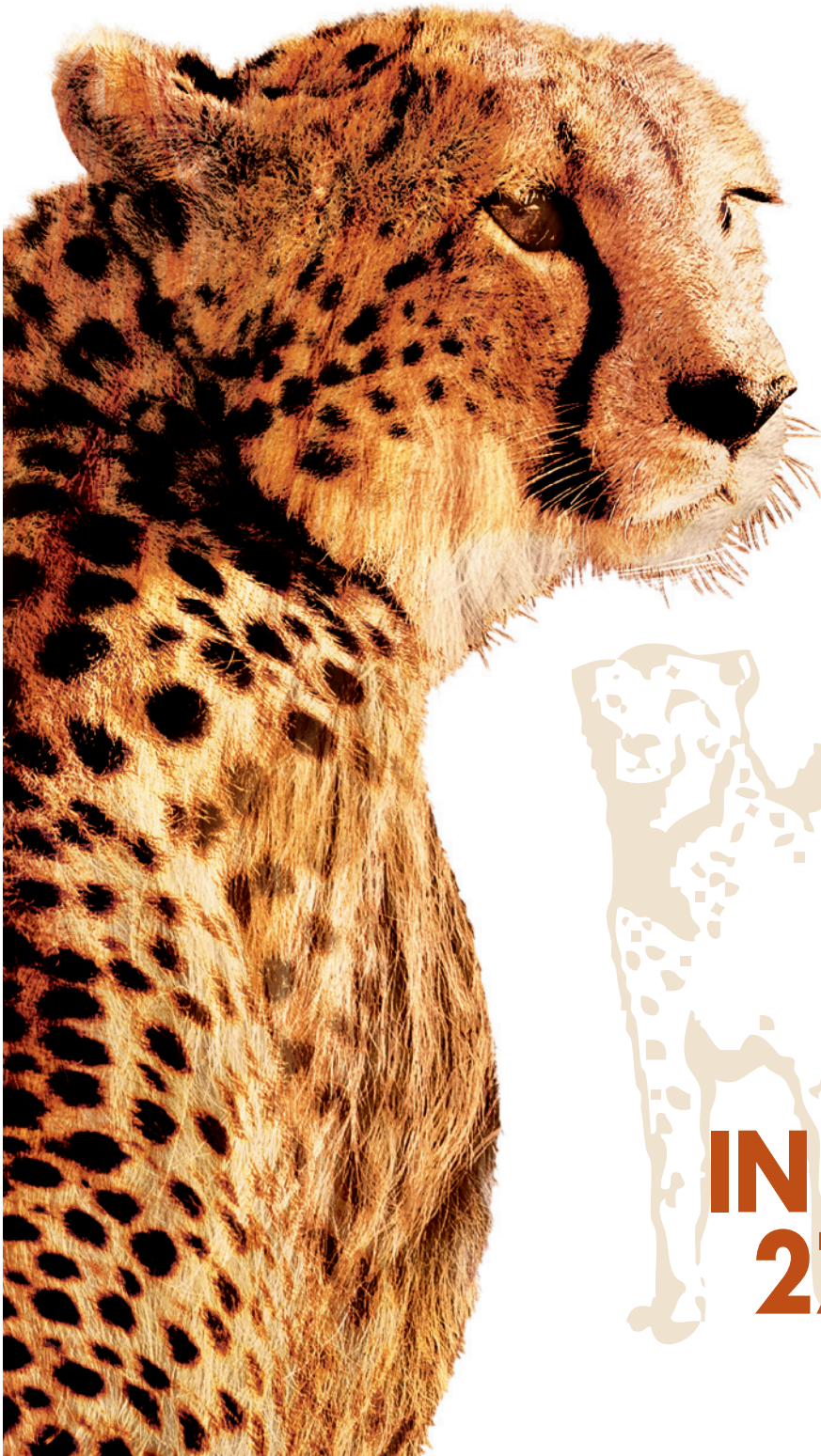
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AFRICAN CATS

ALL ABOUT CHEETAHS

The cheetah lives on the savannahs of Africa. Like other members of the cat family, the cheetah is a large predator whose physical characteristics help it to hunt and catch prey at very fast speeds. The world's fastest land mammal, the cheetah lacks power and strength in exchange for speed and agility.



- With fantastic vision the cheetah can spot prey as far as 3 miles (5 km) away.

EYES

- Binocular vision and large eyes provide excellent eyesight. Binocular vision allows a cheetah to correctly judge distance when stalking and chasing prey, making sight its most important sense.
- The dark tear marks below the cheetah's eyes help keep the sun's glare out of their eyes, similar to sunglasses.

EARS

- The cheetah's excellent hearing helps when hunting for prey.
- Their rounded ears are reduced in size to help make the cheetah's head more streamlined.

NOSE

- Wide nostrils increase oxygen while running.

TEETH

- Their sharp teeth are designed to catch and kill prey.

BONES

- A flexible spine helps cheetah's stretch out further and take longer strides when running.

BODY

- A streamlined body shape that is long and thin, along with a small head, helps a cheetah run faster.
- Cheetahs have very deep chests with large heart and lungs which pump blood and oxygen to their muscles at quick speeds.

FUR

- Their tawny coat with round black spots helps a cheetah blend into grasses, making it easier to hide from other predators and to stalk prey.

TAIL

- A long strong tail helps with balance when running quickly and making sharp turns at high speeds.

LEGS

- Has long thin legs that allow for longer strides when running.
- Long legs help a cheetah quickly accelerate up to 60 mph in 3 seconds.

FEET

- Padded paws increase traction while running.

CLAWS

- Cheetahs have semi-retractable claws that help grip the ground while running, similar to track spikes.

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