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THE LION



GETTING TO KNOW...

THE LION

Region & Habitat	Found in Africa, south of the Sahara, and western India.
Classification	Mammal
Size	6-7 feet long & 370-500 lbs.
Nocturnal or Diurnal	Diurnal, but also active at night
Conservation Status	Vulnerable
Average Lifespan	Over 25 years in captivity, 8-10 years in the wild
Diet	Large-hoofed animals like wildebeests, zebras, and antelopes. They occasionally prey on larger animals, especially sick or injured ones.
Scientific Name	Panthera leo
Fun Fact	Lions prefer to hunt during storms. The noise, rain, and wind of the storm make it harder for prey to sense them!



The lion is a large, well-muscled, and powerful cat, second only in size to the tiger. The male lion has a deep chest with a short but rounded head. They usually have a mane, which gives the cat a majestic appearance and serves to intimidate rivals and impress prospective mates. The female, or lioness, is smaller in size and weight and has no mane. The lion's coat is short and varies in color, from buff yellow, orange-brown, or silvery gray to dark brown. And lions can run as fast as 50 miles per hour and can jump as far as 36 feet!

A group of lions that live together are called a pride. They spend the day in several scattered groups yet gather together to hunt or share a meal. The pride consists of several generations of lionesses, a small number of breeding males, and their cubs. The average size of a lion pride is around 15 lions, however it can consist of as few as four or as many as 37 members. A pride's territory is well-defined, and defended against other intruding lions. The territory can vary in size from 8 miles to upwards of 250 miles!

WORD SEARCH

W Q I W R J A F R I C A
W E U D Y B K D E Y T Y
O C G N E O L V I S F A
C O Q Y L Y H Y Y F L T
W M C E L P P N Y Y I R
L F W B O L M P O F O B
X S C A W E C A R G N Q
Y L Z X H O P U M I O G
H D I U R N A L B M D B
U C X S V I B A A S A E
N A L I O N E S S Y Y L
T T P A N T H E R A R E

Lion
Lioness
Pride

Africa
Cubs
Panthera

Leo
Diurnal
Mammal

Hunt
Cat
Yellow

MAZE

Help the lioness find her way to back to the pride.



