

Contents

S. No.	Topics	Page No.	S. No.	Topics	Page No.
A. The Living Planet			F. Life Skills		
1.	Wild Cats	5	27.	Staying Fit	44
2.	Animal Archive	7	28.	Rail Trail	45
3.	Raptors	8	29.	Are you on time?	46
4.	Aquatic Mammals	10	30.	Staying Safe	47
5.	It's Monkey Business	12	G. Incredible India		
	Activity- Fauna Watch	14	31.	Traditions	48
6.	Nature's Kitchen	15	32.	Places of India	49
7.	Fruit Party	16	33.	Rivers	51
8.	Insectivorous Plants	17	34.	Jungle Jamboree	52
9.	Tree Tour	18	35.	History of India	54
B. Earth Matters			36.	India's Stone Art	55
10.	Pollution is Dangerous	20	H. Global Glimpses		
11.	Green Magic	21	37.	National Flags	56
12.	Mother Nature	22	38.	Haute Cuisine	57
13.	Disappearing Woods	23	39.	Geographic Nicknames	58
	Activity- Being Green	25	40.	Travel Diaries	59
C. Awareness Plus			41.	Historical Travellers	60
14.	Number Teaser	27	42.	The Luminaries	61
15.	Journey of Crop-Farm to Market	28	I. Sports Area		
16.	Magical Mountains	29	43.	Play Time	62
	Activity- Tracks	30	44.	National Games	63
D. Everyday Science			45.	Sports Legends	64
17.	The Gifts of Science	32	J. Personality Plus		
18.	Techno Tools	33	46.	Responsibilities	65
19.	Tiny Helpers	34	47.	Proper Conduct	66
20.	Solar Pals	35	48.	Dining Etiquette	67
E. World of Words			K. Brainstorming		
21.	Absolutely Right	36	49.	Brain Power-I	68
22.	Similitude	37	50.	Brain Power-II	69
23.	Lifelong Friends	38	51.	Quiz Time	70
24.	Phonology	39	ANSWERS		71-72
	Activity-News of the World	40			
25.	Literary Wonders	42			
26.	Dream World	43			



Wild Cats

The apex predators are lions, tigers, leopards, jaguars and cheetahs.

I. Read the description of some big cats of the world.

Leopard (*Panthera pardus*): This wild cat lives in sub-Saharan Africa, western and central Asia, Indian subcontinent, south-east and east Asia. It is mainly a nocturnal hunter. They are skilled climbers and like to rest in the branches of trees during the day. It is an opportunistic predator that relies on its spotted pattern for camouflage as it stalks and ambushes its prey.



Let Me Answer

- Describe any one quality of leopard.
- Can you name any luxury car named after one of the wild cats ?



Tiger (*Panthera tigris*): Tiger is the largest living cat species, distinguished by its dark vertical stripes on orange-brown fur. It is found in Siberian temperate forests, tropical and sub-tropical forests on the Indian sub-continent, and Sumatra's rainforests (Indonesia). Unlike other cats, tigers love water and cool off in pools. Tigers are endangered species.

The Lion (*Panthera leo*): The Lion is called the 'King of the Jungle' because he is a powerful, agile and ferocious carnivore. This apex predator inhabits the grasslands and savannah of sub-Saharan Africa and a small pocket of Gir Forest in Gujarat. Lions are the only wild cats to live in groups called pride. Lion produces a "roaring" sound, which can be heard up to 8-kilometre distance.





Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) : Cheetah is the fastest land animal. It can reach speeds of up to 128 km/hr. Its slim build, long, thin legs and long tail make it suitable for high speeds on flat terrain. It has a small, rounded head, short snout and black tear-like facial streaks. It is native to Africa and Central Iran.



Jaguar (*Panthera onca*) : Jaguar is the only significant and wild cat native to America. It plays a vital role in stabilising the ecosystem. Its range extends from extreme southern Arizona in the USA across Mexico and much of Central America, the Amazon rainforest and northern Argentina. A stalk and ambush predator, its large skull and powerful jaws make it a ferocious hunter.

Big Cat Quiz

II. Answer these questions.

1. Bangladesh, Malaysia and South Korea have the same national animal. Which animal is it?
2. An animal is depicted on Sri Lanka's national flag. Name this animal.
3. A leading global sportswear company is named after a big cat. Which animal is it?
4. Which big cat holds the infamous record of most human kills?
5. This big cat roamed the grasslands of central India till 1952. Three of these last wild animals in the country were shot dead by the Raja of Surguja. Which animal are we talking about?

Info-Bits

The tiger is a powerful swimmer. It can swim a distance of 30 km in a day, and walk 40 km from dusk to dawn.

TEACHER'S NOTE

Show the actual pictures of the wild cats to differentiate between these wild cats.



Animal Archive

Fill in the blanks using the help list given below:

1. Female help take care of others' babies.
2. Embryos of can breathe through their egg shells.
3. will take in the orphaned pups of their late family members.
4. can grow 30,000 teeth during their lifetime.
5. A eats specific plants to cure itself when ill.
6. never sleep nor do they have lungs.
7. were the first animals to be domesticated by human around 10,000 BCE.
8. A cannot move its tongue as it is attached to the roof of its mouth.
9. Hind Legs of a are so strong that it can remain standing even after it has been shot dead.
10. is the fastest moving snake in the world.

Let Me Answer

- Name any one animal which is an endangered species.
- Do you know that baby bats are also called pups?



Help List

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| Ants | Squirrel |
| Black mamba | Crocodiles |
| Chicken Eggs | Bears |
| Dogs | Bull frogs |
| Tiger | Sharks |

Info-Bits

A **liger** is a hybrid offspring of a male lion and a female tiger, whereas a **tigon** is an offspring of a male tiger and a female lion.



TEACHER'S NOTE Encourage the students to find and share more facts on animals listed in the help list.



Raptors

Raptors are birds which prey on rodents, snakes and other small mammals. They have keen eyesight, strong feet with razor-sharp talons, and powerful, curved beaks which help them detect prey from the sky.

I. Look at the pictures below and learn about their characteristics:

Let Me Answer

• Have you ever seen a golden eagle?

1. Peregrine Falcon is crow-sized and has a blue-grey back and black head. It is found everywhere except polar regions, very high mountains and dense rainforests. It preys mainly on medium-sized birds, but can also hunt and eat small mammals, reptiles and insects. Its highest measured speed being 389 km/hr.



Peregrine Falcon



King Vulture

2. King Vulture is found in Central and South America. It lives in tropical lowland forests from southern Mexico to northern Argentina. Mainly white in colour, it has grey-black flight and tail feathers. Its head and neck is bald and a prominent orange fleshy caruncle sits on its beak. This scavenger can live up to 30 years in captivity.

3. Golden Eagle is a dark brown with light golden brown plumage on its nape. It uses its agility and speed, powerful feet, massive sharp talons to snatch prey. The bird builds nests on cliffs. A single bird's territory can extend to 200 sq. km. It is found in Eurasia, North America and North Africa. While chasing birds, it can fly at 190 km/hr and when swooping down for a kill it can reach speeds up to 300 km/hr.



Golden Eagle



**Bearded Vultured
Huma Bird**

4. Bearded Vulture Huma Bird is the only known vertebrate whose diet consists of bones or bone marrow. It actually dislikes flesh. In India, it is found in Ladakh and the Himalayan regions. Its old name 'ossifrage' means 'bone breaker', and true to its name, it can carry a bone up to 4 kg heavy to a height of 500 ft and drop it on rocks below to crack it open and eat the marrow. An adult bird can weigh 5.7 kg and can grow up to 1.2 m in length.

5. Red-tailed hawks are found in the North American continent, from interior Alaska and northern Canada to Panama and West Indies. Its habitats are desert, grassland, and coniferous forests. Its prey includes rodents, ground squirrels, amphibians, fish, birds, crabs, lizards and invertebrates.



Red-tailed Hawk

II. Raptor Quiz

Fill in the blanks with the suitable answers:

1. is an expert snake slayer. It kills snakes with its feet, using sharp talons.
2. can spot a pigeon from more than 8 km away and rightly holds the record for the sharpest eyesight.
3. preys exclusively on fish—thus earning the nickname 'fish hawk'.
4. builds the largest tree nest ever recorded for any animal species.

Info-Bits

- ✓ A bald eagle nest discovered in Florida (USA) was more than 9 ft in diameter and 20 feet high.
- ✓ Barn owls swallow their prey whole — skin, bones and all.

TEACHER'S NOTE *Explain the unique features of raptors to the students.*