

ANIMAL FUN FACTS

THE AFRICAN LION

The African lion lives on the savanna grasslands of central and southern Africa.

Lions earned the nickname “King of the Beast” because they symbolize strength, courage, and have an ability to listen and know when danger is near. They are the protector of the pride. Their appearance with a crown like mane and their ferocious roars also command the presence of a king.



Lions live in groups of ten to fifteen animals called “prides.” They are very social compared to other cat species. Their prides usually feature females, offspring, and a few adult males.

In the wild, lions live for an average of twelve to sixteen years. In captivity they live up to twenty-five years.

Lions hunt large animals such as zebras and wildebeests.

Male lions are easy to recognize thanks to their full, regal-looking manes. Males with darker manes are more likely to attract female lions, known as lionesses.

Lions can reach speeds of up to fifty miles per hour but only in short bursts because of a lack of strength.

Lions are the second largest big cat species in the world, after tigers.

The heaviest lion on record weighed an amazing eight hundred and twenty six pounds.

The average male lion weighs around four hundred pounds. The average female lion weighs around two hundred ninety pounds.

The lion’s roar can be heard from five miles away.



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