

## African Lion

Website: <https://animals.sandiegozoo.org/animals/lion>

Is there a more magical and frightening animal than the African Lion? Maybe so, but it is an incredible feline or cat. Just like elephants, there are two main subspecies: the African Lion and the Asian Lion. Today, you will study the African Lion which lives in Africa. Within Africa, lions live in many places but they are increasingly threatened by human beings and their populations are decreasing. Let's learn more about these special cats.

Now visit the website. Look at the "Fun Facts" on the right side of the webpage:

- 1) How much can a male lion eat in one meal?
  - a. Nothing. They don't eat.
  - b. Up to one hundred and forty pounds of meat
  - c. Less than fifty pounds
  - d. About twenty pounds
  
- 2) How far away can you hear a lion's roar?
  - a. Half a mile
  - b. One mile
  - c. Two miles
  - d. Three miles
  
- 3) How fast can lions run?
  - a. Ten miles per hour
  - b. Twenty miles per hour
  - c. Thirty-three miles per hour
  - d. Forty miles per hour
  
- 4) True or False. Lions can live in deserts.
  - a. False. It's too dry.
  - b. True. They eat melons to survive.
  - c. None of the above



**FUN FACTS**

Go to this section: 

- 5) Look in the first paragraph. In the Disney Movie, the young lion is called Simba. What does simba mean? (Circle **many**)
  - a. Young
  - b. Lion
  - c. King
  - d. Strong
  
- 6) Go to the paragraph that begins with "Lions are also the only cats that..." What is the name for a group of lions?
  - a. A troop
  - b. A pride
  - c. A parade
  - d. An army

- 7) Go to the paragraph that begins with “A lion’s life is filled with sleeping...”. Can lions climb trees?
- No way. They’re too big
  - Yes. They’re good climbers
  - Only birds go into trees

Go to this section: HABITAT AND DIET

- 8) Find the paragraph that begins with “Lion usually hunt at night...” What is a big animal that lions sometimes eat?
- Other lions
  - Giraffes
  - Seagulls
  - Whales
- 9) Find the paragraph beginning with “Lions hunt antelope and other...” What helps lions go back for a second helping?
- They only eat a little bit for their first helping
  - They drink lots of water
  - They chew their food well
  - They can digest their food quickly

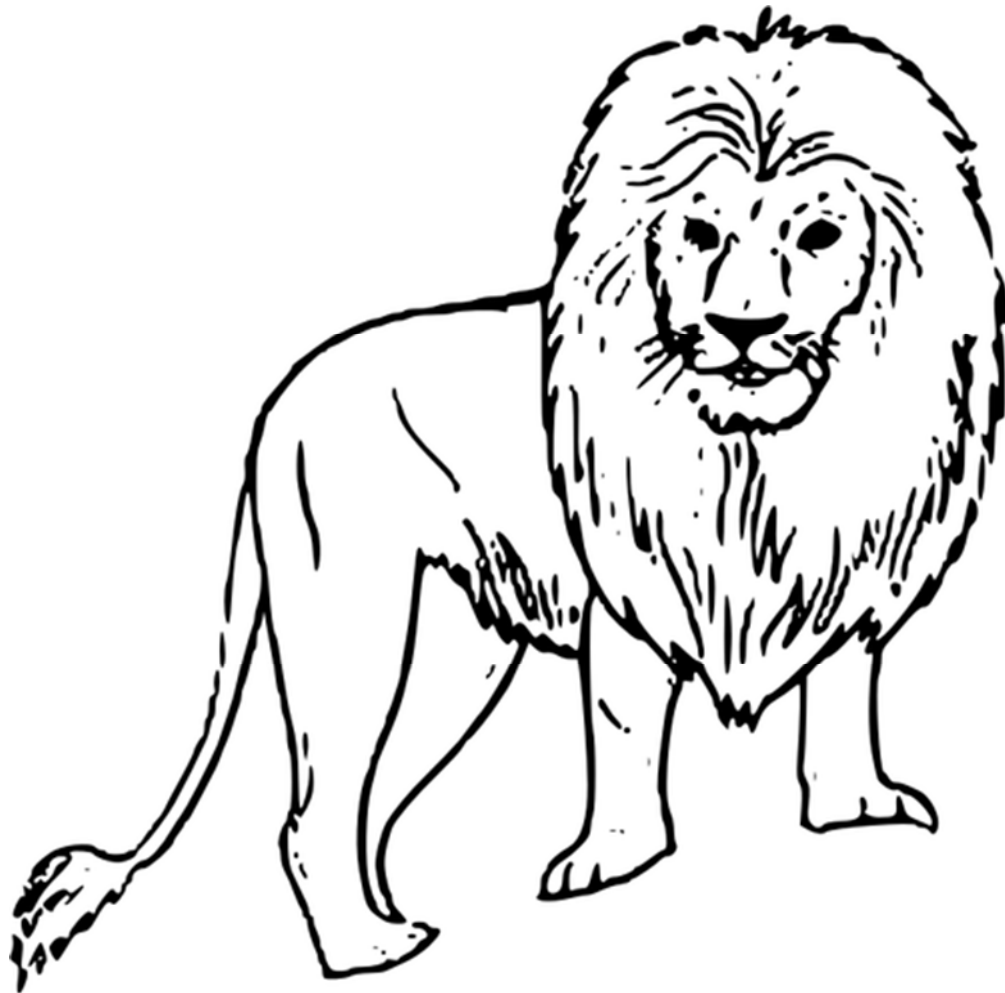
Go to this section: FAMILY LIFE

- 10) Find this part “How long a cub stays with mom depends on...” Which of the following is an important difference between male and female cubs when they’re two years old?
- They both become leaders of a pride
  - They only live one more year
  - Female lions (lionesses) can stay with the pride for a long time
  - Males live with their mothers forever

Go to this section: CONSERVATION

- 11) Read the first two paragraphs of this section. Which subspecies of lions has a higher population or more lions?
- Asian lions
  - African lions
- 12) Which of the following are threats to the African lion? (Circle **many**)
- Hunting
  - Loss of natural habitat
  - Ranchers poison them
  - Too many are taken to zoos
- 13) What does the sentences “movement between prides is becoming more limited” mean?
- Lions are visiting and mating with fewer other lion prides
  - It is easier for lions to visit other prides
  - Lions are lazier and are less able to visit other prides
  - Lions are becoming more aggressive and won’t let other lions visit

Color in your own African lion. Don't forget to give him or her a name, age, and favorite sport!



Your animal's name \_\_\_\_\_

Your animal's Age \_\_\_\_\_

Your animal's favorite treat \_\_\_\_\_

Is this animal a male or female? \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Key

- 1 B
- 2 D
- 3 C
- 4 B
- 5 B, C, D
- 6 B
- 7 B
- 8 B
- 9 D
- 10 C
- 11 B
- 12 A, B, C
- 13 A

## Glossary

<b>Feline</b> (Fee-line)	Scientific name for cat
<b>Subspecies</b> (Sub-spee-sees)	A kind or group of animals that is very similar or almost identical to another group of animals but is slightly different
<b>Pride</b> (Pry-d)	Eats a mixture of plants and animals
<b>Digest</b> (Dye-jest)	It can make you sick. Toxic. Poisonous