

Video
MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

Lions vs Cheetahs: Hunting Techniques

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<http://education.nationalgeographic.com/media/lions-vs-cheetahs-hunting-techniques/>

PROGRAM



QUESTIONS

- Why aren't cheetahs considered competitors of lions?
Lions are bigger than cheetahs, so it is easy for lions to steal meals from cheetahs. Lions can use their size, power, and strength to get food that they most likely would not have gone after themselves.
- What prey do lions hunt?
Lions hunt big animals such as buffalo, giraffe, wildebeest, and zebra.
- What prey do cheetahs hunt?
Cheetahs hunt small animals such as gazelles, hares, and impalas.
- Compare and contrast the hunting techniques of lions and the hunting techniques of cheetahs.
Cheetahs use their speed and nimbleness to take down faster and smaller animals. Lions use their power and strength to take down bigger animals. Cheetahs tend to catch 50% of all their prey, whereas lions do not catch their prey with nearly as much accuracy.

FAST FACTS

- Cheetahs do not roar like lions and other big cats do, but they do purr.
- In one stride, a cheetah can cover seven to eight meters (23 to 26 feet).
- Lions are the only cats that live in groups, called prides.
- Lions are the only cats that have a tuft of hair at the end of their tails.

For Further Exploration

Websites

- National Geographic Animals: African Lion
- National Geographic Animals: Big Cats Initiative
- IUCN: Red List of Threatened Species—Panthera leo
- National Geographic: Cheetah

- IUCN: Red list of Threatened Species—Acinonyx Jubatus



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