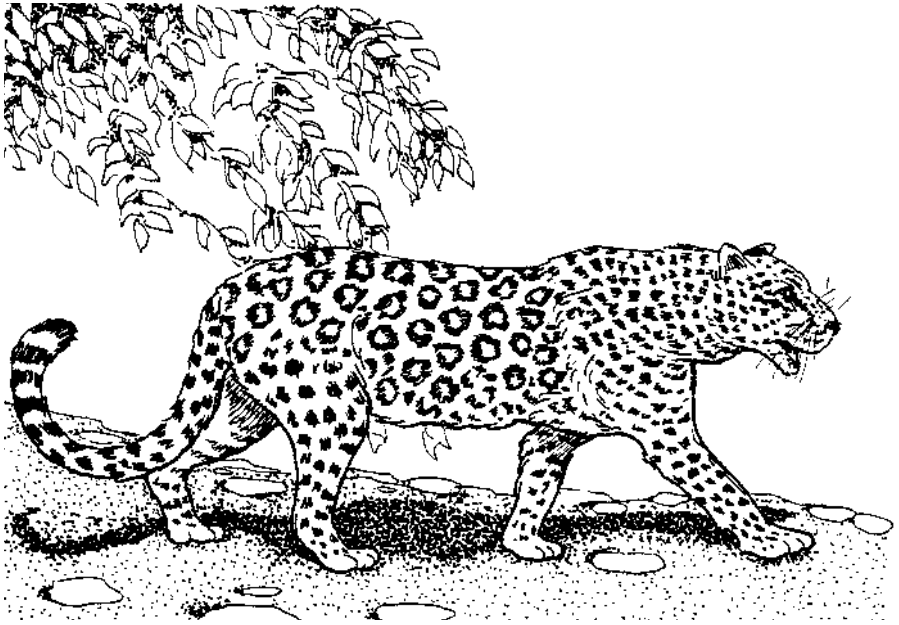


# Leopards





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By Marlene Custer

Illustrations: International Art of Reading 3.0

English

USA

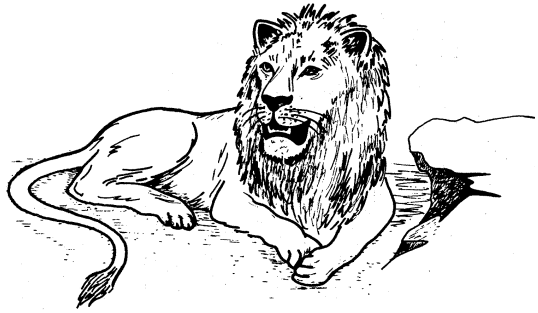
<http://www.kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/leopard>  
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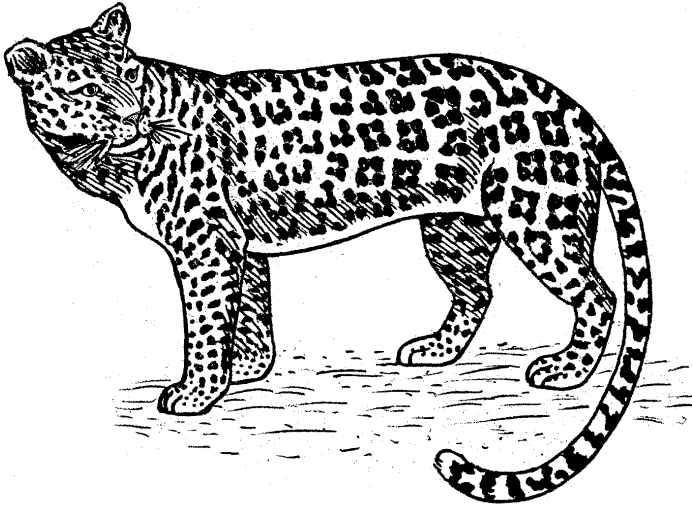
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Leopards belong to the 'big cat' family. 'Big cats' include lions, tigers, and panthers.

Leopards are colored much like tigers. But, instead of stripes, leopards have black spots on a tan background.

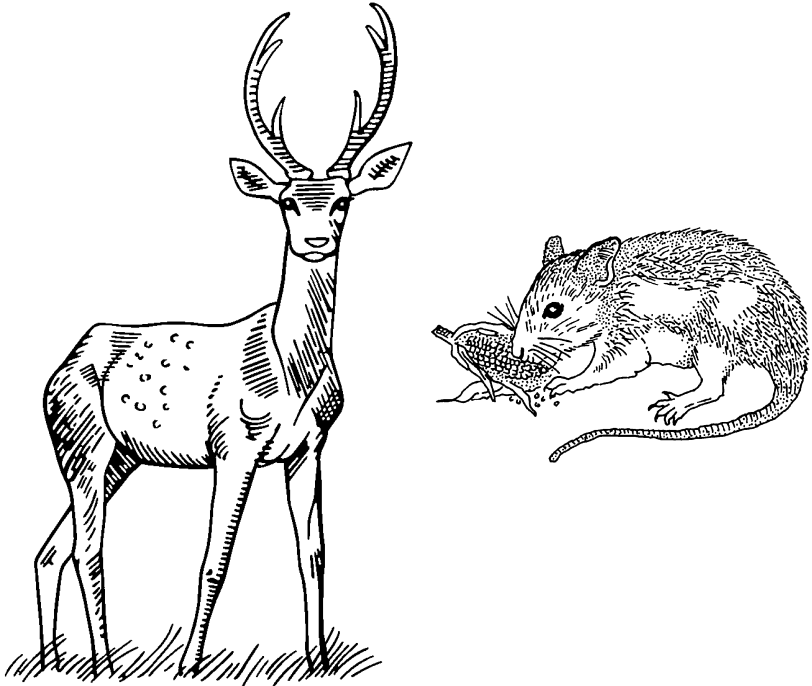


Leopards can run 58 km an hour,  
and weigh 50 - 90 kg.

They live 12-17 years in the grass-  
lands and deserts of Africa, India, and  
China. However, they have become  
endangered outside of Africa.

Leopards are carnivores, which means they are meat-eaters. They eat deer, rodents, and birds.

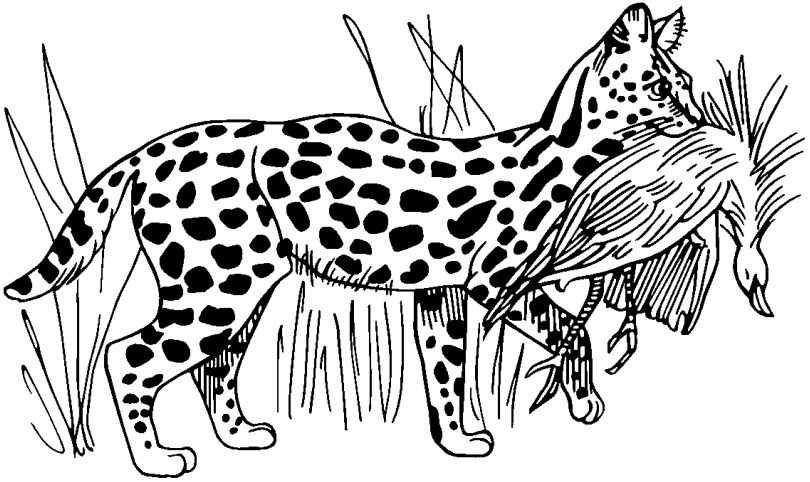
They are nocturnal animals. That means they are active at night.



Leopards like to climb trees. They often carry what they have killed up into a tree to eat it.



The roar of a leopard sounds like a handsaw cutting wood.



The mother leopard hides her cubs until they are old enough to hunt. They stay with their mother for about two years.



