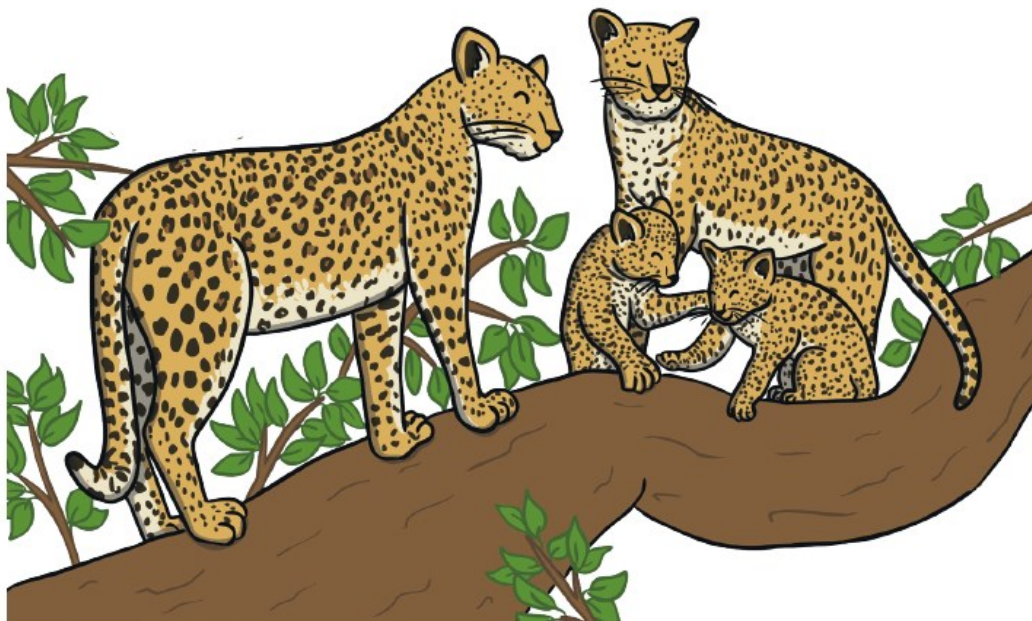


# All About Leopards

Leopards are part of the same family as domestic cats and share many similar features. For example, all cats are mammals and carnivores. Leopards, however, belong to a group known as 'big cats'. Big cats, such as leopards, tigers, lions, jaguars and cheetahs, are different from domestic cats because they are able to roar.

## Habitat

Leopards have adapted to many different habitats and therefore they can be found in many different parts of the world. Some live in rainforests, some mountains and some live in swamps! Sadly, however, most types of leopard are endangered in the wild. The most endangered is the Amur leopard of Russia; it is estimated that there are only about 70 adults alive today.



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# All About Leopards

## Diet

Being nocturnal, leopards' bodies are perfectly adapted to night-time hunting. They have a keen sense of hearing, excellent vision and their sensitive whiskers detect even tiny movements.

Leopards are skilled climbers and often pounce on their prey from the trees up above. Incredibly, they are strong enough to drag it back up into the branches!

Although leopards mainly hunt large mammals such as deer, they are different from other big cats because they will eat fish, birds, monkeys or even dung beetles if food is hard to find!



## Fun Facts

- Leopards don't just have babies in the spring. They can reproduce at any time of year!
- Leopards tend to live on their own in their own territories. However, they can communicate by leaving scent markings for other leopards to sniff!

## Did You Know...?

- Leopards spend most of the day asleep in trees or under sheltered rocks. Their camouflaged coat keeps them well hidden.
- Leopards have a long tail (as long as the rest of their body) to help them balance when climbing up high.
- The dark spots which cover a leopard's coat are called rosettes because they are rose-shaped.

# Questions

1. What can big cats do that domestic cats cannot? Tick **one**.

- Big cats can roar.
- Big cats eat meat.
- Big cats are mammals.

2. Look at the **Habitat** section. Fill in the missing words.

Leopards have \_\_\_\_\_ to many different \_\_\_\_\_ and therefore they can be \_\_\_\_\_ in many different parts of the \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Put ticks in the table to show which sentences are **true** and which are **false**.

Sentence	True	False
Leopards only live in one type of habitat.		
Some leopards live in rainforests.		
Most leopards are endangered.		
Only about 70 Amur leopard adults exist in the wild.		

4. Look at the **Fun Facts** section. **Find** and **copy** the word which means **have babies**.

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5. Look at the **Did You Know...?** section. Which part of the leopard's body helps it to balance?

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6. Describe how the diet of a leopard is different from the diet of other big cats.

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# Answers

1. What can big cats do that domestic cats cannot? Tick **one**.

- Big cats can roar.**
- Big cats eat meat.
- Big cats are mammals.

2. Look at the **Habitat** section. Fill in the missing words.

Leopards have **adapted** to many different **habitats** and therefore they can be **found** in many different parts of the **world**.

3. Put ticks in the table to show which sentences are **true** and which are **false**.

Sentence	True	False
Leopards only live in one type of habitat.		✓
Some leopards live in rainforests.	✓	
Most leopards are endangered.	✓	
Only about 70 Amur leopard adults exist in the wild.	✓	

4. Look at the **Fun Facts** section. **Find** and **copy** the word which means **have babies**.

**reproduce**

5. Look at the **Did You Know...?** section. Which part of the leopard's body helps it to balance?

**The leopard's long tail helps it to balance when climbing up high.**

6. Describe how the diet of a leopard is different from the diet of other big cats.  
**Leopards are different from other big cats because they can eat other animals such as fish, birds, monkeys or even dung beetles when there isn't much food around.**