

Wild Wonders:

Cheetah

A symphony of speed and
grace, the cheetah is one
cool cat!





Family Ties

It is the sole responsibility of the mother cheetah to care for the cubs and she is a devoted mother indeed. Cheetah moms safeguard their cubs from larger predators, teach them the art of the hunt and raise them to sub-adulthood for the first two years.

Cheetahs are normally solitary wildcats, with the exception of a mother with cubs, and the occasional coalition formed among cheetah brothers.



TEARS OF CLARITY

A cheetah's black tear lines streaking down her face are a brilliant adaptation to absorb the sun's rays and limit the glare that would otherwise effect her acute vision!





Every part of a cheetah is exceptionally well adapted for speed, from their long legs and flexible spine, to the long tail for counter-balance, and a huge heart and lungs for processing oxygen at high speeds!

The Need for Speed

A cheetah can reach a blazing top speed of 114 km/hr over a short distance, often enough to subdue their favoured prey of gazelles and impala.



A cheetah is shown in silhouette, sitting and looking towards the right. The background is a vibrant sunset with a bright sun low on the horizon, casting a warm orange and red glow. The cheetah's spots are faintly visible against the darker background.

Timing is Everything

Cheetahs are diurnal, which is necessary for their speedy hunting style, but also helps them reduce competition from lions, leopards and hyenas, which are most often nocturnal predators.



CHEETAH CONSERVATION

Cheetahs are an endangered species with their population falling to just 7,000 individuals across Africa. Important conservation groups like the Cheetah Conservation Fund & Panthera have dedicated staff that have worked diligently toward the conservation of this great cat and its habitat, in a critical role to stave off extinction.



WILD EXPOSURES