



LIONS



(800) 295-5010

Disney's ANIMAL WORLD

LIONS

Objectives

The student in grades K-2 will:

- Become familiar with the physical characteristics of lions
- Learn how lions adapt to their environment
- Be introduced to the behavior of lions and their offspring

Synopsis

Through live-action footage, students observe wild lions in Africa. Clips from Disney animated films such as *The Lion King* and *Lambert, the Sheepish Lion* further illustrate key facts about “the king of beasts.” Students learn about hard-working lionesses and how they raise their cubs, why male lions have manes, how they catch their prey—and much more. Two short, fun quizzes help students focus on what they’ve learned.

Preview Questions

1. What do you know about lions? What do they look like? Are they more like cats or dogs? In what part of the world do lions live? What do they eat? How do they get their food?
2. Do lions live alone or in “families”? What are baby lions called? How are male and female lions different from each other?

Suggested Activities

1. Remind students that lions belong to an animal group called “big cats.” Read them an illustrated picture book on big cats, such as *Really Big Cats* by Allan Fowler (Scholastic, 1998). Then work with them to make a list of big cats such as lions, leopards, tigers, panthers, and cheetahs. Have them dictate or write one fun fact about each cat. For example: A cheetah can run as fast as a car on the freeway. Students can draw pictures to illustrate their list of fun facts.
2. If some students have pet cats at home, ask them to observe their pet’s behavior for a few days. With the help of family members, they can answer questions such as: How does your cat keep itself clean? If it licks you, what does its tongue feel like? What does your cat do if it sees a bird or a bug? How much time does it spend taking naps? Is your cat curious? How does it show this? Back in class, use students’ “field research” to make a Venn diagram that compares the behavior of pet cats to that of lions.

Subject:
Science

Running Time:
16 minutes



3. Remind students that female lions are called lionesses and baby lions are called cubs. Work with them to make a chart such as the one below that tells special names for male, female, and baby animals.

Males	Females	Babies
lion	lioness	cub
stag	doe	fawn
bull	cow	calf

4. Have students recall that lion cubs drink their mothers' milk until they are ready to eat meat. Inform students that animals that feed milk to their babies are called mammals. Tell them that most mammals are furry and warm-blooded (their body temperatures remain relatively constant independent of environmental conditions). Provide students with copies of nature magazines such as *Ranger Rick*. Have them cut out photos of mammals and label them. Use their photos and labels to create a bulletin board display on mammals.
5. Point out that lions are meat eaters, or carnivores. Work with students to brainstorm a list of carnivores such as raptor dinosaurs, sharks, foxes, and polar bears. List their suggestions on the board. Then use the list to play the following "Mystery Meat Eater" guessing game: One player is "it." He or she chooses a carnivore from the list and gives the other players clues until they guess the mystery meat eater. For example, "I have white fur. Which meat eater am I?" The first player to guess the answer gets to be "it" next.
6. This episode of *Disney's Animal World* reveals that the manes of male lions help them look bigger so they can impress potential mates and scare other males away from their territory. Students might enjoy making lion masks with manes. Provide materials such as paper grocery bags, paper plates, craft sticks, construction and tissue paper, yarn, glue, colored markers, and glitter. You may want to print out lion mask templates from <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/Masklion.shtml>.

On the DVD

Scene Selection

The program on this DVD is divided into 5 chapters. This allows the user to enter at different points in the program.

- Chapter 1: King of Beasts
- Chapter 2: Quiz Time 1
- Chapter 3: Life in the Pride
- Chapter 4: Quiz Time 2
- Chapter 5: Roar!



DVD Activities

These classroom activities, found on the DVD, include relevant short scenes from the program.

Family Time

A family group of lions is called a pride. Use the library or Internet to find the names of other animal families. Draw pictures to go with the names.

Clever Hunter

How does the way a lion looks help it sneak up on its prey? Why is that ability helpful to the lion? Demonstrate how the lion moves.

Additional Resources

Disney Educational Productions

<http://www.Edustation.Disney.com>

This award-winning site contains additional activities and resources for use with this DVD.

African Wildlife Foundation

www.awf.org/content/wildlife/detail/lion

Facts and information about lions, plus links to information on how to conserve and preserve the lion population.

Danielle's Place

www.daniellesplace.com/HTML/lioncrafts.html

Several arts and crafts activities with a lion theme.

CyberSluth Kids

<http://cybersleuth-kids.com/sleuth/Science/Animals/Mammals/Lions/index.htm>

Various links to sites providing information, photos and more about lions.

