

## L for LION

Lions live in bush, grasslands, savannas and woodlands. The lion is a symbol of power, courage and nobility.



Look at this lion.  
He's very big.  
He's very strong.  
He is the king.

His tail is long,  
His jaws are grim.  
He has sharp teeth.  
Don't play with him!

Lions are the most social of all the cats and live in groups called prides.

There can be up to forty members in a pride.

In a pride, lions hunt prey, raise cubs, and defend their territory together.

A cub may nurse other females as well as its mother.

Hunting generally is done in the dark by lionesses.

Males eat first, then females, and cubs last.

A thirsty lion may drink for as long as 20 minutes.

Most lions drink water daily if available, but can go four or five days without it.

The main job of males is defending the pride's territory.

A male's loud roar, usually heard after sunset, can carry for as far as eight kilometers.

The term *King of the Beast* is misleading. A lion will run from many creatures, including elephants.