

Tigers



What is their habitat?

Tigers live in the continent Asia. They live in rainforests and swamps. In the rainforest there are many tall, thin trees with huge, leafy branches at the top – this makes the forest quite dark. In the trees live long-armed monkeys, squirrels and many colourful birds, including toucans. On the ground of the rainforest there are many leaves and small green bushes. Spotted deer, wild pigs and lizards live on the ground. There are many sapphire streams and sometimes small waterfalls where the tiger will drink from. The rainforest has exotic plants that have large flowers that are pink, orange and yellow.

Appearance

Tigers have large, heavy paws which each have 5 razor-sharp claws. They have a long, curved tail and a triangular shaped, soft pink nose with long sensitive whiskers on either side. Tigers have two large emerald green eyes. Their mouth is full of knife-like teeth with four huge teeth at the front called the canines. The bottom of a tiger's face and neck is covered with thick white fur. The rest of its fur is orange with bold, black stripes running down its body.

What do they eat?

Tigers are carnivores they eat monkeys, pigs, antelope, birds, buffalos and goats that they catch in the forest. Tigers stalk their prey – this means they creep up on them quietly and then attack them when they are close enough.



Family groups

Tigers do not live in groups they live on their own. Tigers each have a territory – this is an area of land that they hunt in. Tigers will fight with other tigers if they find them in their territory. Female tigers usually give birth to 2 or 3 cubs. When the cubs have learnt to hunt and look after themselves they leave their mother and go and find their own territory.

Predators

Tigers have no predators in the wild but they are hunted a lot by humans. Humans kill tigers for their skin and to use their body parts in medicine. Humans have hunted tigers so much that there are not many tigers left in the wild.

Did you know tigers are really good swimmers?