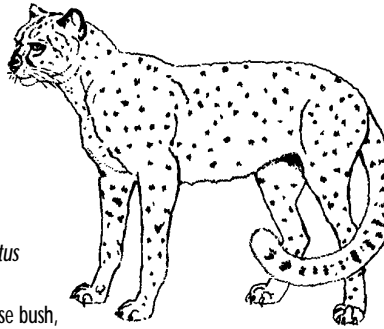


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CHEETAH



Scientific Name: *Acinonyx jubatus*

Cheetahs live in savanna and dense bush, and occasionally on the edges of forests. Their faces are marked by “tear stripes,” which run from the corner of the eyes down the sides of the nose. Their coats are tawny with small round black spots. They weigh 80 to 120 pounds.



STATUS: Highly endangered; only about 25,000 left in the wild.



DIET IN THE WILD: Gazelles, impala and wildebeest calves
ZOO DIET: Nebraska Feline diet



FUN FACTS: The cheetah is the only cat that cannot retract its claws, which give it traction and help it to maneuver. And its tail works as a rudder, moving from side to side as the cheetah twists and turns. The fastest animal on land, the cheetah can reach speeds of 60 to 70 mph during short sprints but then is exhausted.