

Name _____



Where Does a Cheetah Live?

Cheetahs are found mainly in Africa. They prefer open habitats where they can use their speed to hunt. The most common places to find cheetahs are grasslands, savannas, and open plains. These areas provide the space cheetahs need to run at high speeds while chasing prey.

Grasslands and savannas are perfect for cheetahs because they have plenty of sunlight and low vegetation. The open space allows cheetahs to spot prey from far away and begin their chase. These habitats also provide enough cover, like tall grass, for cheetahs to stay hidden while stalking their prey.

While most cheetahs live in Africa, small populations can also be found in parts of Iran. However, the cheetah population there is very small, and they are considered critically endangered.

Cheetahs avoid dense forests and deserts. Forests are too crowded with trees, making it hard for cheetahs to run at full speed. Deserts, on the other hand, lack the food and water cheetahs need to survive.

In the wild, cheetahs face challenges such as losing their habitats due to human development. Conservation groups work hard to protect grasslands and savannas so cheetahs can continue to thrive.