

Name \_\_\_\_\_



### What Does a Cheetah Eat?

Cheetahs are carnivores, which means they eat only meat. They are known for being skilled hunters that rely on their speed and sharp senses to catch their food. Cheetahs mainly hunt medium-sized animals such as gazelles, impalas, and springboks.

These animals are fast, but cheetahs

can outrun them in short bursts, reaching speeds of up to 70 miles per hour.

When hunting, a cheetah uses its excellent eyesight to spot prey from a distance. It then creeps closer, staying low to the ground to avoid being seen. Once it is close enough, the cheetah sprints after the prey. If successful, the cheetah trips the animal with its front paw and then bites its neck to finish the hunt.

Cheetahs often hunt during the daytime to avoid larger predators like lions and hyenas, which hunt at night. After making a catch, the cheetah must eat quickly before scavengers arrive to steal its food. Cheetahs do not have the strength to defend their meal against bigger predators.

Although cheetahs are powerful hunters, they face challenges in the wild. Their habitats are shrinking, and prey animals are becoming harder to find in some areas. Conservation efforts aim to protect these animals and ensure they have enough food and space to survive.