

Name _____

What Do Leopards Eat?



Leopards are carnivores, which means they eat meat. As powerful hunters, they have a varied diet that helps them survive in the wild. Leopards mainly hunt medium-sized animals such as deer, antelope, and wild boars. They can also catch smaller animals like rabbits, birds, and even reptiles when larger prey is scarce.

Leopards are solitary hunters, which means they usually hunt alone. They use their excellent sense of sight and hearing to spot prey from a distance. Leopards are known for their stealth and patience. They often stalk their prey quietly, getting as close as possible before making a sudden, powerful leap to catch it.

One unique behavior of leopards is their ability to climb trees with their prey. After catching their food, they may carry it high into the branches. This helps protect their meal from other predators such as lions and hyenas, who might try to steal it.

Leopards are also opportunistic hunters, meaning they can adapt to what food is available. In some areas, they may hunt fish or scavenge leftovers from other animals' kills. This flexibility makes them successful in many habitats, including forests, grasslands, and mountains.

Sadly, leopards face challenges when it comes to finding food. Habitat loss due to human development can reduce their access to prey. Conservation efforts help protect these magnificent animals and ensure they have enough food to survive in the wild.