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Tiger Time: Daily Habits and Behaviors



Tigers are fascinating animals with unique daily habits and behaviors. These big cats are mostly nocturnal, meaning they are active at night. During the day, tigers often rest in the shade or near water to stay cool. Twilight, the time just before sunrise and sunset, is another period when tigers may hunt or patrol their territory.

Tigers are solitary creatures, which means they prefer to live and hunt alone. Unlike lions, which live in groups called prides, tigers rarely interact with others except during mating season or when a mother is raising her cubs. Each tiger has its own territory, which it marks using scratches on trees or spraying scent to let other tigers know to stay away. These territories can be very large, depending on how much food and space the tiger needs.

Even though tigers are mostly solitary, they can communicate with other tigers in several ways. They roar to signal their presence or warn others to stay out of their territory. Tigers also use body language, such as showing their teeth or flattening their ears, to express their feelings. When a mother tiger is with her cubs, she teaches them how to hunt and survive by demonstrating behaviors they need to learn.

Hunting is one of a tiger's most important daily activities. As skilled predators, they use their sharp senses to find and catch prey. Tigers can spend hours stalking their prey and prefer to hunt during the cooler hours of twilight or nighttime. After catching a meal, they often drag their food to a safe place to eat it without being disturbed.

Tigers also spend time grooming themselves, much like house cats do. Grooming keeps their fur clean and healthy, which is especially important in the wild. These daily habits and behaviors help tigers survive in their natural habitats and remain at the top of the food chain.