

# Lion Lapbook

# Lions Lapbook Research & Lessons

research and mini-books by Helen Royston and Ami Brainerd

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## Classification

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Carnivora

Family: Felidae

Genus: Panthera

Species: *Panthera leo*

*Lapbook Component: Classification Accordion*

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## Anatomy

A lion's body is muscular and compact with powerful forelegs. The combination of these physical features with the sharp teeth and strong jaws makes them perfectly designed for pulling down and killing prey. They have yellow-gold coats; adult males have darker colored, long, shaggy manes. Cubs (especially in Africa) have light spots on their coats that disappear at around the age of 3 months.

Male lions grow larger than females, reaching up to ten feet (3m) long, a foot (30 cm) longer than females. The tail measures 2 to 3 feet (60 – 90 cm) in length. Male lions weigh between 330 and 530 pounds, while females weigh between 270 and 300 pounds. At the shoulder, lions stand between three and a half (105cm) and four feet (120cm) tall.

*Lapbook Components:*

*Male vs. Female Shutterfold*

*Looking Like a Lion Tri-fold*

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## Distribution

Lions can be found in Africa and India.

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### Habitat & Population

A lion might be known as a king of the jungle, but do lions really live in jungles? (No!) Lions can be found in savanna grasslands shaded by scattered Acacia trees in Africa. Whereas in India, they live in dry savanna forest and very dry deciduous scrub forest. They live in a lion sanctuary in Gujarat. The Asiatic lion population is approximately 250 mature breeding individuals. They are critically endangered. African lions number about 20,000

*Lapbook Component: Finding Lions Flap*

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### Life in the Pride:

A "pride of lions" is the name given to a group of lions which could be anywhere between 3 and 40 lions, of which no more than 2 will be male. The females are all related and are the permanent members of the group. Males only stay from 2 to 4 years before another male ousts them. The new male will kill the cubs already in the pride.

*Lapbook Component: A Pride of Lions Simple Fold*

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### Prey:

Lions are at the top of the African food chain; they are the largest carnivores in Africa and hunt at dawn and at dusk. When a lion is chasing prey, it can run the length of a football field in six seconds! A lion's eyes have a horizontal streak of nerve cells, which improves their vision following prey across a plain. Lions normally feast on antelopes, zebras, wildebeest, impala, giraffe, buffalo and wild hogs. Occasionally, a lion will eat rhinos, hippos, hares, birds and reptiles. If food is scarce, a lion will even attack an elephant.

*Lapbook Component: Dinner at Dawn and Dusk Flap Book*

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## Who's Who in the Lion Family:

male = lion

female = lioness

baby = cub

Males defend the pride's territory which they mark with urine and by roaring. Their roar can be heard for 5 miles.

Females do the hunting, bringing the meat back to the pride. Since they are smaller and lighter than males (agile and faster), they are better equipped to hunt. They hunt in groups of 2-3. The smaller lionesses do the chasing while the heavier lionesses do the capturing. This helps them catch large animals such as wildebeest. Lionesses can switch hunting jobs depending on which females are hunting that day and what kind of prey it is. The males get the biggest share of the food, hence "the lion's share". Cubs get only leftover scraps; consequently, many cubs die of starvation.

Cubs begin hunting at 11 months of age but remain with their mothers for 2 years; they have a lot to learn in this time. If a cub is born in a pride, it can nurse from any adult lioness in the pride. Cubs born in a pride are twice as likely to survive as cubs born to a lioness on her own. Female cubs stay with their mother's pride and learn to hunt.

*Lapbook Component: Who's Who in the Lion Family Window Book (older option),  
Family Names Flap (younger option)*

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## Reproduction:

Lionesses generally have a litter every two years. A litter can be from one to five cubs. Gestation is three and a half months. Cubs are born blind; their eyes open at 6 weeks. They start eating meat at three months, but continue to nurse until they are six months old.

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## A Lion's Life:

Lions only spend a small time hunting. A lion's life is mostly filled with sleeping, napping, and resting! In fact, a lion might be found lying around for 21 hours each



day. Since lion's are good climbers, they are often found resting in trees.

*Lapbook Component: Lion's Lying Around Simple Fold*

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Facts:

They can run at speeds up to 50mph (81 kmph).

They reach full size at 6 years old.

They are the only felines (cats) to have a tuft at the end of their tails.

Male lions are the only cats to have a mane.

*Lapbook Component: My Book of Lion Facts*

*Choose one of the printables for copywork practice.*

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Life Span:

In captivity lions can live up to 25 years, whereas lions in the wild live only about 15. Threats to lions include agricultural expansion, human population growth, hunting and poaching by livestock ranchers.

*Lapbook Component: Lifespan Shutterfold*

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Lions in the Bible:

Memory Verse- Proverbs 28:1

*Lapbook Component: Proverbs 28:1 Simple Fold*

Bible Story- Daniel in the Lions' Den

*Lapbook Component: Daniel 6:4-27 Fan Book*

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Library List

[Aesops Fables](#)-- The Mouse and the Lion & Androcles and the Lion

*Tawny Scrawny Lion*

[Dandelion](#) by Don Freeman

[The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe](#) (and other Narnia books) by C.S. Lewis

*Lions at Lunchtime* from Magic Treehouse Books

*Andy and the Lion* by Jame Daugherty  
*The Lion's Share* by Matthew Mcelligot  
*The Butterfly Lion* by Micheal Morpurgo  
*Lazy Lion* (African animal tales) by Mwenge Hadithi  
*Lions* (Zoobooks)  
*Lions* by Sally Morgan

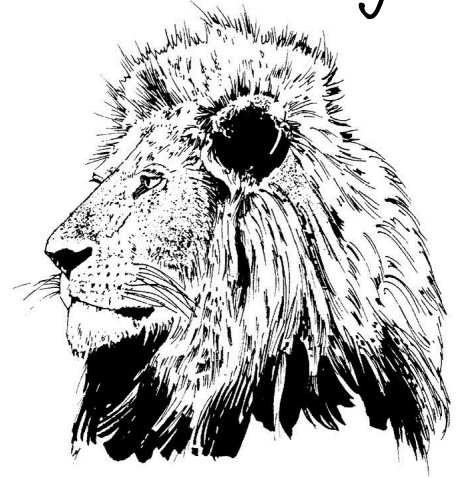
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Anatomy



Looking  
Like a Lion



Cut out book as one piece.  
Tri-fold. Write anatomy  
facts inside the book.

Why Can't a  
Lion Be King of  
the Jungle?



Cut out top portion as one piece. Cut out long rectangle with an exacto knife. Cut out bottom portion as one piece. Cut on orange lines. Roll up bottom portion and stick them through the rectangle on the top portion.

# My Little Book of Lion Facts



Family
Order
Class
Phylum
Kingdom

Species
Genus
Glue to the back of the first strip.

Cut out shapes on solid black lines. Glue as indicated. Fold on dotted lines like an accordion (back and forth, back and forth).

Who's Who  
in the  
Lion Family

COVER

Window book with 4 windows.

-----  
Indicates valley  
fold.

-----  
Indicates mountain  
fold.

Before cutting, use a pencil to lightly label/number the pages according to the numbers in the margin. Later you can erase these marks.

Cut on solid lines; fold on dotted lines.

BACK



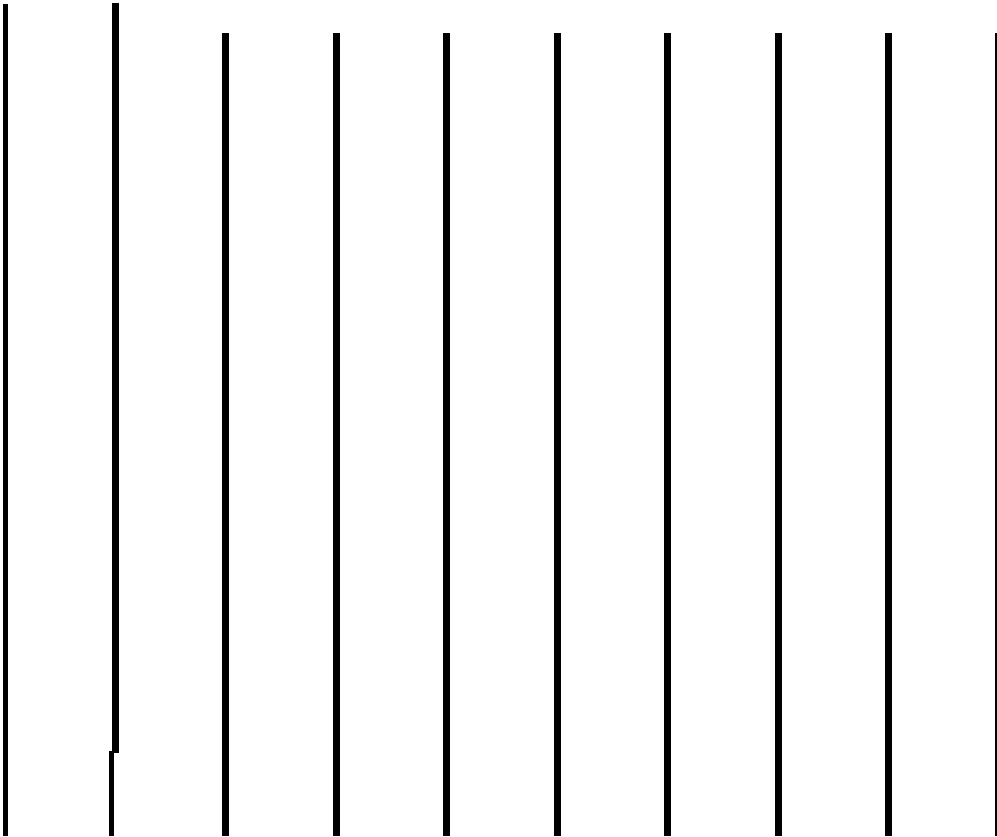
# The Cup

PAGE 6

GLUE THIS PAGE  
TO INSIDE OF  
COVER/BACK.

-----  
Indicates valley  
fold.

PAGE 1





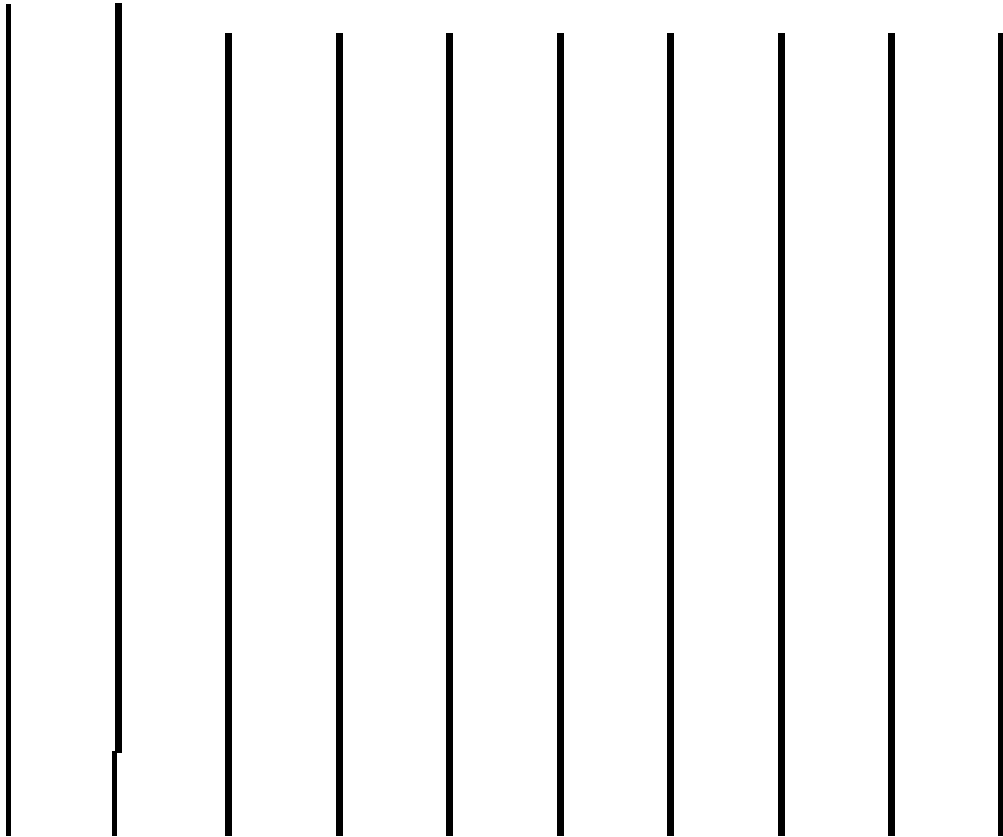
# The Lion

PAGE 2

-----  
Indicates valley fold.

-----  
Indicates mountain fold.

PAGE 5







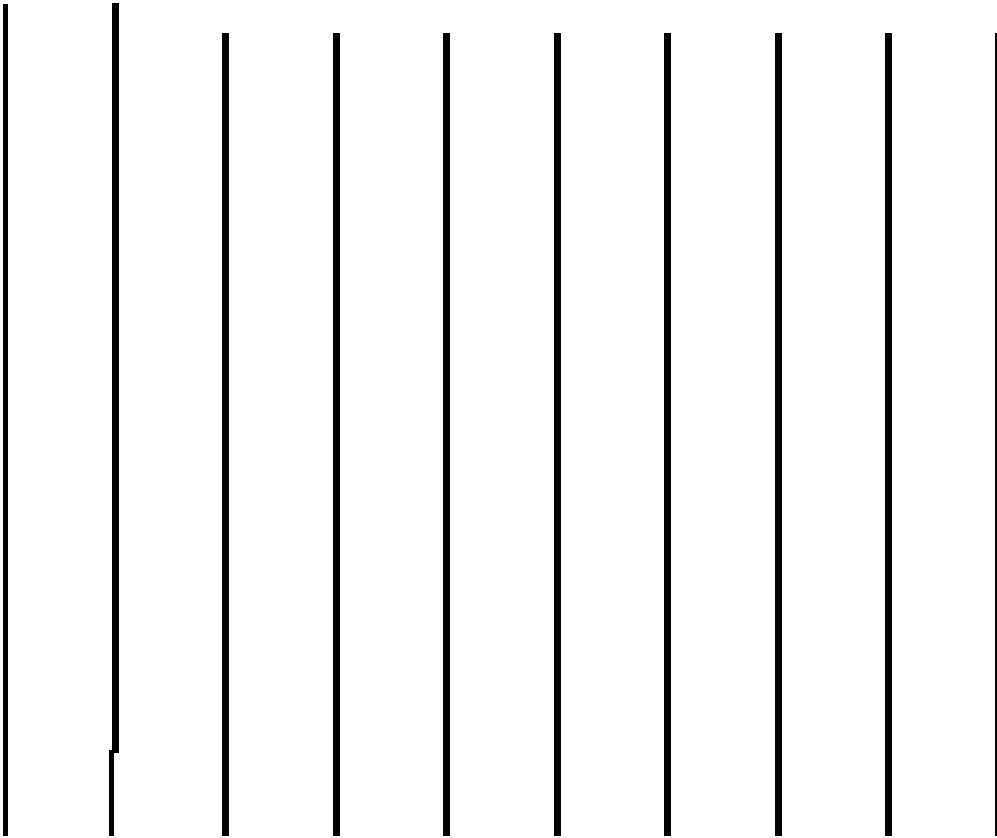
# The Lioness

PAGE 4

GLUE THIS SHEET TO INSIDE OF PP 2/5.

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Indicates valley fold.

PAGE 3





1st window picture



## Pictures for windows.

Your student could sketch her own instead of using these.

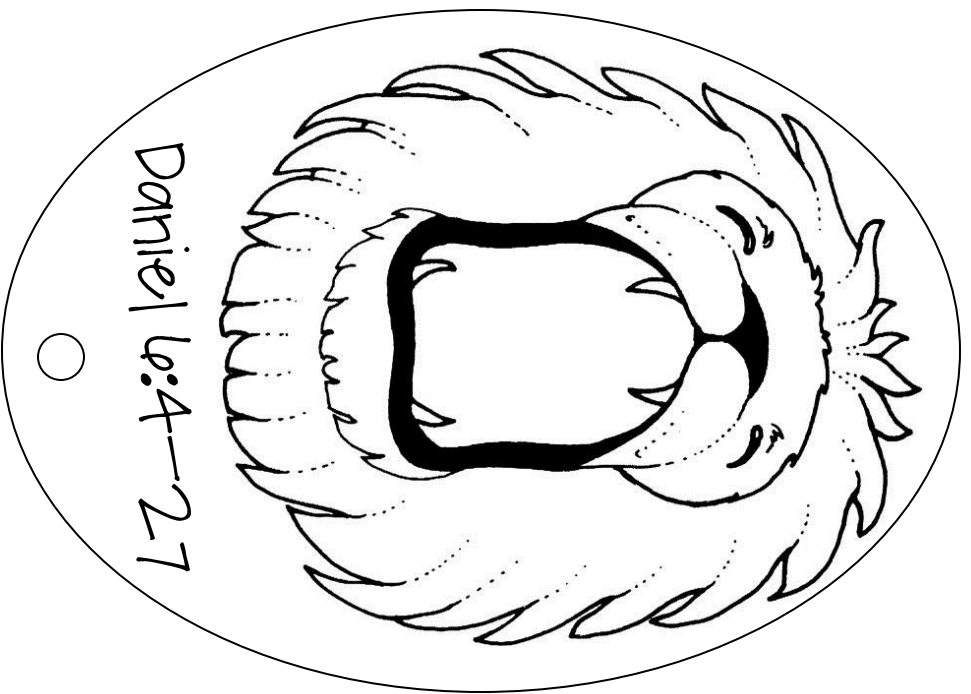
The wicked  
man flees  
though no one  
pursues, but  
the righteous  
are bold as a  
lion.

The wicked  
man flee when  
no man  
pursueth:  
but the  
righteous are  
bold as a lion.



Proverbs 28:1

Cut book out as one piece. Fold in half. Paste or write verse to the inside.



**PRINT ON CARDSTOCK.** Cut out three pieces. Write a narration of the Bible story on the pieces. Stack together with cover on top and secure with a brad as indicated.

Male Lion Height		Female Lion Height
Male Lion Weight		Female Lion Weight

Cut out rectangle as one piece. Cut dotted lines. Fold outside flaps in (on grey lines). You will have four different sections to write on.

African  
Lion  
Habitat

Asian  
Lion  
Habitat



# Finding Lions


Cut book out as one piece. Fold top under. Fold bottom under. Open book. Cut on solid black lines to form two flaps. Refold so that the cover is on the front. Your student can use the spaces to write the habitats that lions live in as well as the number of lions left (250 Asiatic lions, 20,000 African lions).

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*This is an option for younger students. Older students can use the Who's Who in the Lion Family? window book instead.*

Cut out book as one piece. Fold left side under. Fold right side under (it is the cover). Unfold book.  
Cut on the two lines between the names to form three flaps.

male		
female		
baby		

Cut out book as one piece. Fold left side in. Fold right side in. Open book. Cut on dotted line to form four flaps. Refold book.

[www.homeschoolshare.com](http://www.homeschoolshare.com)

What does a  
lion normally  
eat?

What does a  
lion occasionally  
eat?

What does a  
lion eat when  
food is scarce?

Dinner  
at

Dusk  
and


Dawn






Cut book out as one piece. Fold in half. Write about the pride and how it operates.

A  
PRIDE  
of Lions




Cut book out as one piece. Fold outer flaps under. You should have two sections to open up and write on once the book is folded.



Lifespan in the Wild

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Lifespan in Captivity





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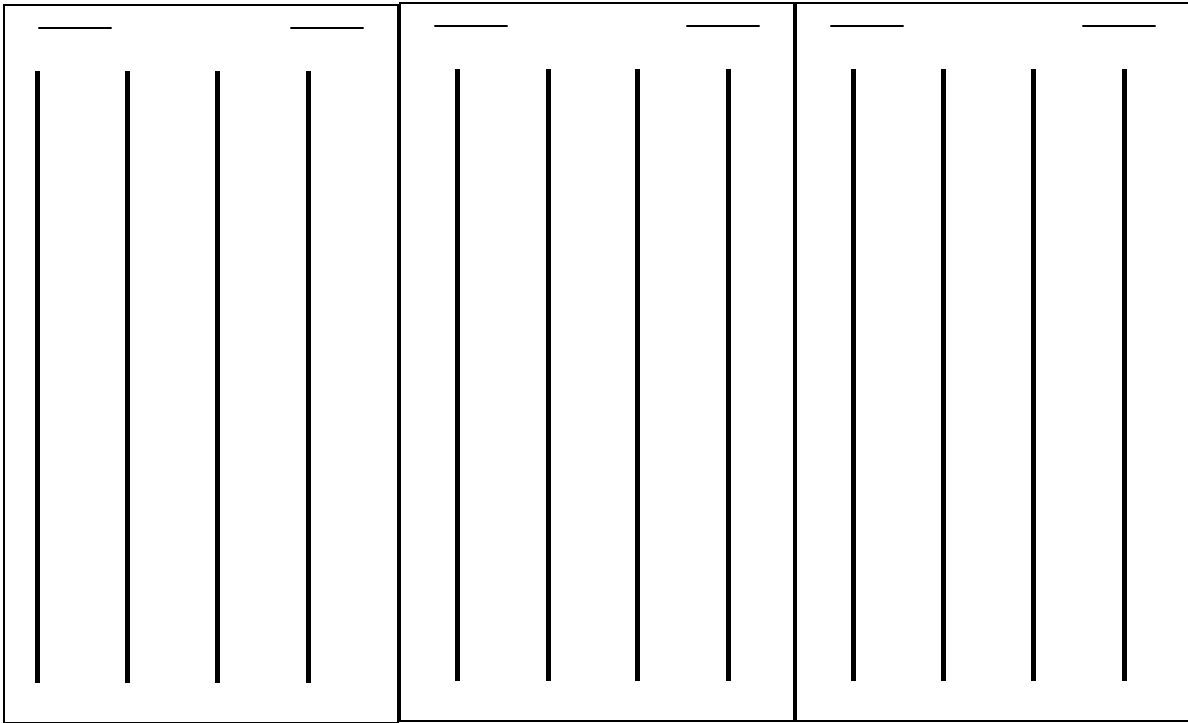
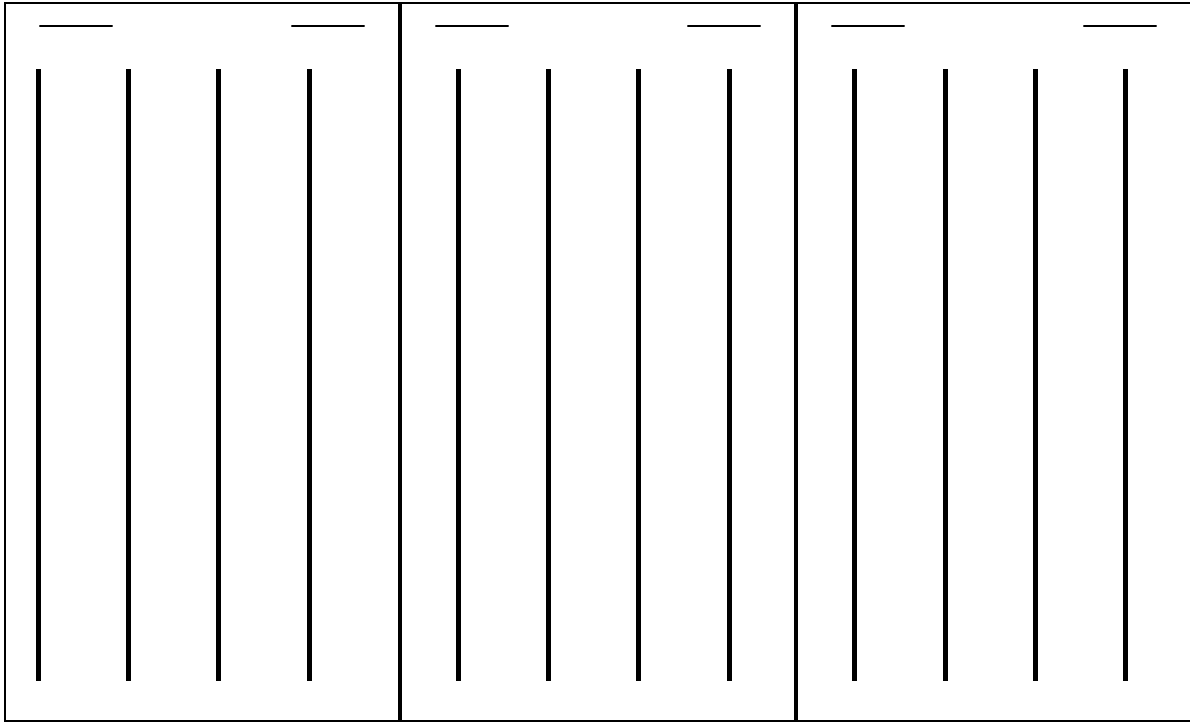
New Words



_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



Lions live on  
the savanna.

There are only  
about 300 lions  
in India.

Most lions  
live in Africa.

Lions live on  
the savanna.

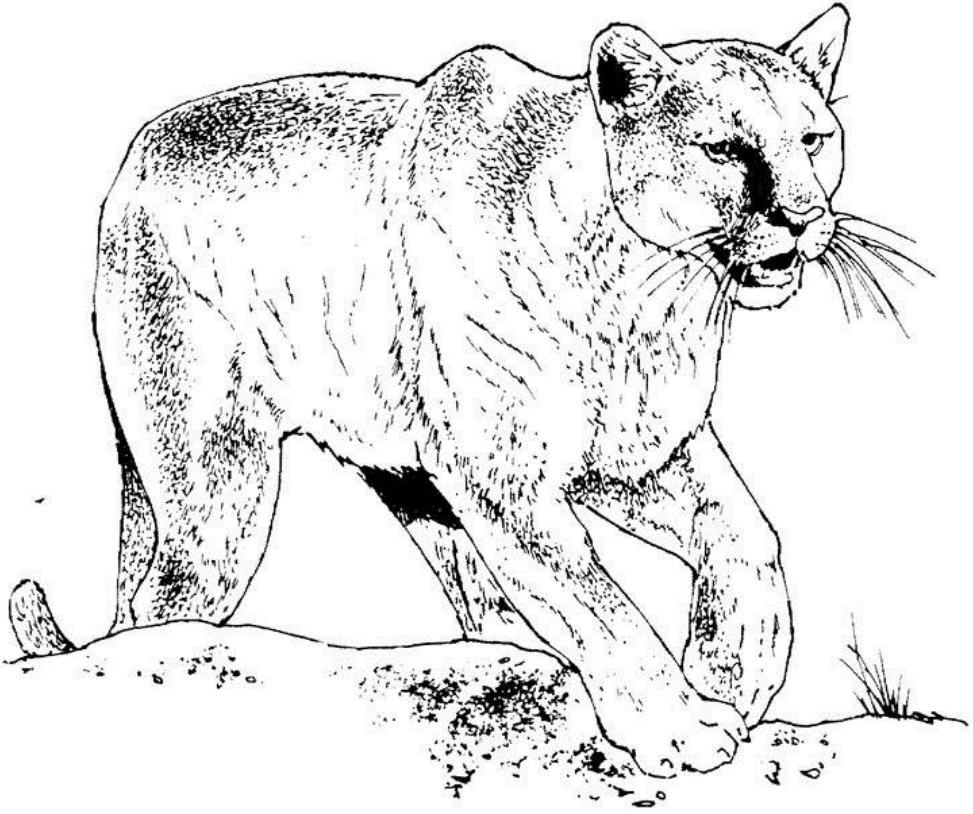
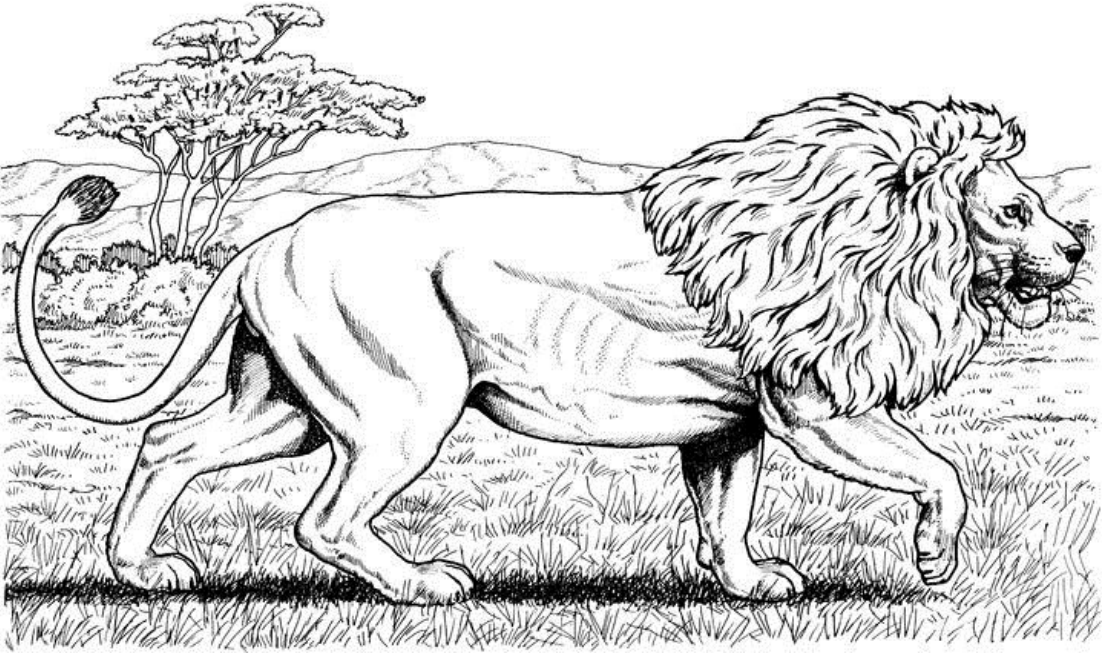
There are only  
about 100 lions  
in India.

Most lions  
live in Africa.

Lions live on  
the savanna.

There are only  
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Most lions  
live in Africa.



Coloring images for older students. Use to decorate your lapbook or use images as the covers of additional mint books.