

## Play Hard

Whether chasing each other, play fighting, or attacking Mom's head, cheetah cubs love to play! Playing is more than just fun, though—it's also serious business. Playing helps cubs develop coordination and timing. It also teaches them lessons such as stalking, chasing, and **pouncing**—skills they'll need later in life to become good hunters.



CUTE  
HAT!



## Be a Copycat

In order to learn important life lessons, cheetah cubs watch their mom and copy what she does. For example, adult cheetahs spend a lot of time staring at the **horizon** watching for prey or predators. They can see as well as a person looking through binoculars. The cubs learn by watching their mom, so they stare, too. When the cubs are the right age, their mom starts taking them on hunting trips. They watch her to learn what to do; then, they begin practicing themselves.





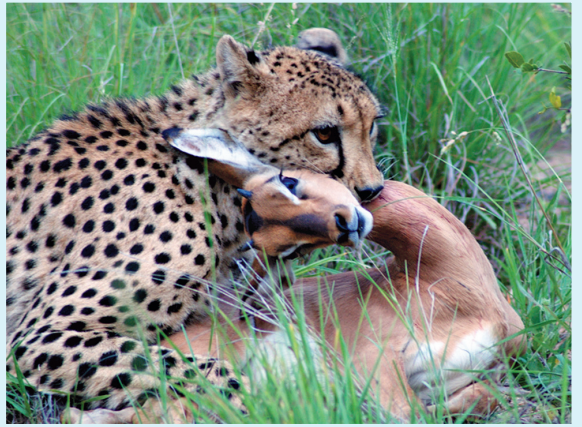
# Move Like a Ninja

Speed is only part of what makes a cheetah a good hunter. This cat has to be sneaky, too. A cheetah can chase prey at top speed for only a short distance, so it needs to get as close to the prey as possible before attacking it.



First, the cheetah stalks the animal, approaching slowly while staying close to the ground. Then, when the cheetah is close enough, it zooms after the prey. As it overtakes the animal, the cheetah reaches out a paw and trips it. It then bites the animal's throat, bringing it down to the ground quickly.





AFTER A CHASE,  
A CHEETAH NEEDS TO  
REST FOR UP TO HALF  
AN HOUR!

