

What Are Tigers Like?

(Story words: tiger, pounds, orange, yellow, per, sound, born)

Tigers are the biggest of the cats. Some tigers are more than 600 pounds! Because of their size, a tiger can consume more than 80 pounds of meat in one meal.

Unlike most cats, tigers like the water. A tiger will go for a swim just for a refreshing dip. Unlike a bobcat who needs a den to sleep in, a tiger will sleep right out in the open in the grass or on top of a rock. A tiger may feel that he has no one to fear. Tigers are most active at night, when the heat of the sun is not as intense. In the daytime they are quiet unless they are hunting.

Tigers are known for their stripes. Many tigers are reddish-orange with black stripes. Even the skin of a tiger is striped. Most tigers have yellow eyes, but white tigers have blue eyes.

If humans come upon a tiger, they should not run away. Like all cats, tigers love a chase. Because tigers can reach speeds of 40 miles per hour, they can outrun any human. Tigers do not like blaring sounds and are afraid of fire. Humans may use fire and sound to scare them off.

Tiger cubs are born blind and helpless and will spend two years being cared for by their mothers. After that, tigers spend most of their lives alone. The lifespan of a tiger in the wild is 10-15 years. The lifespan of a house cat is 10-15 years too.