

National Geographic Kids Reader: Wild Cats

Notes for parents: reading this book with your child

- Before you share this book, look at the front cover and talk about what you can see in the picture. Discuss any prior knowledge your child has about wild cats, remembering any visits to the zoo or wildlife films/stories/other books about wild cats that they know.
- Show your child how to use the special information book features in this book, like the contents and glossary. Explain that the contents are used to organise and find information, and that the glossary helps us to understand new words.
- Here are some ways you can help your child as they learn to read:
 - Read the book together, enjoying finding out about the wild cats.
 - Help your child to read and say any unfamiliar wild cat names, as they meet them in the book: *Jaguar, Serval, Cheetahs, Margays, Snow Leopard, Eurasian Lynx, Canada Lynx, Cougar, Feral Cat, Bob Cat, Iberian Lynx, Masai*.
 - Talk about how wild cats are different to domestic cats.
 - Help children with any unfamiliar words. Encourage them to use phonics and existing word knowledge to try to work the word out. Even if they can't sound out the whole word, they may be able to sound out part of it, and this may help them read the word.
 - Encourage them to look carefully at the pictures and labels and to talk about what they can see.
 - Give them lots of praise and encouragement as they tackle new words.
- Discuss which wild cat is your child's favourite and why. Help them to explain their reasons, re-reading for key facts that support their ideas.

Pronunciation guide: Iberian (*ih-beer-y-an*), Masai (*Mas-eye*)