

DONALD SETH CHIWETEL ALFRE BILLY JOHN JOHN WITH AND  
GLOVER ROGEN EJIOFOR WOODARD EICHNER KANI OLIVER BEYONCÉ KNOWLES-CARTER JAMES EARL  
JONES



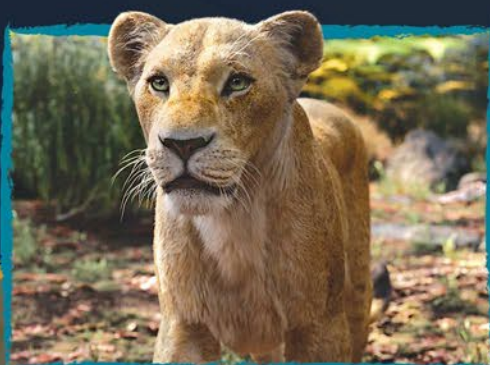
Disney

THE  
LION KING

JULY 19

**ACTIVITY PACKET**

Created in Partnership with Disney's Animals, Science and Environment

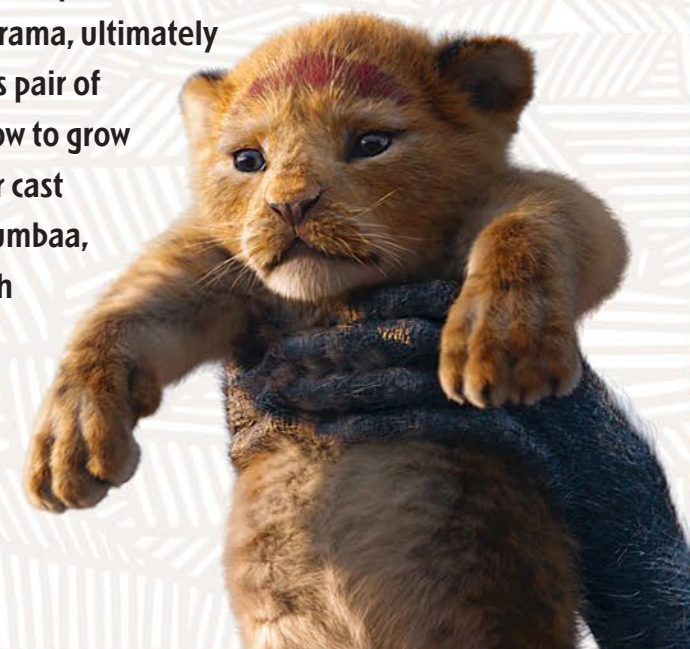


Disney

# THE LION KING

JULY 19

Disney's "The Lion King," directed by Jon Favreau, journeys to the African savanna where a future king is born. Simba idolizes his father, King Mufasa, and takes to heart his own royal destiny. But not everyone in the kingdom celebrates the new cub's arrival. Scar, Mufasa's brother—and former heir to the throne—has plans of his own. The battle for Pride Rock is ravaged with betrayal, tragedy and drama, ultimately resulting in Simba's exile. With help from a curious pair of newfound friends, Simba will have to figure out how to grow up and take back what is rightfully his. The all-star cast includes Donald Glover as Simba, Seth Rogen as Pumbaa, Chiwetel Ejiofor as Scar, Billy Eichner as Timon, with Beyoncé Knowles-Carter as Nala and James Earl Jones as Mufasa. Utilizing pioneering filmmaking techniques to bring treasured characters to life in a whole new way, Disney's "The Lion King" roars into theaters on July 19, 2019.



DISNEY PRESENTS "THE LION KING" A FAIRVIEW ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION A JON FAVREAU FILM DONALD GLOVER SETH ROGEN CHIWETEL EJIOFOR ALFRE WOODARD BILLY EICHNER  
WITH BEYONCÉ KNOWLES-CARTER AND JAMES EARL JONES ORIGINAL MUSIC BY HANS ZIMMER ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY BY TIM RICE AND ELTON JOHN VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR ROBERT LEGATO, ASC ADAM VALDEZ ANIMATION SUPERVISOR ANDREW R. JONES  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TOM PETTZMAN JULIE TAYMOR PRODUCED BY JON FAVREAU p.g.a. JEFFREY SILVER p.g.a. KAREN GILCHRIST p.g.a.  
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EDITED BY MARK LIVOLSI, A.C.E. ADAM GERSTEL  
PRODUCTION DESIGNER JAMES CHINLUND  
SCREENPLAY BY JEFF NATHANSON  
PG PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED  
IN REAL D 3D AND IMAX  
Disney



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THE  
**LION KING**  
PROTECT THE PRIDE

In celebration of the release of Disney's *The Lion King*, The Walt Disney Company is proud to announce a global conservation campaign to raise awareness and help protect the dwindling lion population across Africa. In the last 25 years, half of Africa's lions have disappeared. Lions face rising threats, such as destruction of habitats, loss of prey and poaching. However, research shows the lion population can recover.

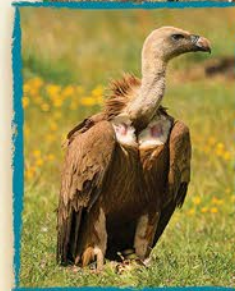
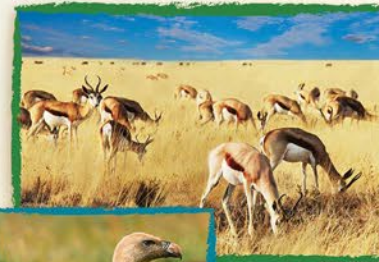
Find out more about Disney's ongoing global conservation efforts at:

[www.thewaltdisneycompany.eu/TheLionKingProtectthePride](http://www.thewaltdisneycompany.eu/TheLionKingProtectthePride)

LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN HELP PROTECT ANIMALS ON PAGE 9

# "WE ARE ALL CONNECTED IN THE GREAT CIRCLE OF LIFE..."

Sitting atop an overlook, the wise King Mufasa once shared this impactful lesson with his son and future heir Simba as they gazed across the sun-streaked



boundaries of their kingdom. Everything they looked upon—from the vast herds of antelope grazing on endless grasslands, to the rivers teeming with storks and hippos, even the ants

marching single file along the dirt—existed together in a delicate balance throughout the African savanna. No matter their size, each animal plays an important role in shaping its environment. Predators feed on prey, scavengers clear out disease and decomposers break down waste. Within

this circle, every living thing depends on one another for survival and a healthy ecosystem.

We, as humans, also play a critical role in the circle of life, as our actions have enormous impacts on the natural

environment. Human population growth, demand for land and poaching have greatly diminished the numbers of some of the most iconic species found in Africa. In the last 25 years alone, half of the world's lions have been lost with only 20,000 individuals remaining from a population of 200,000 a century ago. Though these numbers may seem daunting,

we are all citizens and caretakers of the planet, and together, through creative problem-solving and awareness, we can help protect these magnificent animals and the place we all call home. The positive actions you take, both big and small, can help make a difference for lions and communities across Africa.

Discover how you can *Protect the Pride* in the pages ahead and don't miss "The Lion King" when it roars into theaters July 19th.

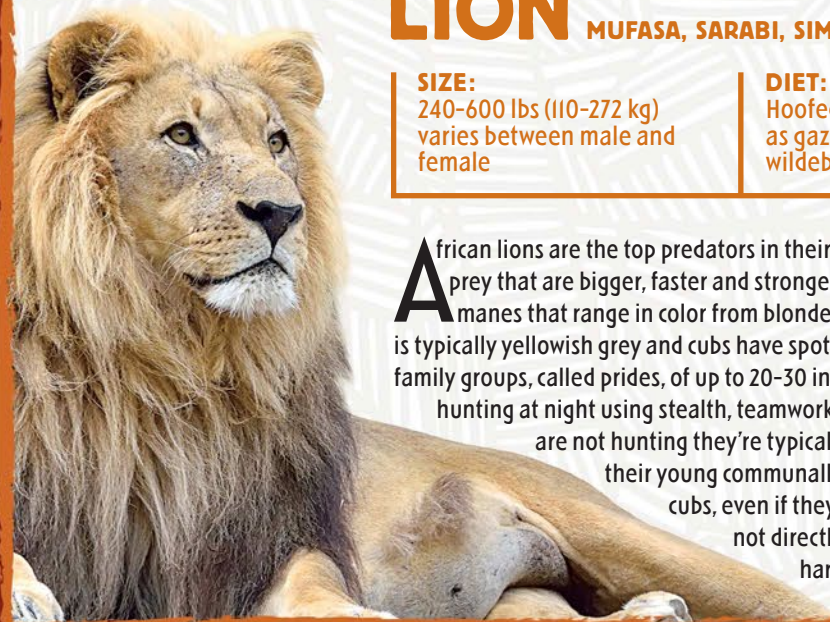


## Acknowledgments

Disney's Animals, Science and Environment would like to take this opportunity to thank the amazing teams that came together to develop "The Lion King" Activity Packet. It was created with great care, collaboration and the talent and hard work of many incredible individuals. A special thank you to Dr. Mark Penning for his ongoing support in developing engaging educational content that connects families with nature. These materials would not have happened without the diligence and dedication of Kyle Huetter who worked side by side with the filmmakers to help create these compelling activities and authored the unique writing found throughout each page. A big thank you to Michelle Mayhall, Hannah O'Malley and Bethany Eriksen whose creative thinking and artistry developed games and activities into a world of outdoor exploration. Special thanks to director Jon Favreau and producers Jeffrey Silver and Karen Gilchrist for creating such an amazing story that inspired the activities found within this packet. Lastly, thank you Samantha Rosenberg, Anastasia Ali-Noble, Lindsay Dragin and Noah Duman at The Walt Disney Studios for their help and unwavering support of this project.

## Allyson Atkins

Education Line of Business Manager, Disney's Animals, Science and Environment



## LION MUFASA, SARABI, SIMBA, SCAR, NALA

**SIZE:**  
240–600 lbs (110–272 kg)  
varies between male and female

**DIET:**  
Hoofed mammals such as gazelles, zebras, wildebeest and impalas

**HABITAT:**  
Flat, grassy savannas of Africa

African lions are the top predators in their ecosystem, possessing specific adaptations to help catch prey that are bigger, faster and stronger than themselves. Males are recognizable by their majestic manes that range in color from blonde to black, whereas females do not have a mane. A lion's coat is typically yellowish grey and cubs have spots when they're born which fade with age. Lions live in social family groups, called prides, of up to 20–30 individuals. The females in a pride do the majority of the hunting at night using stealth, teamwork and powerful night vision to stalk their prey. When lions are not hunting they're typically resting, often sleeping up to 20 hours a day. Prides raise their young communally, with all females sharing the responsibility of caring for cubs, even if they are not their own. The dominant male of the pride does not directly care for cubs, but does protect the cubs and females from harm and other male lions interested in taking over their pride.



**FAST FACT:** Lions typically use their roar to advertise their territory and can be heard up to 5 mi (9 km) away.

## MANDRILL RAFIKI

**SIZE:**  
On average 25–55 lbs (11.5–25 kg) varies between male and female

**DIET:**  
Small animals, roots, seeds, fruit and fungi

**HABITAT:**  
Tropical forests and other thick forested habitats throughout Africa



Groups of mandrill monkeys can range from a few members to up to 50 individuals, typically including one dominant male and many females. Mandrills communicate with a variety of vocalizations and gestures, but primarily rely on grunts to get their point across. These monkeys are known for their colorful markings, including an olive green/brown coat, a blue/purple backside, a bright red stripe down the center of their face flanked by two bright blue ridged patches and a yellow beard. As adults, males are typically larger than females and their coloring is known to brighten during mating season. Infant mandrills are born with pink skin and a black coat and they develop their bright colors after about two months. Mother mandrills are the primary caretakers for their young, but other members of the group will carry, play with and groom the juveniles. These primates have opposable thumbs that help them forage for food on the ground during the day and climb trees to sleep in at night.



**FAST FACT:** As the resident gardeners of the forest, mandrills will eat just about any kind of greenery and after it's digested they'll drop the seeds on the forest floor (along with mighty mandrill fertilizer).

## HORNBILL ZAZU

**SIZE:**  
Can range from as small as a pigeon to 4 feet (1.2 m) tall with a 6-foot (1.8 m) wingspan

**DIET:**  
Fruit, insects and sometimes other small animals like lizards

**HABITAT:**  
Various habitats in Africa and Asia



There are about 60 different species of hornbill which vary in size and color. These birds are recognizable by their long, curved beaks which are sometimes topped with a structure called a casque. A casque is made of keratin, the same material that makes up human hair and fingernails. The casque is thought to vibrate when hornbills vocalize to help their sound carry further and louder. Hornbills are diurnal, meaning they are most active during the day and they rest at night. They spend most of their day sunbathing, cleaning their feathers and foraging for food. These unique birds rely heavily on forests, especially big, old trees since many species nest in tree cavities. The female of a mated pair of hornbills will typically climb into a tree cavity and stay there to nest after closing most of the opening with mud. The birds will leave a hole in the mud wall large enough for the male to pass food through for the female and their future chicks. Eventually, there is not enough room for the female and babies inside the cavity, so she climbs out of the tree and the chicks enjoy the safe space until their wings have developed enough for flight!



**FAST FACT:** Scientists believe many hornbills return to the same tree to nest every year, which means forest conservation is extremely important for the survival of this type of bird.

## MEERKAT TIMON

**SIZE:**  
~1.5 lbs (0.06 kg)

**DIET:**  
Insects, eggs, plants and small animals

**HABITAT:**  
Open plains and savannas of southern Africa

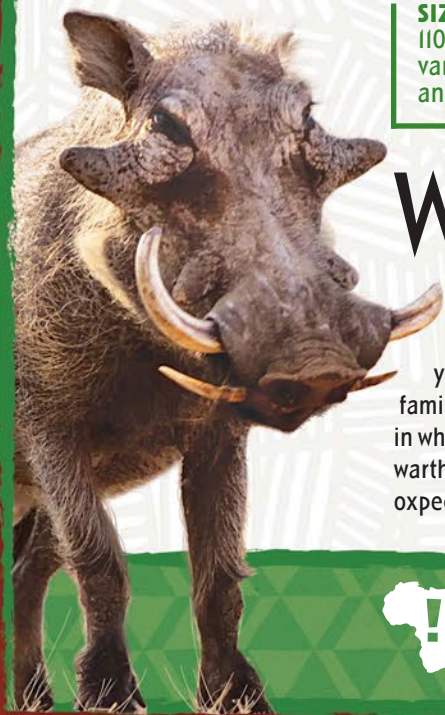


Meerkats are small mammals that belong to the mongoose family. They are highly social and live in groups of up to 30, often including several different families. Meerkats live in burrows that contain many entrances and exits commonly dug in hard soil by other species, like ground squirrels. They are most active during the day, but if temperatures get too high they will retreat deep into their cool burrows. While members of the group are foraging, one meerkat, called the sentinel, will typically keep watch for predators like birds of prey, snakes or jackals by standing on its hind legs and visually scanning the surrounding area. If the sentinel senses danger it will sound an alarm call which is a distinct barking sound. This bark is recognized by the other meerkats in the group as a warning to retreat to safety or to "mob" the threat. Mobbing occurs when meerkats gather together and collectively arch their backs with their tails in the air to appear larger, while spitting and growling until the threat passes.



**FAST FACT:** Meerkats can hide in plain sight thanks to stealthy camouflage, or retreat to one of the many hidey-holes in their elaborate underground tunnel system.

## WARTHOG PUMBAA



**SIZE:**  
110-330 lbs (50-150 kg)  
varies between male  
and female

**DIET:**  
Primarily grasses but also  
roots, tubers, berries,  
bark and carrion

**HABITAT:**  
Open areas, such as  
savannas, grasslands and  
cleared agricultural fields

Warthogs are a type of wild pig, easily identifiable by their sparse black and brown coat and facial tusks and warts. Their facial warts can vary in size, are made of cartilaginous connective tissue and give them the classically sharp edges of a warthog's face. Warthogs are diurnal, meaning they're active during the day more so than at night when they retreat to their burrows. They rely on their burrows and wallowing in the mud to keep cool on particularly hot days. Baby warthogs are even born inside burrows to keep them safe and cool. They live with their family group for about two years before striking out on their own. Young pigs will live a solitary life until they find a mate and family group, called a sounder, to stick with. Warthogs have a mutualistic relationship with oxpecker birds in which oxpeckers enjoy eating parasites such as tsetse flies and ticks off of warthogs, which keeps the warthogs healthy and the oxpeckers fed. Warthogs are even thought to benefit from being wary of oxpecker alarm calls, which scientists think they use as warnings that a predator, like a lion, is nearby.



**FAST FACT:** Warthog facial warts can help keep them safe when competing for mates or when rooting around for food.

## HYENA KAMARI, AZIZI AND SHENZI

**SIZE:**  
Males: 99-132 lbs (45-60 kg)  
and females: 121-154 lbs  
(55-70 kg)

**DIET:**  
Wildebeest, zebra,  
gazelle and carrion

**HABITAT:**  
Open, dry habitats like  
semi-deserts and savannas  
throughout Africa



Hyenas are most identifiable by their sloped bodies, long strong necks and unique vocalizations. These mammals have hind legs that are shorter than their front legs giving them a slanted stance. Spotted hyenas, in particular, have coarse grey to yellow fur with dark spots and a black tipped tail. Their thick, strong necks are topped with their recognizable round ears and what some scientists believe could be the strongest jaws in relation to size of any mammal. They have many diverse vocalizations, including groans and squeals as greetings, whoops as contact calls across distances and their classic laughing call to communicate they're excited or nervous. Though hyenas have a reputation as scavengers, they're thought to hunt at least 50% of their food. Outside of hunting, defending territory or resting in their den, members of a hyena clan tend to keep to themselves. When mothers give birth, they do so in a den separate from the clan and only bring their pups back after 2-6 weeks. Unlike other mammals that live in groups, adult hyenas don't participate in any communal care of their young—it's every parent for themselves!



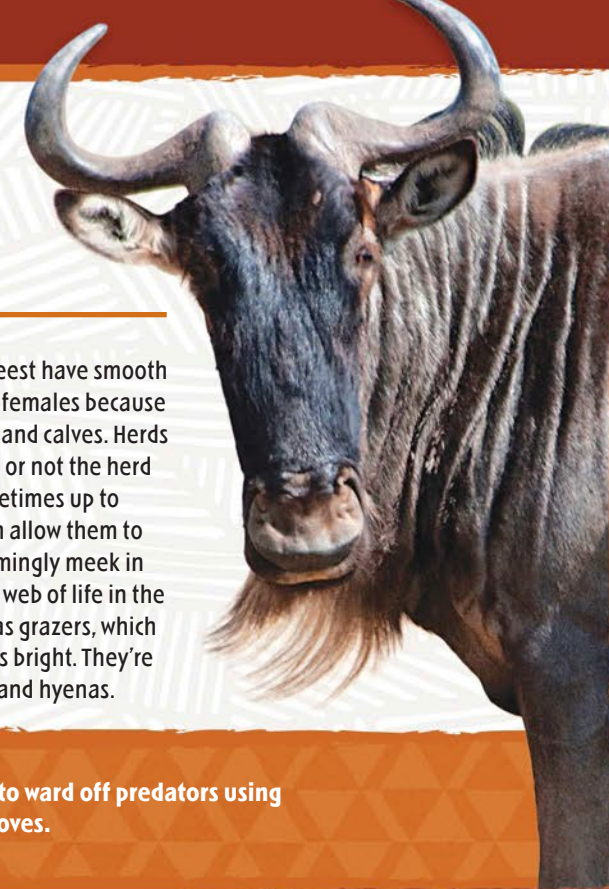
**FAST FACT:** Hyenas live in female dominated social groups called clans in which the highest-ranking male is always considered below the lowest ranking female.

## WILDEBEEST

**SIZE:**  
260-595 lbs (118-270 kg)

**DIET:**  
Grass

**HABITAT:**  
Diverse ecosystems  
across southern  
and eastern Africa



Wildebeest are mammals related to cattle, buffalo and antelope. All wildebeest have smooth horns, a mane and a light-colored beard. Males can be distinguished from females because they have thicker horns. They live in herds of typically eight or so females and calves. Herds are known to be both mobile or sedentary, which is always determined by whether or not the herd has access to food and water. If there is a shortage of either, it's time to move, sometimes up to 31 mi (50 km) to find a new source. Wildebeest have scent glands in their feet, which allow them to leave a trail of scent for other herds to follow when they're migrating. Though seemingly meek in comparison to other animals of the savanna, wildebeest are very important to the web of life in the ecosystems where they live. Their scat and urine fertilize the grasses they rely on as grazers, which they munch on most of the day and sometimes most of the night when the moon is bright. They're also prey for predator populations including lions, cheetahs, African painted dogs and hyenas.



**FAST FACT:** Wildebeest are known to work together as a herd to ward off predators using alarm calls and intimidatingly stamping the ground with their hooves.

## YOU CAN HELP PROTECT THESE ANIMALS!

By learning more about the species in this glossary you are already on your way towards helping protect animals! Actions big or small can help make a difference for lions and other wildlife worldwide. Consider these ways you can make an impact:

### CREATE WILDLIFE-FRIENDLY HABITATS

Consider creating a place for wildlife to thrive in your neighborhood. Provide a water source, a place for animals to live and plants that provide food. Before you know it, this could be home to all kinds of insects, plants and animals.

### REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE AND REPLENISH

Reduce your consumption to lessen your impact on Earth's resources. Reuse items that normally are just tossed into the trash and recycle everything you can. Replenish the Earth by planting a tree that will provide food and a home for many animals.

### MAKE WISE CONSERVATION CHOICES

Finding alternative ways to travel such as carpooling, biking and walking are all great options to lessen your impact on the environment. Think sustainably! When shopping at the store, before you toss an item into your cart ask yourself, is this sustainably sourced?

### CONNECT WITH NATURE

Explore the natural world around you. Take a nature walk or hike with your family and friends to learn more about wildlife in your community. You can also visit an AZA-accredited zoo or aquarium to observe and learn more about animals such as lions, meerkats, warthogs and many more.

### LEARN MORE

Join Disney and celebrate the Wildlife Conservation Network's Lion Recovery Fund's efforts to double the lion population by 2050 and help advance conservation across Africa.

[www.thewaltdisneycompany.eu/TheLionKingProtectthePride](http://www.thewaltdisneycompany.eu/TheLionKingProtectthePride)



THE  
**LION KING**  
PROTECT THE PRIDE



# CIRCLE OF LIFE SAFARI



MUFASA

One of Simba's earliest lessons from his father, King Mufasa, was about the great circle of life. Simba was taught that within this circle, every living thing found throughout the Pridelands is connected. All creatures, from the smallest ant to the mightiest lion, interact with each other in a variety of ways. Herbivores like elephants, zebras and wildebeest eat plants, which provides room for more plants to grow. Carnivores, like lions, cheetahs and painted dogs eat other animals which prevents them from overpopulating. Plants provide food for some animals. In turn, those animals help the plants to reproduce by pollinating and dispersing seeds. Even after plants and animals die, they provide food for decomposers, such as millipedes, fungi and bacteria. These release nutrients back into the environment, continuing the great circle of life.

From dry deserts and tropical rainforests to the deepest parts of the ocean and even your own backyard, this great circle can be found in ecosystems all over the world. Have you ever stepped outside to observe nature, discovering the types of birds flying near your home or which flowers bloom during spring? All around you the great circle of life is in motion, even if you can't see it. Scientists and conservationists from around the world are investigating the circle of life every day with the goal of protecting nature. By identifying and understanding how animals interact with each other and their ecosystems, scientists can determine their habitat needs, identify reasons for their decline and address human-wildlife conflicts.



Whether observing from near or far, you can practice your own observation skills by stepping outside to explore the natural world. Head to the next page to start your own journey of documenting the nature in your ecosystem. You might just be surprised at the tiny worlds thriving near you!

## EVERY LIVING THING PLAYS A ROLE IN THE CIRCLE OF LIFE

Now that you've learned a little bit about plants and animals that share the savanna with Simba and his pride, go on your own safari to observe and document the living creatures that inhabit your community!

Head outdoors with an adult to a favorite local nature spot—it could be a nearby park or your backyard! Go on "safari" and discover the wildlife around you. Look high and low to observe plants, insects, reptiles, birds and other animals that may be present. Write down a description or name of what you see. Next, in the empty circles below, draw in some

of the wildlife you observed. Consider how each living creature is connected, and try to place the plants and animals in order of how they interact. If you need help, utilize books or the internet to further research your local ecosystem. How are the living things in your local ecosystem similar to or different from the plants and animals of the African savanna?

**NATURE NOTE:** When heading out on safari, be sure to stay with an adult and take care when exploring a new outdoor area.

### MY SAFARI OBSERVATIONS:

\_\_\_\_\_

An animal that crawls on the ground or soars in the sky.

\_\_\_\_\_

A plant that provides shelter or is food to an animal.

\_\_\_\_\_

An insect that has bright colors, or one that blends into the environment.

\_\_\_\_\_

An animal that makes a unique sound.

More observations:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

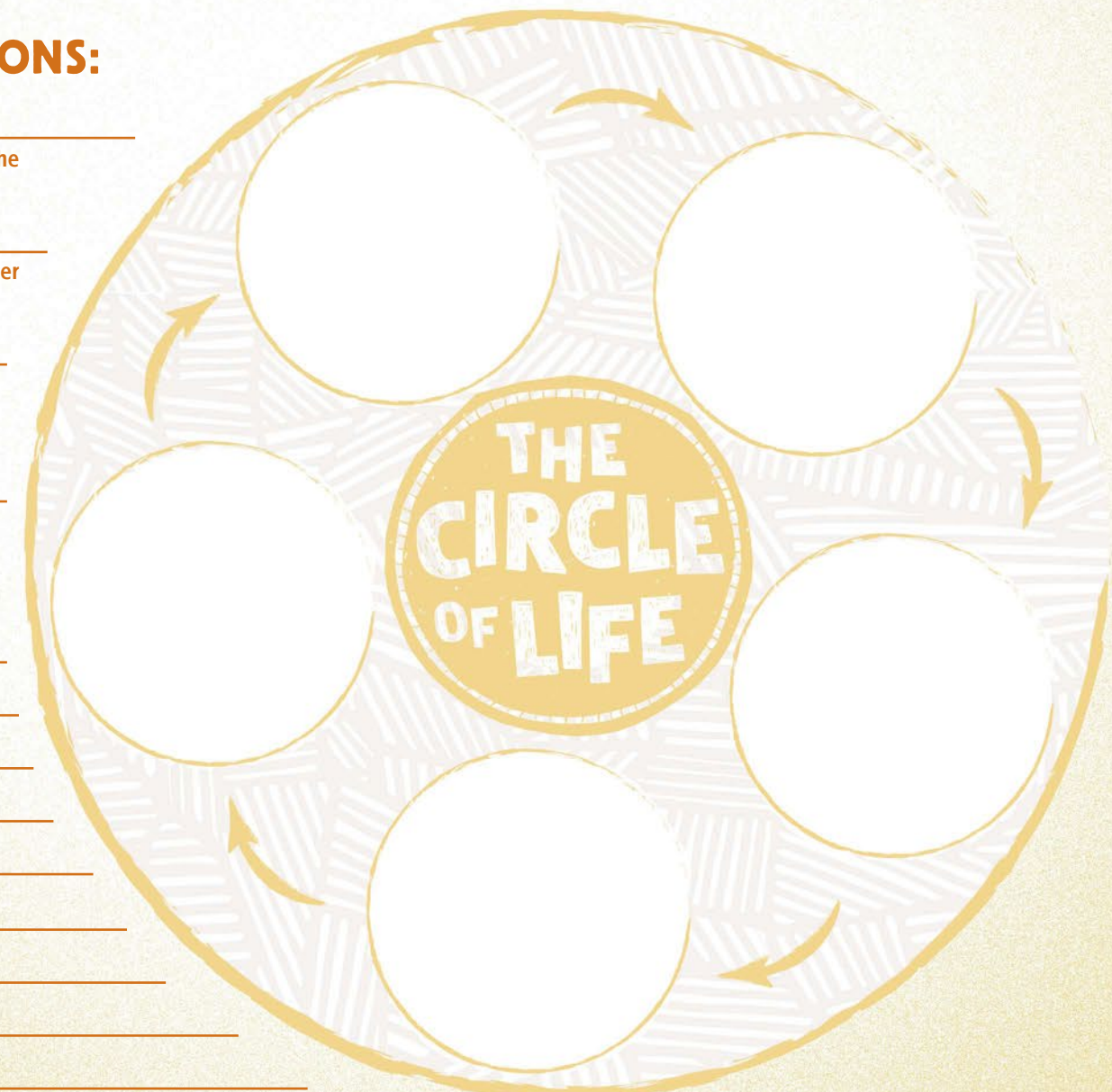
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PUMBAA



TIMON

# MAKE YOUR MOTTO

After the tragic loss of his father, Simba runs away from the Pridelands in fear and shame. While exiled, he unexpectedly finds himself with two newfound friends, the know-it-all meerkat Timon and the naïve, yet comedic warthog Pumbaa. The unlikely trio soon develop their own kind of symbiotic relationship, enjoying fun-filled days in a lush oasis, feasting on all manner of grubs and insects. It is in this beautiful green retreat where Timon and Pumbaa teach Simba a new expression, Hakuna Matata, a wonderful phrase that means no worries. Hakuna Matata has been the pair's personal motto, a guiding philosophy to live life to the fullest.

Mottos, like Hakuna Matata, can help inspire us, guide us and even spur us towards completing a personal goal. They are our own memorable statements that remind us what's important in an instant. Whether it's a few words repeated when needing focus or a phrase that provides courage when we need it the most, mottos serve as a link to our personal values and ideals. Mottos can even be created to promote actions individuals will take to save wildlife such as "take pictures, leave only footprints," or to remember to appreciate the little moments and beauty of nature, such as "stop and smell the roses." By creating a statement, or motto, that showcases a passion for conservation and appreciation for nature, individuals help reinforce the importance of protecting nature to themselves and those closest to them.



What is your personal motto? Head to the next page to find inspiration for creating a motto that reflects who you are and what matters most in your life.



A PERSONAL MOTTO CAN  
HELP US LAUGH  
THROUGH THE GOOD TIMES AND  
KEEP US GOING  
THROUGH THE TOUGH TIMES.

Aspire to use your motto through ups and downs, just like Timon and Pumbaa use Hakuna Matata. In the space below, trace the words Hakuna Matata and add in your own nature-inspired designs. Then, draw inspiration from the buzzwords in the frame at the bottom of the page to brainstorm and create a motto of your own! Cut out the frame to hang in your room, locker or at your desk to help keep you on track through your personal journey of growth.

**NATURE NOTE:** Look to nature for creative inspiration! Consider adding leaf, flower or animal patterns to the letters to create a unique design.

# HAKUNA MATATA

BECOME · BALANCE · FAITH · LAUGH · BELIEVE · CONFIDENCE · HUMBLE · SHARE

MY MOTTO IS...

TRUTH · HAPPINESS · DREAM · TRUST · CREATE

FLY · ACCEPT · IMAGINE · ALWAYS · AWESOME · LOVE · FORGIVE · ENCOURAGE

ENERGY · ENJOY · CURIOUS · SPEAK · DISCOVER





ZAZU

# MENTOR MASH-UP

Throughout his journey, Simba encounters multiple individuals who provide him with valuable lessons and advice that lead him towards his destiny. As a cub, Simba's father Mufasa shared his experience on how to be a wise and respected king. Zazu, Mufasa's aid, attempted to impart the value of responsibility, even if Simba would rather explore the savanna with his friend Nala. Timon and Pumbaa lifted Simba's spirits with words of encouragement through their Hakuna Matata lifestyle while Rafiki asked him to look inside himself to find his true strength. Each individual provided Simba with the tools he needed to grow into the future King of Pride Rock. Their mentorship and lessons built upon one another, providing immeasurable benefits for Simba to succeed as a leader and hero of the savanna.

The value of a mentor in one's life cannot be overstated, as they can provide guidance and reassurance to help us reach our highest potential. A mentor is a trusted individual in our lives, someone who values our personal growth as well as success in school, sports or a club we're involved with. Most importantly, mentors provide us with support, emboldening us to reach for lofty goals, helping us solve tough problems and providing us with their own experience when we face big hurdles.

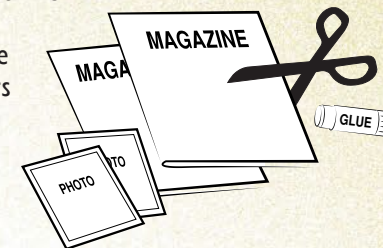


Do you have anyone in your life who has guided you like Zazu, Timon, Pumbaa or Rafiki guided Simba? Think of the mentors in your life and head to the next page to create a collage representing the ways in which they've inspired you!



## WHO HAS BEEN A MENTOR TO YOU?

Whether it's your teacher, coach, parent or friend, each mentor plays an important role in your life. Upcycle—or creatively reuse—magazines, photos or other scrap material in the space below by creating a collage that represents a meaningful mash-up of all that your mentors have taught you.



# CLIMB TO THE TOP



**SIMBA**

**A**s a cub, Simba had fun-filled ideas on how he would lead Pride Rock once he became king. Simba wanted nothing more than to ignore the important tasks required of him. He would rather be free from responsibility, being able to do whatever he wanted, wherever he wanted. However, his perspective drastically changed with the tragic loss of his father, and while in exile Simba learned that hard work would be necessary to achieve his goal of reclaiming the crown from his uncle Scar.

All of us should aim for lofty goals, like learning how to play a musical instrument, excelling in school or one day becoming a world-famous inventor. However, in order to achieve these goals, it takes time, practice, study and a belief that we can achieve success. Even adults, already established in their careers, aim to achieve incredible goals. For example, to save lions from extinction, conservationists around the world are working together to increase the amount of land available for the species and double the number of lions alive today. This is not an easy task and none of their objectives can happen overnight. These heroes must plan, set timelines and complete numerous steps in order to succeed. Yet, they completed the first and sometimes most difficult step of creating a clear and compelling goal, one that will motivate them to accomplish something extraordinary for the planet, a safe home and protection for lions across Africa through the Protect the Pride conservation campaign.



What are your goals? Perhaps it's not as drastic as reclaiming Pride Rock from an evil uncle, but does your goal drive you towards success and self-fulfillment? Consider what you are working to achieve and head to the next page where an iconic rock formation can help you list the steps you need to take in order to accomplish your aspirations.

# NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WHEN YOU PUT YOUR MIND TO IT.

Whether your dream is to play on your favorite sports team or save a species from extinction, you'll still need to set and achieve small goals one at a time to achieve your big dream—just like Simba took steps toward becoming king!

What is a goal of yours? Write your goal at the top of Pride Rock, then, starting at the bottom of Pride Rock, list the small steps you'll need to complete before you can achieve your big goal! As you complete each step, draw in more of Simba's mane to track your progress until the image is completely colored in and you have accomplished your goal.

MY GOAL: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ STEP 5: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ STEP 4: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ STEP 3: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ STEP 2: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ STEP 1: \_\_\_\_\_



# KING OF THE PRIDELANDS

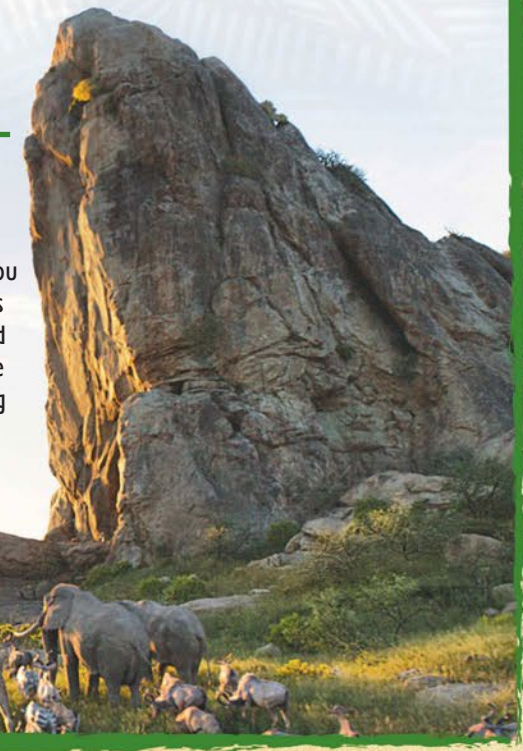
Rising from the vast savanna known as the Pridelands stands a tall and magnificent rock formation called Pride Rock. This rocky island in a sea of grass is a kopje (pronounced “ko-pee”) and it is home to the royalty of the Pridelands: Mufasa, Sarabi and their newborn son Simba.

The royal family is joined at Pride Rock by many other lions who make up their pride. Lion prides usually consist of one resident male (or even two to three brothers), along with a core of related females (mothers, sisters, cousins and aunts) and their cubs. The males help the females protect the pride while the females do most of the hunting. Unlike other big cats who hunt alone, lions find strength in numbers and they are the only species of cat that lives and hunts in groups. Hunting as a group increases their opportunity to stalk and ambush prey and to hunt much larger animals than a single lion on their own.

As the top predator within their ecosystem, lions play an important role as keystone species of the African savanna.

Keystone species are animals within an ecosystem that if they were to be removed the ecosystem would change drastically. As a keystone species, lions ensure populations of prey species don’t grow too large and exceed their available food supply. By removing sick and weak animals from herds, lions help prevent overgrazing, starvation and disease that would eventually impact all species on the savanna. Without lions, the entire African savanna would be dramatically different and the circle of life would become unbalanced.

**Lions are unique and complex animals, and scientists who study their behaviors are constantly learning more about their role as a keystone species. Head to the next page to further your own lion knowledge by completing a unique puzzle. Your answers may uncover a special image hidden on the page.**



## BEFORE YOU BEGIN

1. Cut out the Answer Squares on the right by cutting along the dotted lines. Do not cut out the Answer Board.
2. Read the trivia questions and choose the best Answer Square to fill in each blank.
3. On the Answer Board, match the Answer Square to the corresponding number of the question it answers.
4. When you’ve finished answering the questions and your Answer Board is complete, you will reveal an image from “The Lion King.” If any squares are out of place, check your answers and try again to finish the puzzle.
5. When you are finished with the activity, you can glue or tape down the answer squares to the Answer Board and cut out the board to create a lion keepsake. Be sure to share your newfound knowledge about the King and his pride with a friend.

## TEST YOUR LION KNOWLEDGE

11	12	8
10	5	2
4	7	6
1	3	9

1. Lions live in family groups called \_\_\_\_.
2. On average, lions sleep up to \_\_\_\_ hours each day.
3. Lion cubs begin learning how to hunt around the age of \_\_\_\_.
4. A fully grown male lion can consume more than \_\_\_\_ of meat in one sitting.
5. Female lions usually give birth to a litter of \_\_\_\_ cubs.
6. By \_\_\_\_ more about lions and sharing what you learn with a friend, you can help protect them.
7. Lionesses take care of their cubs until the cubs reach \_\_\_\_ years of age.
8. Lions have excellent \_\_\_\_ which helps them hunt after dark.
9. In a pride, female lions with similarly aged cubs form a nursery group called a \_\_\_\_ to care for the cubs.
10. Within a lion pride, females are responsible for up to \_\_\_\_ percent of the hunting.
11. A wandering lion pride may migrate more than \_\_\_\_.
12. You can help lions in the wild by supporting \_\_\_\_ organizations, like the Disney Conservation Fund.

## ANSWER SQUARES

3 MONTHS OLD	90
1,500 sq mi (4,000 sq km)	LEARNING
CRÈCHE	1-4
PRIDES	NIGHT VISION
2	40 lbs (18 kg)
CONSERVATION	20

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