

## Lesson Plan

### Index Dash

**Book:** *Cheetahs*

**Series:** Animals of Africa

**Level:** Beacon

### Objective

To help students practice using text features to locate information about a specific topic.

### Supplies

- Two copies of the *Cheetahs* book
- Index Dash Questions (attached)

### Before the Activity

Read through the *Cheetahs* book, or assign it to students to read on their own.

### Activity

Split the students into two groups. Give each group a copy of the *Cheetahs* book. Each team should choose one person to start with the book. Explain that the students will practice using the book's index to locate the answers to questions. You will read each question out loud. When you say go, the students can flip to the index and find the answer to the question. For some questions, students will have to find a fact or statistic. For other questions, students will simply need to find the page number where a topic is described.

Students should raise a hand when they have found the answer to the question. Call on the first student to raise a hand. If the student has found the correct answer, his or her team gets a point. After a student has answered (or tried to answer) a question, he or she should pass the book to the next person on the team.

### Evaluation

Give each team one point for each correct answer. The team with the most points at the end of the activity wins.

### Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading informational texts standards, grade 3 (RI 3.1; RI 3.5).

## Index Dash Questions

1. Which page gives a cheetah's weight? **(A: page 12)**
2. Which page describes the territories where cheetahs live? **(A: page 9)**
3. What are two animals that a cheetah hunts? **(A: gazelles, hares, birds, antelopes, zebras, or warthogs)**
4. Which two chapters describe a cheetah's body? **(A: Chapter 2 Spotted Sprinter and Chapter 3 Built for Speed)**
5. How many different calls does a cheetah have? **(A: 8)**
6. Which chapter describes how cubs are born? **(A: Chapter 4 Fast Food)**
7. How does a cheetah use its tail while running? **(A: Its tail helps it balance or turn.)**
8. How fast can a cheetah run? **(A: 61 mph or 98 km/h)**
9. Are a cheetah's paw pads soft or hard? **(A: hard)**
10. How many cubs does a cheetah have at one time? **(A: 3 to 5)**
11. Do female cheetahs live alone or in groups? **(A: They live alone.)**
12. Can a cheetah run a long distance after its prey? **(A: no)**
13. Which page describes a cheetah's fur? **(A: page 11)**
14. How big is a female cheetah's territory? **(A: approximately 345 square miles or 894 sq. km)**
15. Do female cheetahs hunt large prey or small prey? **(A: small prey)**
16. What is a group of male cheetahs called? **(A: a coalition)**
17. Which chapter describes what a savanna is? **(A: Chapter 1 Roam on the Range)**
18. Is a cheetah's tail round or flat? **(A: flat)**
19. How much does a cheetah weigh? **(A: 84 to 143 pounds or 38 to 65 kg)**
20. Which page mentions predators? **(A: page 23)**
21. How big is a male cheetah's territory? **(A: 5–10 square miles or 13–26 sq. km)**