

# Species

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# Species definition !!!!!!!!!

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## Biological Species Concept

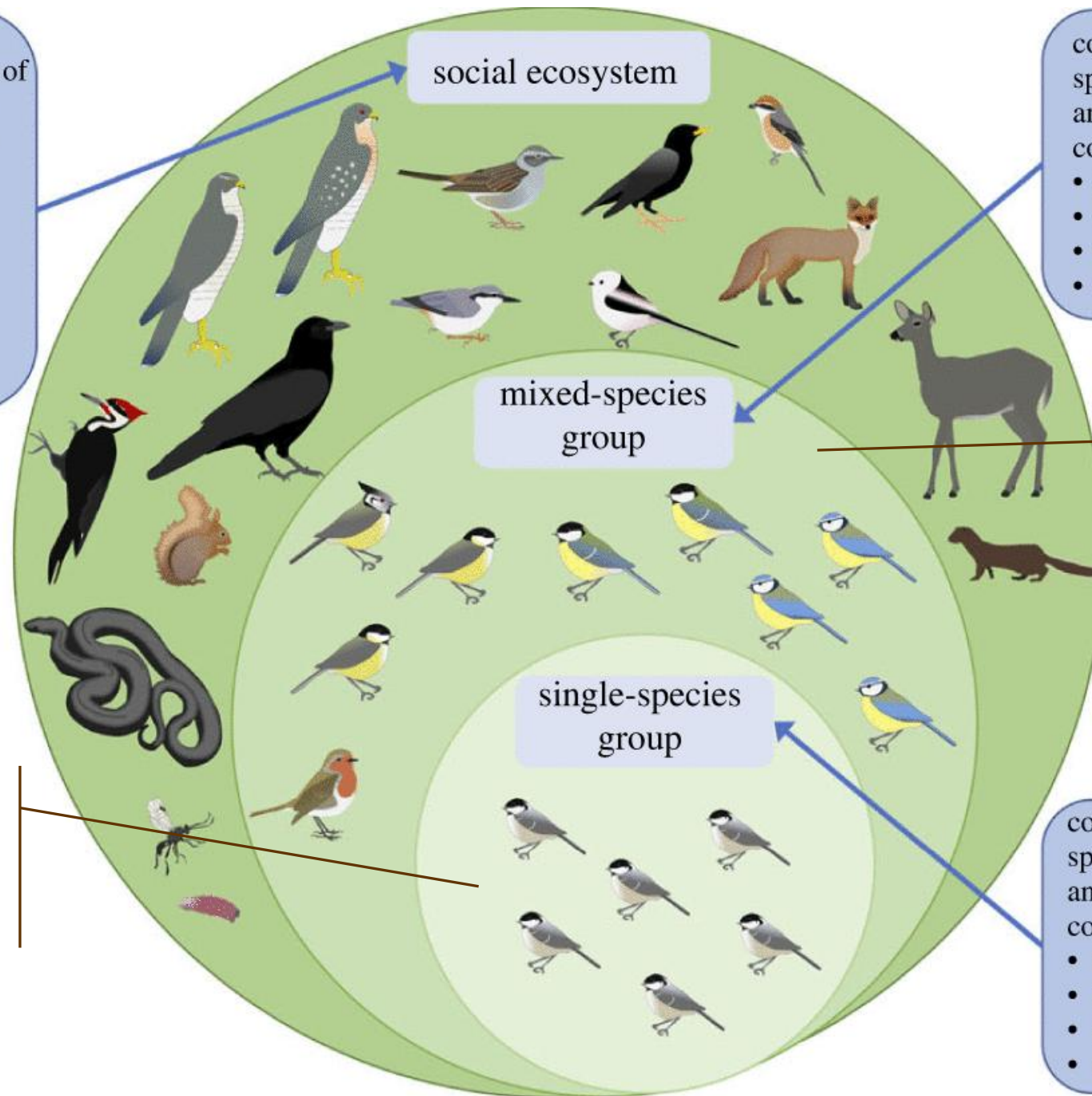
- “Groups of actually or potentially interbreeding populations which are **reproductively isolated** from other such groups.” – Ernst Mayr, 1963

composed of individuals within interlinked social networks capable of self-organization under constraints imposed by context or environment

- positive interactions
- negative interactions (e.g. predation, parasitic, etc.)
- neutral interactions
- interactions with known and unknown individuals
- third-party indirect interactions

**Do not mix species with an individual!**

Individuals belonging to the same species



social ecosystem

mixed-species group

single-species group

composed of individuals and species interacting with one another in a variety of ways and contexts

- permanent groups
- semi-permanent groups
- non-permanent groups
- opportunistic groups

Individuals belonging to different species

composed of individuals of one species interacting with one another in a variety of ways and contexts

- foraging groups
- travelling groups
- kin groups
- non-kin groups

# Genus: Equus

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*Equus burchelli*



Different species belonging to the same  
GENUS → **Equus**

*Equus caballus*





# Family: FELIDAE (family of cats)

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*Lynx rufus*  
(Bobcat)



*Lynx canadensis*  
(Lynx)

Genus: Lynx



*Felis concolor*  
(Mountain lion)

Genus: Felis

Family: Felidae

# Family: FELIDAE (family of cats)

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*Felis chaus*  
(Jungle cat)



*Felis margarita*  
(Sand cat)  
Margarita = "pearl"

Genus: Felis  
Family: Felidae



*Felis nigripes*  
(Black-footed cat)



# Family: FELIDAE (family of cats)

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*Felis sylvestris*  
(European wildcat)



*Felis lybica*  
(African-Asian Wildcat)



*Felis bieti*  
(Chinese Mountain Cat)

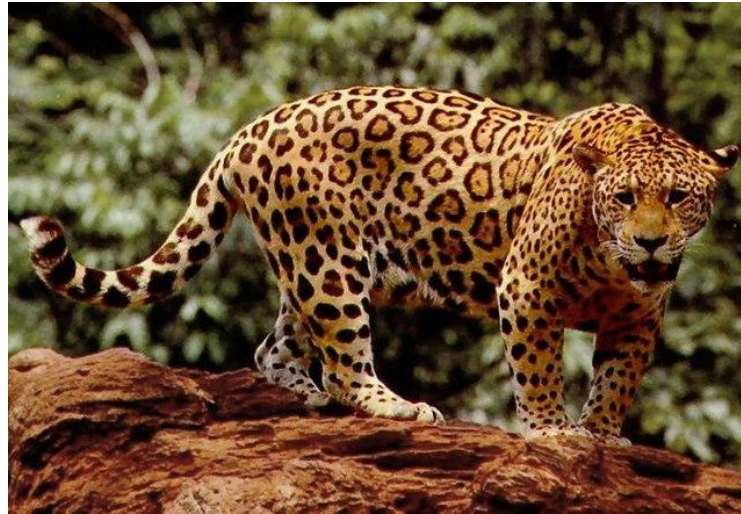
Genus: Felis  
Family: Felidae

# Family: FELIDAE (family of cats)

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*Panthera leo*  
(Lion)



*Panthera onca*  
(Jaguar)



*Panthera pardus*  
(Leopard)

Genus: *Panthera*  
Family: Felidae



# Family: FELIDAE (family of cats)

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*Panthera tigris*  
(Tiger)



*Panthera uncia*  
(Snow leopard)



*Puma concolor*  
(Puma)

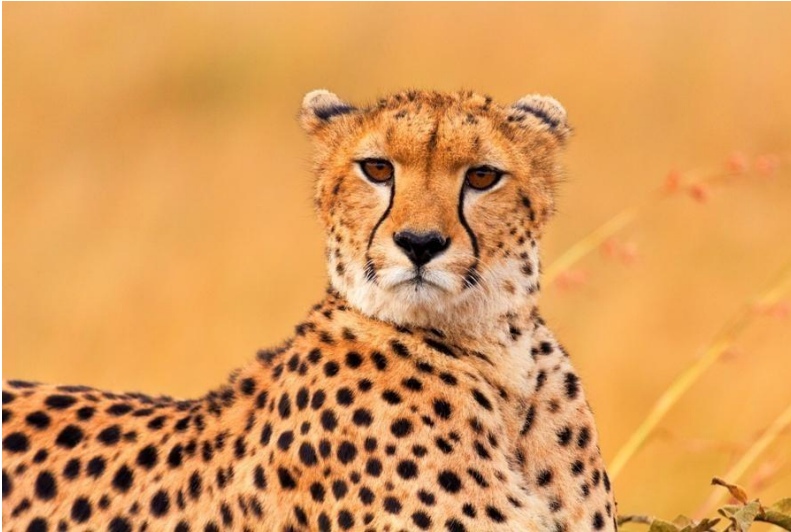
Genus: Panthera

Family: Felidae

Genus: Puma

# Family: FELIDAE (family of cats)

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*Acinonyx jubatus*  
(Cheetah)

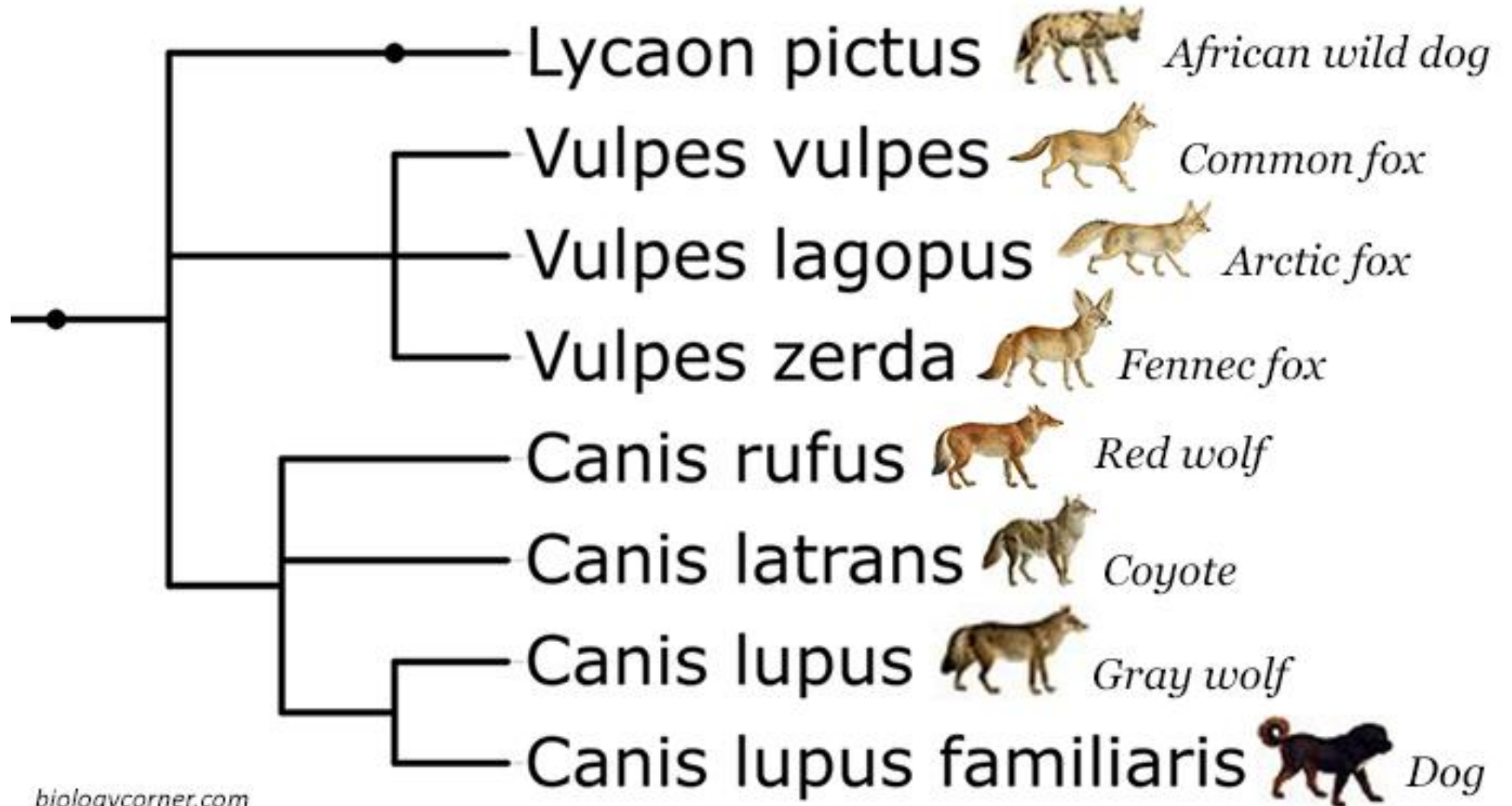
Why are cheetahs called **Acinonyx jubatus**?

The scientific name *Acinonyx jubatus* is also related with the appearance of the cheetah, whereby **acinonyx** comes from the Greek and refers to the **semi-retractable (immobile) claws** and **jubatus** comes from the Latin and means crested as attribute for to its mane or **long hair** on the neck.

Genus: *Acinonyx*

Family: Felidae

# Canidae family





# General features of genera

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## **Felis**

- Flexible body
- Quick reflexes
- Sharp teeth

## **Panthera**

- Spotted cats
- Most of them roar

