PDF LIST OF FACTS ABOUT

CAT

The smallest wildcat today is the Black-footed cat. The females are less than 20 inches (50 cm) long and can weigh as little as 2.5 lbs (1.2 kg).

Contrary to popular belief, the cat is a social animal. A pet cat will respond and answer to speech, and seems to enjoy human companionship.

Like birds, cats have a homing ability that uses its biological clock, the angle of the sun, and the Earth's magnetic field. A cat taken far from its home can return to it. But if a cat's owners move far from its home, the cat can't find them.

Cats can predict earthquakes. We humans are not 100% sure how they do it. There are several different theories.

Cats have individual preferences for scratching surfaces and angles. Some are horizontal scratchers while others exercise their claws vertically.

The strongest climber among the big cats, a leopard can carry prey twice its weight up a tree.

According to Hebrew legend, Noah prayed to God for help protecting all the food he stored on the ark from being eaten by rats. In reply, God made the lion sneeze, and out popped a cat.

Tigers are excellent swimmers and do not avoid water.

The largest breed of cat is the Ragdoll with males weighing in at 1 5 to 20 lbs. The heaviest domestic

cat on record was a neutered male tabby named Himmy from Queensland, Australia who weighed 46 lbs. 1 5 oz.

The biggest wildcat today is the Siberian Tiger. It can be more than 12 feet (3.6 m) long (about the size of a small car) and weigh up to 700 pounds (317 kg).

The Egyptian Mau is probably the oldest breed of cat. In fact, the breed is so ancient that its name is the Egyptian word for "cat."

In one stride, a cheetah can cover 23 to 26 feet (7 to 8 meters).

Cats can judge within 3 inches the precise location of a sound being made 1 yard away.

Long, muscular hind legs enable snow leopards to leap seven times their own body length in a single bound.

The Maine Coone is the only native American long haired breed.