

BIG CATS

Harley F.,

age 9

Adaiah N., age 10

Fierce is the lion, he prowls and roars. Strong is the lion, king of the jungle he controls. Pounce goes the lion He doesn't mess around.



Logan T., age 8

Big cat over there Stalking not walking, no need to share Licking his paws with jaws Looking at the squirrel.

Pounce, got 'em under paws Going to show his family carrying in jaws Goes to door shows family With lots of pride.

Decides to leave him there Then jumps into air Goes lays on grass Purring with pride.

By Grayson M., age 10



Chloe A., age 7

Would you like to see your work published in Ranger Rick Zoobooks?

Here's what to do: Go to www.rangerrick.org/ **zooworks** for rules and deadlines.



We want to see your original poem, story, or drawing by March 20, 2024 for "Snakes" or April 23, 2024 for "Seals & Sea Lions."

By Abby Z., age 10

Leah Z., age 11

The wind blows south playfully Away from the famished cheetah, Who stalks the calm gazelle, Unknowing of danger, Most animals could not spot, The camouflaged cheetah behind tall grass, Planning her move to win a tasty prize. Swiftly and silently, The cheetah pounces, The startled gazelle notices too late, And the cheetah had already won the battle, To fill her hungry tummy.

By Anne H., age 10







Lacy W., age 12





Look for

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Visit rangerrick.org/ZBactivities to

find fun big cat activities to

print or download.

Plus at rangerrick.org you'll find:

Interactive games

• 50 pictures, poems and stories from kids like you

Animal videos

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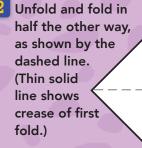
A CAT in the FOLD ${f D}$ id you know that there is an art form in which paper is folded to create different figures? It is called origami, and it started in Japan. Follow the nine steps around this page to create an origami jaguar. Practice with 5-inch squares of paper. Then, use the spotted paper on page c.

Origami Key

Fold you will make this step Crease made by previous fold Edge of paper

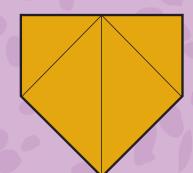
Place patterned side down. Fold square in half, as shown by the dashed line. The arrow shows the direction of the fold you will make for this step.

Leave folded in half once. (The patterned side should be on the outside.) Fold down the top corners, as shown by the dashed lines.



4 Unfold the top corners. Now fold in the top corners, as shown by the dashed lines.

Turn the entire origami figure over. Leave the top corners folded in.

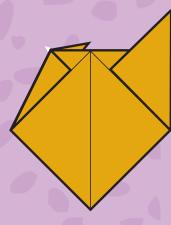


Fold down the top left corner to the first crease line on the left. Repeat for the right side. The

location of the folds is shown by the dashed lines.

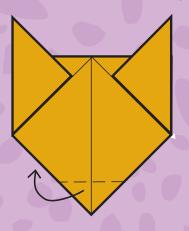
Unfold the flaps that are to the back of the origami figure. In the example, the left side is still folded; the right side is unfolded. Notice how the right side creates the cat's right ear. Do the same with both flaps.

Your finished origami jaguar will look like this.

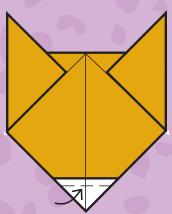


7

Fold the top layer inside on the dashed line. You will be making the top lip. In other words, poke the bottom corner inside the mouth and fold to form a lip.



9 Fold the bottom layer inside on the dashed line. You will be making the bottom lip.





HOW TO DRAW A BIG CAT

ave you ever wondered how to draw a lion that looks like a lion? The answer is quite simple. Look for the main shapes of the animal and begin by drawing them. Once you have these shapes down, you can begin to add details.

In the four sketches below, we have broken down the steps for drawing a noble lion. Notice that in the first step, you simply draw the main shapes. In the second step, you draw lines for the legs, neck, and ear. You add lines for the feet, tail, and eye in the third step. When you put all the pieces together in the fourth step and add a few details, a lion will appear on your paper.

Now try your paw at drawing by applying the four steps below. Practice on scratch paper. Then, create your own noble lion. Remember, if you can draw a rectangle and an oval, then you can draw a lion.

