Snow leopards



Snow leopards are a type of big cat with distinctive, patterned fur. Sadly, snow leopards are on the endangered species list. Read on to find out more about this fascinating creature.

Habitat

Snow leopards live in and around the mountains of Asia and are also found in countries like Russia. They spend the summer high up on snowy mountains but in winter they move lower down the mountains.

Appearance

- Thick fur to keep their bodies warm.
- Large paws to help them grip the ground.
- Large nasal cavities to warm the air they breathe in.
- Strong muscles that help them run and jump across mountain ledges.
- Long, flexible tails that help them climb and balance on steep mountains.
- Grey, brown, black and white markings that provide camouflage against their rocky surroundings, allowing them to hide from their prey.

Amazing fact

Snow leopards can run as fast as 55 miles per hour over short distances.

Diet

Snow leopards are carnivores, which means they eat meat. They prey on animals such as sheep and ibex but will also hunt small rodents and birds.

Endangered list

Unfortunately, the numbers of snow leopards have decreased over the past 100 years. This is because humans either kill them or turn their habitat into farmland. There are now only about 4000 snow leopards left in the wild.

Find out more

Please visit our website to find out how you can help to protect the snow leopard.

Contact details

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