**Tiger Facts**

Tigers are one of the largest wild cats in the world. Adult tigers can weigh up to 363kg - that's about the same as a ten, ***ten*** year old children! They can measure up to 3.3m tall.

Tigers are carnivores, eating only meat. They mainly feed on large mammals such as deer, wild pigs, antelope and buffalo. Tigers are territorial and solitary hunters, they generally search for food alone at night. When hunting they quietly stalk their prey until they are close enough to pounce - then they kill their victim with a swift bite to the neck or back of the head.

Unlike most members of the cat family, tigers like water. They are good swimmers and often cool off in pools or streams. Tigers have an extremely loud roar which can be heard as far as 3 kilometres away. Despite being big and heavy, tigers are great explosive runners. In fact, at full speed they can reach up to 65km per hour! However they cannot keep up these speeds for very long.

**T**hese fierce felines have walked the earth for a long time, they are indigenous to some of the more densely populated places on Earth. This unfortunately, has caused them to come into significant conflict with humans. This has resulted in some subspecies of tiger becoming extinct.

Today, there are five subspecies of tiger still remaining: Bengal, South China, Indochinese, Sumatran and Siberian. Less than 100 years ago, tigers were abundant and could be found throughout Asia. Sadly, hunting, poaching and habitat loss have put their populations at risk and they are now endangered animals.