



## (plural: lions | lahy-uhn | lar ən)

The Lion (Panthera Leo) is a carnivorous mammal and a member of the Felidae family. Lions are native to Africa and some parts of Asia. Lions are a social species forming groups known as prides. A pride is made up of a few male lions, many lionesses (the name for the female of the species) and their young cubs (the name for the young of the species). Lions are apex predators on land amongst the grasslands and savannas of Africa, and usually, groups of females hunt together.

**Interesting Fact:** Both male and female lions are known to engage in same-sex relationships and behaviours. Often, relationships are seen as a bonding ritual or system. The process will last many days, in which the dominant male will initiate the activity with nuzzling and caressing, leading ultimately to mounting the more passive lion.

