

## Siberian Tiger Profile



## **Siberian Tiger Family Tree**

Kingdom: Animalia Phylum: Chordata Subphylum: Vertebras

Subphylum: Vertebrata Class: Mammalia

Order: Carnivora Family: Felidae

Subfamily: Pantherinae

Genus: Panthera

Species: Panthera tigris altaica

Rrrroarrr! I'm Sacha the Siberian Tiger. I am the biggest cat around- I weigh as much as a car. I have sharp teeth, huge claws, and orangey fur with black stripes. My stripes are unique to me, like a human fingerprint, each Siberian Tiger has a different stripe pattern. I live in a forest in eastern Asia but you can find Siberian Tigers in northern China and Manchuria too. We like the cold snow covered areas most of the time but we do live in areas that have grass and trees.

I am a quick moving carnivore. Hunting at night, I use my excellent vision and hearing to sneak up on my dinner, which can be monkeys, birds, tortoises, deer, wild boar, frogs and even porcupines! When food is scarce we sometimes attack cattle, sheep and goats that belong to farmers. Some Siberian tigers have been known to eat humans if they get too close.

Since I'm so big I need to eat a lot of food everyday to keep up my energy. Imagine eating 400 hamburgers- I eat that much meat every night. After I eat, I find a running stream and take a long drink of water and then lie down for a nap.

I spent 4 months in my mom's belly and was born with 3 other cubs. My mom kept us close to her until we were about 6 months old and then we all went hunting together. My siblings and I left our mom to find our own homes when we were about 2 and half years old.

You can hear my booming roar a mile away. As big and powerful as we are, we're in trouble! There are less than 500 Siberian Tigers living in the wild so we are definitely an endangered species. We are in danger of becoming extinct because humans are hunting us for our striped fur and for our body parts which are sometimes used in Chinese medicine. Also, as humans cut down more forests, we lose our homes and have fewer animals to eat. Zoos around the world are trying to save us and there are about 490 Siberian Tigers living in captivity.