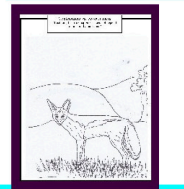


Just for Kids!



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Nature Story The Jackal

Jackals live in very difficult environments and have to learn to be content with what they have, making the most of their small resources in order to survive. They have adapted well to the coastal deserts and savannas of Africa.

Most jackals are 15 to 30 pounds

and stand up to 20 inches in height. They have large ears, a pointed face, and a large bushy tail, colored in brown and black. Jackals have the resource of a keen sense of hearing and smell, so they use it to find rodents, reptiles, birds and insects.

Another resource jackals have is the ability to communicate with others in their pack with many barks and yelps. When they hunt in a pack, they are able to bring down a gazelle or antelope, or a sheep from a farmer's flock. They mate for life and sometimes the older offspring stay to help with next year's litter.

Because jackals don't need a large amount of water, they are able to adapt to life in the desert. Scientists have actually seen jackals lick water from condensed fog from rocks.

When food is scarce, jackals will even eat the left-over kill from lions or cheetahs. They often use the shelters of other animals, even sharing a den with another animal. Because they have learned to be content, they are able to survive in a region that is difficult for other animals to live in.

--Concept by Character
First