

COME AND GET CLOSER TO

ANIMALS ANIMALS ANIMALS

PART
48



Take flight with
the **DUCK** family

See
Ajok the
ELEPHANT
look for
adventure



Follow Rusty the **FOX**
as he leaves home



Find out
how to
exercise
your pet
BIRD

Defend
your
territory
with the
TIGER
family



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Catch up with the kangaroo family



Find out about the eland



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Defending territory

Tigers go to great lengths to maintain and protect their territories against outsiders, as territories provide them with the food and space they need to survive.

The most important things in a tiger's life are eating food and producing children, so a territory is very important to the tiger as it gives it the space it needs to do these things. Each tiger, whether male or female has its own territory. These differ in size and location, but all are guarded and defended against other tigers.

One area of suitable tiger habitat can provide territories for several of these big cats. Each tiger needs a large amount of prey in its territory, and male territories need to be close to female territories so they can find a suitable mate.

Very, very rarely do two male tigers fight to the death for a territory and rights to the tigresses living there. Tigers would quickly become extinct if this was normal behaviour. Although tiger territories overlap, they are usually big enough for the tigers to avoid each other most of the time.



MY TERRITORY!
Simon became the dominant male when his father became too old and weak to control him anymore. Simon has a large territory with lots of prey.



KEEPING COOL

It is important for a tiger to have water in its territory, to drink and to cool off in. As Simon wades through a lake one day he meets an aggressive tiger from an overlapping territory who tries to challenge him.

BACK OFF!

Simon barks a warning as the intruder comes towards him. Simon is much bigger and scares off the other tiger with a long growl.



Produced with the help of

Defending territory



SMALLER TERRITORY
Female tigers have different reasons for finding and defending territories than males. Katrina has a much smaller territory and her priority is an area with lots of food where she can safely bring up her cubs.

SCENT MARKING
As Katrina roams around she sprays trees and bushes to mark her territory. Her scent is so distinctive that passing male tigers can tell her age, her sex and also whether she is ready to mate, just by sniffing it.



TIGER SIGNS
Accolon and Sikari are playing. Accolon rolls on her back with her legs and feet up in the air. When adult tigers do this it is a sign of submission.

WAITING HIS TURN

Not far away, Kasur is nearly old enough to leave his mum and fend for himself. When he does, he will need to find a territory of his own; one that doesn't interfere with Simon's.