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San Bernardino County

Superintendent of Schools

Transforming lives through education

Wednesday, May 20

2:00pm

**Nature: "The Cheetah Children" – 4th
thru 8th grade**

Witness the work of paleontologists bringing the largest dinosaur ever discovered to Life on the African plains is a constant struggle, but for a single mother rearing her offspring, the odds seem to be stacked against them. This is an inspiring tale about motherhood and family, as we follow a cheetah family on the grasslands through the eyes of conservationist and cameraman Kim Wolhuter. The mother is completely on her own, protecting her five newborn cubs and teaching them how to hunt some of the continent's fastest game. Watch as the inquisitive cubs explore the world around them and discover their place in the forests of Zimbabwe. Over time, two sister cubs survive and develop into brave and successful predators ensuring their species will give birth to another generation.

After watching this episode, choose from the following questions and/or tasks to extend your learning

Question Box 1

- What are the most important details in this program?
- How does the author feel about the topic? What evidence did you find that back up this statement
- What is the author's purpose for creating this program? What is your evidence for this?
- Describe the early life of the cheetah cubs. What difficulties did they face?
- How did the cheetah mother protect her cubs?
- Name some of the skills the cubs had to learn in their early lives. How did the mother teach them what they needed to survive?
- How did the episode end? Was the cheetah mother successful in raising her cubs?
- Describe the point of view of the conservationist and cameraman, Kim Wolhuter. Did she look upon the cheetah family positively or negatively? How do you know?

Question Box 2

- What skills do humans have to learn in their early life? What about domesticated cats?
- What are some of your questions about this TV Show?
- What were you amazed to learn and what surprised you?
- Describe how you felt as you watched the cubs grow throughout the episode.
- Were there points in the episode that made you smile or made you sad? Explain what those points were and why you felt the emotions that you did.

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Box 3 (Tasks)

- After watching the video, list the challenges that the mother cheetah faced when raising her cubs.
- Draw and label an African Savanna grassland ecosystem.
- Complete a timeline of the life of one of the female cubs that grew into adulthood. Include important details from the episode.

Box 4 (Enrichment)

- Draw a food chain that includes a cheetah as the apex predator.
- Research and describe the relationship between Cheetahs and lions.
- Research the number of cheetahs left in the wild. Are they endangered? What is being done to help them not only survive, but thrive?

Box 4 (Enrichment)

- What are some of the skills necessary to become a wildlife photographer or cameraman?
<https://www.wanderlust.co.uk/content/get-paid-to-travel-become-a-wildlife-cameraman/>
<https://www.robthecameraman.co.uk/career-advice.html>
 - Describe some of the challenges the cameraman had in getting some of the film footage in the video. What do you think
 - Describe some of your qualities that would help you be a great wildlife cameraman or photographer.
- Social-Emotional Connection: In this episode, the cheetah mother had to persevere and work hard on her long term goal of helping her babies survive. Interview a family member about a time they had to work hard at something that was difficult. Ask them what they did to persevere through the situation. Ask them to reflect on the skills they needed to complete the task.