

Florida Panther-2nd Grade

Adult Florida Panthers have brown fur. Their eyes are golden in color. Males are usually bigger than females.

Baby Florida Panthers are called kittens. These cats have 1-3 babies in a litter. Kittens have spots on their fur. They have blue eyes. After they grow up they live alone. This is known as solitary.

Florida Panthers are meat eaters. Meat eaters are also called carnivores. Their diet includes deer, wild hogs, raccoons, armadillos and alligators.

These cats are found in pinelands, hardwoods hammocks and swamp forests. Living in an area with a lot of plants helps to protect these cats. Plants make it easier to hide; there may be fewer people and more food/prey nearby. Males have a range/area of over 200 square miles. Females have a range/area of over 70-80 square miles. They make other animals aware of their territory by scent marking.

SECOND GRADE:

1. How much territory do male and female Florida Panthers usually maintain in the wild?

Answer: Males range over an area of 200 square miles.

Females range over 70-80 square miles.

2. How do cats, including the Florida Panther maintain their territories?

- a. With fencing
- b. With landscaping
- c. Scent marking
- d. With guards

Answer: c

3. Beyond size, how do baby and adult panthers differ in appearance?

Answer: At 4-6 months of age they begin to lose the spots in their fur and it becomes a solid buff color. Their eyes also change color.