



Small Wild Cats and Their World Records

Big cats like lions and (1)..... are famous, but did you know there are many smaller wild cats that are just as amazing? These cats live in different parts of the (2)..... and have some surprising "world records." Let's meet a few of them!

The **Pallas cat**, also called the manul, is one of the fluffiest cats in the world. It lives in the cold mountains of Central Asia. Its fur is super thick to keep it warm in the (3)..... In fact, it has the thickest fur of any cat! The Pallas cat is small, about the size of a house cat, but it looks (4)..... because of all its fluffy fur.

The **black-footed cat** is one of the best hunters in the animal kingdom. It is found in the dry grasslands of southern Africa. This cat is very tiny, (5)..... only 1-2 kilograms, but don't let its size fool you. It has the highest hunting success rate of any cat: about 60%! This means that when it hunts, more than half of the time, it catches its prey.

Another special small cat is the **rusty-spotted cat** from India and Sri Lanka. It is the smallest wild cat in the world, about the size of a kitten! This tiny cat is very quick and can climb trees to (6)..... birds and other small animals.

The **sand cat** is another remarkable wildcat. It lives in deserts across North Africa and Asia and is perfectly adapted to life in harsh, dry conditions. The sand cat has thick fur on its (7)..... to protect it from the hot sand and can survive for long periods without drinking (8)..... It hunts at night, using its excellent hearing to find prey like rodents and insects.

The **serval** from Africa has its own record too. It has the longest legs (compared to its body size) of any cat. These long legs help it (9)..... high – up to 3 meters! This is useful for catching birds in flight. Another acrobatic cat species is the **caracal**, which is known for its long, black ear tufts and incredible jumping ability. Just like servals, they can snatch birds from the (10)..... They live in Africa and parts of Asia, where they hunt small animals like rabbits and birds.

These small wild cats may not be as famous as lions or leopards, but they are just as amazing. Each one has something special that makes it unique. Which one is your favorite?

Word Bank

water, catch, air, snow, tigers, weighing, dark, world, bigger, paws, jump