

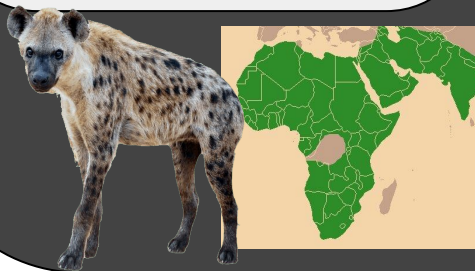
## Female Power



In hyena clans, all females rank highest in the hierarchy above the males. Even female cubs are believed to rank higher than the oldest male.

This is believed to come from the females' larger size and build, and evolved to allow females more power in mate preference and reproductive traits.

Female spotted hyenas are unique in the sense that their urinary and reproductive organ resembles that of the male organ. This leads to them having one of the most painful birth processes in the animal kingdom.



# Spotted Hyena

*Crocuta crocuta*

**Life Span:** Spotted hyenas in the wild average a lifespan of about 20 years, but have lived to be 40 years old in captivity

**Height:** Between 2.5ft and 3 ft tall

**Weight:** Males weigh between 89 - 120 lbs, while female weigh between 98 - 140 lbs

**Clan Size:** Up to 80 members

**Habitat and Range:** Spotted hyenas are found throughout all of Africa and some of Eurasia.

They've adapted to live in multiple different environments, including semi-desert, savannah, woodlands, and montane regions.

**Diet:** These animals are completely carnivorous, meaning they only eat meat. They are famous for scavenging and stealing from other predators, but are also fully capable and successful hunters.

Their main prey items consist of wildebeest and antelope.

## Not the Villains!

Due to their roles and portrayal in media through shows and movies, this incredible species have gotten a terrible reputation in the animals kingdom.

This fascinating species is not evil, in reality they have one of the most family oriented and connective social life styles of any species.

The famous 'hyena laugh' is not a villainous cackle, but one of the most complicated and intelligent languages in the animal kingdom.

These stereotypes are harmful to the conservation work for this incredible species.



**Audience:** The target audience for this artifact is anyone visiting the zoo. The information is simply laid out and easy to read, making it easier for any type of audience to understand. Images and headlines help bring in readers.

**Purpose:** The main purpose of this artifact is to inform and bring awareness to. This informational panel would be posted in the viewing area for this species at the zoo, allowing guests to become more educated on what is in front of them. An important aspect of this information is to attempt to help break misconceptions and bias by bringing light to the species' difficult conservation efforts and how unique of a animal this is. Overall, this artifact is meant to educate!

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