

# *Cougars*

## By Patricia Corrigan

Power Point  
and Comprehension Test



**Expository Thinking Guide**  
Content-Based Topic

**Title of the Selection** Cougars by Patricia Corrigan

Genre: Nonfiction – Informational Text

Topic of Selection	Cougars
Central Idea (Main Idea of Selection)	Facts about cougars
	1. Introduction to cougars
	2. Where cougars live (or) cougars can be found in different parts of North, Central, and South America
	3. Cougars have different names
	4. Cougars have adapted to their habitats.
	5. Cougar body measurements
	6. Description of the cougar species
	7. Cougars use fur instead of fat to stay warm
	8. A cougar's hair or fur
	9. Cougars pant to release heat
	10. The cougars' coat colors and patterns
	11. The cougar chin and underside
	12. Cougars camouflage to help them hunt
	13. Good eyesight
	14. Sense of hearing and smell
	15. Sensitive hairs called whiskers

	16. How the whiskers help cougars
	17. Sounds that cougars make
	18. Grooming
	19. Strong jaws and teeth
	20. They live alone (solitary) to protect their territory
	21. Newborn kitten fur
	22. Kitten fur as they grow
	23. The eyes of the cougar kitten
	24. Kittens are dependent on their mother
	25. How female cougars protect their kittens from danger
	26. The mother introduces food to her kittens (or) the mother starts to bring food to the kittens
	27. The mother teaches the kittens to eat food by example
	28. The mother teaches the kittens how to survive
	29. Kittens learn to hunt for themselves
	30. Conclusion: Young cougars go out on their own and may survive eight to ten years.

### Summary

**Facts about cougars show how they have adapted to live in different parts of North, Central, and South America. The cougars use special body features like their fur to live and survive. They use their senses and other body features like teeth and whiskers to hunt and protect their territory. Cougar kittens learn how to survive from their mothers. Young cougars then go out and may survive eight to ten years.**

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Facts about cougars show how they have adapted to live in different parts of North, Central, and South America. The cougars use special body features like their fur to live and survive. They use their senses and other body features like teeth and whiskers to hunt and protect their territory. Cougar kittens learn how to survive from their mothers. Young cougars then go out and may survive eight to ten years.

**Expository Thinking Guide**  
Content-Based Topic

**Title of the Selection** Cougars by Patricia Corrigan

Genre: Nonfiction – Informational Text  
Pages 250- 260

Topic of Selection	Cougars
Main Idea of Selection	Facts about _____ C_____ are able to live in many different _____.
	1. Introduction to cougars
	2. Intro: Where cougars _____ (or) cougars can be found in different parts of North, Central, and South _____
	3. Intro: Cougars have different _____
	4. Intro: Cougars have adapted to their _____.
	5. Cougar _____ measurements
	6. Description of the cougar _____
	7. Cougars use _____ instead of fat to stay warm
	8. A cougar's hair or fur
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	10. The cougars' coat colors and _____
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	12. Cougars _____ to help them hunt
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16. How the \_\_\_\_\_ help cougars

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18. \_\_\_\_\_

19. Strong \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

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21. Newborn \_\_\_\_\_ fur

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23. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the cougar kitten

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26. The mother introduces \_\_\_\_\_ to her kittens  
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27. The mother \_\_\_\_\_ the kittens to eat food by example

28. The mother teaches the kittens how to survive

29. Kittens learn to h \_\_\_\_\_ for themselves

30. Conclusion: Young cougars go out on their own and may  
\_\_\_\_\_ eight to ten years.

## Comprehension Questions – *Cougars* by Patricia Corrigan

1 What does the word sleek mean on page 254, paragraph 2?

- A Large in size
- B Fast and speedy
- C Strong and powerful
- D Thin and slim looking

*List the words from page 254 that helped you determine the meaning.*

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2 Cougars' tawny, orange-brown coat and black markings are important for survival because -

- A they are used for identification.
- B they don't have good eyesight.
- C they aid in camouflage.
- D they hunt at night.

*List the page and paragraph number where you found text evidence to support your answer.*

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3 On page 254, the author used author's craft to-

- A Provide a lot of detail in the description to help readers understand cougar qualities
- B Provide a sequence of events used by cougars to skillfully hunt prey
- C Illustrate the process cougars undergo to prepare to survive the winter months
- D Defend the hunting practices used against cougars by wildlife experts

(Show the double-underline strategy- Underline the text in the question stem and in the answer choice to show how the text connections.)

- 4 Read the sentence from page 259, paragraph 2 of the selection.

*By example, she shows them how to bite, how to tear meat off the bone, and how to chew.*

The author uses this sentence to –

- A explain to the reader how mother cougars protect their young
  - B offer a reason why newborn kittens need hunting skills
  - C help the reader visualize how a mother cougar begins to train her kittens to survive
  - D explain to the reader how kittens depend on social skills taught
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- 5 The picture and caption on page 259 pages is included in the article to –

- A show what young cougars look like while hunting
  - B provide information about the appearance of young cougars
  - C explain why cougars need to prance on prey
  - D show what a young cougar does with prey that has been caught
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- 6 What can the reader conclude about cougar kittens?

- A They prefer to be moved by the scruff of the neck.
- B They can protect themselves at a very early age.
- C They enjoy grooming one another in the den.
- D They are unable to survive without the mother cougar.

- 7 Which words from page 256 help the reader understand the meaning of vary?
- A *cougars have whiskers, cat relatives*
  - B *uses whiskers to gather, touch*
  - C *in length, are long enough*
  - D *can determine the height, space under a rock*
- 

- 8 In the caption on page 257, what does the word ferocious mean?

- A Fierce
- B Lazy
- C Gentle
- D Angry

*List the words in the caption the helped you support your answer.*

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- 9 The author's purpose for writing this article is to –
- A tell the reader about how young cougars are trained
  - B give information about how to protect cougar habitats
  - C show what to do if you cross the path of a cougar
  - D tell about how the elusive cougar survives in various habitats

Answers:

- 1- D – “little fat on their bodies” or “cougars have little of this kind of insulation”  
Accept any text that supports the correct answer.
- 2- C – Text evidence is on page 255, paragraph 3
- 3- A
- 4- C
- 5- B
- 6- D
- 7- C
- 8- A – “Sees an enemy” “Scare it away” “showing teeth and growling”
- 9- D
- 10 D