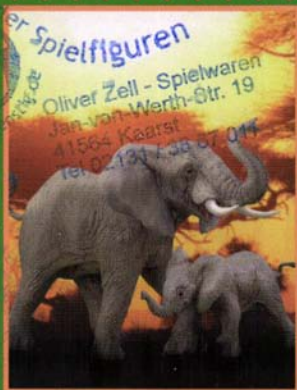


The Vanishing Wild

C O L L E C T I O N



A Collector's Guide

Fifth Edition

The Vanishing Wild Collection

Vanishing Wild is the world's premier authentic, vinyl, wildlife replica collection. Each figure is handpainted and scale-modeled on one of 3 ratios to reflect not just the look of the animal, but the spirit.



Introduced: January 1995

African Elephant



African Elephant Female

Model: 13" (33 cm) long

African Elephant Baby

Model: 7.5" (19 cm) long

AFRICAN ELEPHANT (*Loxodonta africans*)

African elephants are considered endangered due to poaching and the disappearance of natural habitat. The alliance of many countries banning the import of ivory helps ensure their survival.

Elephants are considered highly social animals. Often traveling in herds consisting of families with up to 10 members, they are led by the most experienced female. Although elephants do not exhibit a territorial domain, they roam 4 to 27 square miles (6,4 to 43,5 square kilometers). The actual distance depends on herd size and season.

The most distinguishing characteristic of the elephant is its trunk. Believed to have over 1,000,000 muscles, the trunk does not contain bones or cartilage. The trunk is remarkably flexible and can pick up small and large objects alike. This fundamental instrument allows the elephant to eat, breathe, drink, spray dust, defend itself and communicate.

The African elephant adult weighs between 3.3 and 6 US tons (3 to 5,4 metric tons) and measures 7 to 13.5 feet tall (2,1 to 4,1 m). To effectively cool itself, the elephant wallows in mud baths and uses its ears to fan its large body.



Bengal Tiger

Introduced: January 2000



Bengal Tiger

Model: 8.5" (21.5 cm) long

BENGAL TIGER (*Panthera tigris tigris*)

The tiger's life is difficult. Although it is the largest of the 37 species of cats and probably the most graceful hunting machine on earth, it's chases are often unsuccessful.

Depending upon stealth rather than speed, it needs to eat an average of 15 lbs (9kg) of meat a day. Too large to efficiently hunt small mammals, it needs to be wary of the horns and hooves of its large prey. Hunted for its beautiful pelt and haunted by the loss of its habitat, this epitome of the wild, may soon have refuge only under the protective watch of zoological parks and preserves.



Introduced: January 1996

Grizzly Bear



Grizzly Bear Adult

Model: 6" (15 cm) long



Grizzly Bear Cub

Model: 2.75" (7 cm) long

GRIZZLY BEAR (*Ursus horribilis*)

Grizzly bears can sprint at speeds up to 35 mph (56 km/h) for short distances despite their size and weight. Utilizing their speed and long sharp claws, their diet varies from mammals such as deer to fishing in streams for salmon. Plants and berries also play an important role in their diets. Storing up body fat during the summer, bears hibernate in dens, nourished only by the stored fat. During sleep, the heart rate is considerably slowed, yet bears can be easily aroused, thus escape danger quickly.



Grizzly bears are regarded as the most dangerous wild mammal in the United States. Their attraction to camp sites in search of food can cause serious problems to humans. Although bears have been known to attack humans, they generally avoid them.

The average offspring is a litter of two, yet may be as many as four. Weighing less than 1 pound (.45 kg) at birth, cubs are cared for by their overly protective mother for 2 - 3 years. This is the only lasting social bond among bears. While males can take up to 11 years to mature, females can produce a litter at four years of age. Full grown, the grizzly can weigh up to 1,175 pounds (533 kg) with a length of 8 feet (2.4 m) along the back.

Jaguar

Introduced: January 1999



Jaguar

Model: 9.5" (24 cm) long



Black Jaguar

Model: 9.5" (24 cm) long

JAGUAR (*Panthera onca*)

The jaguar is one of the largest species in the cat family, reaching lengths of over 8 feet from head to the tip of the tail. Similar to the leopard in appearance but with a thicker body and head, the animal's pelt is covered with black ring-like markings, while its head region is peppered with smaller black spots. Some jaguars possess a gene which makes their fur entirely black. People often mistake these black jaguars for being of another species altogether.



Possessing blunt claws, the jaguar is known to sometimes climb trees but prefers to hunt from the ground in densely forested regions that contain or border on rivers and wetlands. Any awkwardness they experience while climbing is contrasted by its remarkable swimming ability. While their diet mainly consists of small mammals and reptiles, jaguars are so competent in water that it is not unknown for them to attack alligators and win. Its native habitat ranges from the forests of Argentina through Central Americas, stretching as far north as some parts of New Mexico.



Lioness

Model: 9.5" (24 cm) long

Lion Male

Model: 9.5" (24 cm) long

Lion Cub

Model: 4" (10 cm) long

LION (*Panthera leo*)

Once numerous throughout Asia, Africa and southern Europe, lion populations are now confined to parts of Africa and the Gir Forest in India.

Lions are social animals, living in groups called "prides". Most hunting of prey, including large herbivores such as zebras and wildebeest, is done by females, who are also responsible for instructing young cubs. The females are excellent predators, attaining speeds of 36 mph (58 km/h) for short distances as they burst from hiding.

The males generally reserve their energy for contesting with other males. They differ from females in several other ways also: they are larger, have a beautiful mane of hair down their necks and do not climb trees as the females sometimes do. Prides have a strong hierarchy, with one dominant male at the top. Younger males continually challenge the dominant male until he retires.



Mountain Gorilla

Introduced: January 1990



Mountain Gorilla Baby

Model: 3" (8 cm) long



Mountain Gorilla Male

Model: 6" (15 cm) long

Mountain Gorilla Female

Model: 4" (10 cm) long

MOUNTAIN GORILLA (*Gorilla gorilla berengei*)

One of the most endangered animals on earth, the mountain gorilla is now confined to a small mountainous region among several large lakes in Zaire, Burundi and Uganda. Tribal conflicts in this region have escalated the risk to the subspecies. It differs from its more common cousin, the lowland gorilla, in that its hair is longer and darker.



Gorillas show an advanced family structure, the male living with one or more females and their offspring and defending them if attacked. Although powerful and at times fierce in gesture, gorillas are mostly gentle giants, preferring to be left alone.

Vegetarians, they feed mainly on shoots and fresh stalks as they forage through their territory. At night they build nests on the ground, the male often sitting with his back to a tree, his arms folded across his chest.

Introduced: January 2002

Mountain Lion



Mountain Lion

Model: 9" (23 cm) long

MOUNTAIN LION (*Puma concolor*)

The mountain lion, also referred to as the puma or cougar, is the largest animal in the cat family outside of the 5 great cats, categorized as such by their ability to roar. Gifted with tremendous strength and excellent proportions, the mountain lion is capable of uncanny feats of leaping. At full sprint, mountain lions have been known to achieve jumping distances of nearly 40 feet in a single leap. They use this jumping prowess to take prey by surprise, closing the distance between the cat and its prey in a rapid succession of jumps.

While the mountain lions typically subsist off of meat from deer, hares, and other small mammals, occasionally they will risk attacking larger and more dangerous prey such as moose. Size notwithstanding, mountain lions, in physical type as well as disposition are similar to the common housecat. They have the broadest range of any of the cats native to the Americas, spanning from the southernmost tip of South America to the United States-Canada border. They can live for up to 20 years, although many die from destruction of their natural habitat and hunting.



Mountain Zebra

Introduced: January 1994



Mountain Zebra Mother

Model: 6" (15 cm) long

Mountain Zebra Foal

Model: 4" (10 cm) long

MOUNTAIN ZEBRA (*Equus zebra*)

The rarest of zebra species, the mountain zebra is recognized by its narrower but more numerous stripes and gridiron pattern on the top side of its rump. It also has a dewlap on the underside of its neck that is found on no other zebra.



Small bands consisting of a male and 1-5 females with their young range the slopes to an elevation of 6,500 feet (1981 m) in search of food. In fact, more than half of their day is spent feeding. The male is an active leader of the group, chasing away challengers and guarding the rear in times of danger as a mare leads the band away.

Formerly occurring across the entire region of South Africa, the mountain zebra was brought to the point of extinction in the 1930's by excessive hunting. The Mountain Zebra National Park was created to aid its preservation, however, the species is still listed as endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the United States Department of the Interior (USDI).

Introduced: January 1991

Polar Bear



Polar Bear Cub

Model: 3.5" (9 cm) long

Polar Bear Male

Model: 7" (18 cm) high

Polar Bear Female

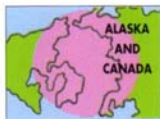
Model: 6" (15 cm) long

POLAR BEAR (*Ursus maritimus*)

Polar bears are, with Kodiak bears, the largest land carnivores on earth. It is a creature of the ice, easily withstanding the intense cold of the polar regions. At times it rides the ice floes for great distances.

The polar bear is a powerful swimmer and does much of its hunting in the water. It can remain in the water for hours, and even days at a time. The most carnivorous of bears, it subsists on seals, young walrus, whale calves and fish. It also hunts other land mammals such as the arctic fox, but rarely endangers humans.

The polar bear is a solitary animal, pairing off only for mating. The female gives birth to one or two cubs in a snowy den. Active during the day, the polar bear has become increasingly threatened by encroaching civilization. In addition, technology has increased the efficiency of its traditional adversary, the Eskimo.



Reticulated Giraffe

Introduced: January 1993



Reticulated Giraffe Calf

Model: 7" (18 cm) high

Reticulated Giraffe Male

Model: 14" (36 cm) high

GIRAFFE (*Giraffa camelopardalis*)

The tallest animal on earth, giraffes can reach heights of 20 feet (6 m). These vegetarians browse on the tops of acacia trees, grasping the leaves with their 18 inch (46 cm) tongues. Although the males fight by whacking each other with the bony knobs on the tops of their heads, their main defense from predators is by lashing out with their forelegs or taking flight.

There is only one species of giraffe, but 12 distinct subspecies. They vary in the pattern of their coloring and the locality they inhabit. Giraffes are distributed on the plains and savannas of a wide part of sub-Saharan Africa.

The population of giraffes remains fairly constant. However, in regions affected by overhunting, populations are slow to rebound since giraffes bear only one calf every 2-3 years.



Introduced: January 1993

Siberian Tiger



Siberian Tiger Cub

Model: 4" (10 cm) long

Siberian Tiger Male

Model: 12" (30 cm) long

SIBERIAN TIGER (*Panthera tigris*)

Tigers are solitary, aggressive predators that hunt mostly at night. Their favorite prey is wild boar and deer but they will stalk larger prey if the opportunity presents itself. Although generally shy around humans, this largest member of the cat family has been known to become a "man-eater" under certain circumstances. They can devour 60-80 pounds (27-36 kg) of meat in one feeding.



Tigers avoid the heat and seek out cooler spots, possibly because they were originally from the north of Asia. Adult tigers socialize during mating.

Tigers are found only in Asia, but several different subspecies are widely distributed. The pale Siberian tiger inhabits the cold forests of northern Asia. A large subspecies, the Manchurian, is found in remote parts of China. And the Bengal, the most widely known, is found in the jungles of India and other southeastern Asian countries.

Timber Wolf

Introduced: January 1990



Timber Wolf Cub

Model: 3.5" (9 cm) long

Timber Wolf Male

Model: 6" (15 cm) long

Timber Wolf Female

Model: 6" (15 cm) long

TIMBER WOLF (*Canis lupus*)

Wolves are extremely resourceful carnivores and the adults are regarded as impossible to capture in a straight pursuit due to their endurance and intelligence. Hunted in the past because they were viewed as competitors by farmers and ranchers, they are now recognized as an important element of the ecological balance.



At one time common to most of the northern hemisphere, they now inhabit open forests in remote regions of North America and central Eurasia. The ancestor of the domestic dog, their color varies from black to white.

Wolves are social animals with a very structured hierarchy. They communicate through a combination of snarls, howls and yips and often hunt as organized packs with different members delegated different tasks.

Introduced: January 1995

White Siberian Tiger



White Tigress

Model: 9" (23 cm) long

White Tiger Cub

Model: 4" (10 cm) long

White Tiger Male

Model: 12" (30 cm) long

WHITE SIBERIAN TIGER (*Panthera tigris*)

The white tiger is found throughout the jungles of India and other southeastern Asian countries.

When hunting it relies on sight and sound more than on smell. In the wild the tiger can consume 60-80 pounds (27-36 kg) of meat at one time. This is necessary since it fails to capture its prey 90 percent of the time. Several adults may gather briefly to share a kill. Evidence suggests a tiger roars to announce that it has made a kill. It also roars to attract the opposite sex. The tiger vocalizes through purrs and grunts and marks its territory with urine and feces.

The female tiger usually gives birth to two young, but a litter can range from 1 to 6 cubs. Nursing from 3 to 6 months, the cubs are capable of hunting prey by 11 months. At two years, the young typically leave the mother, yet only half of all cubs survive more than 2 years. The maximum life-span of a tiger is about 26 years.



White Wolf

Introduced: January 1992



White Wolf Cub

Model: 3.5" (9 cm) long

White Wolf Female

Model: 6" (15 cm) long

White Wolf Male

Model: 6" (15 cm) long

WHITE WOLF (*Canis lupus*)

The color of the wolf's coat ranges from black to mottled to white, generally matching the predominant colors of its environment. The white wolves of the north are the largest of the species, and the hardiest.

Wolves make good parents, with male and female sharing the rearing of 2-13 cubs. Births take place in the spring and the young are born blind and deaf.

The young are born in an underground lair with several tunnels leading to the outside. They stay in the burrow for 2-3 weeks, living off mother's milk. As they move into the outside world, the mother first feeds them regurgitated prey, and then small animals, until they are able to hunt for themselves.



Retired: Dec. 1997

Retirement Program

As new models are created and added to the Vanishing Wild Collection, some older models are retired.



Gemsbok Adult/Baby

Introduced: January 1998

Retired: May 2001



Siberian Tigress

Introduced: January 1993

Retired: May 2001

Snow Leopard Family

Introduced: January 1992

Retired: December 1997



Reticulated Giraffe Female

Introduced: January 1993

Retired: December 1997



Notes

The Vanishing Wild

C O L L E C T I O N

Museum
Quality
Scale
Model
Replicas



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