



How do tigers raise their young?

Because tigers prefer to travel solo, female tigers do not stay with their male mates, and they raise their cubs on their own. Female tigers normally have their first litter between the ages of three and six, with pregnancy lasting around 103 days. While tigers can have up to seven cubs in a litter, usually they will have just two or three. At first, tiger cubs are totally dependent on their mother's milk, but they begin to learn to hunt with help from their mother, from age one and a half to age two. After this point, they will leave their mother to find their own territories. She'll be ready to breed again soon after.

● Why Tigers Matter

They keep nature in balance, for the good of all.

Millions of people around the world depend on forests for hunting, gathering, small-scale agriculture, medicine, paper, wood, and other forest products. As a large predator, the tiger plays a key role in maintaining healthy forest ecosystems. The tiger's hunting activity helps keep the numbers of other animal populations under control, which in turn helps keep the land intact and other environmental factors in balance—like water and food availability. Keeping these things steady and balanced is important to the well-being and health of humans as well as the animals who live in these areas—so that means by saving tigers, we are helping people too.

Protecting tiger territory protects many other animals.

Just one tiger's range is home to hundreds of other endangered animals and plants. So when we protect one tiger, we can save so much more than just that one animal.

They can help communities in need.

Tigers can directly help some of the world's poorest communities. Where tigers exist, tourists go. And where tourists go, eco-friendly tourism projects can be created, providing sustainable livelihood opportunities for communities with few other alternatives for income.

They are living legends.

How often can you say that an animal found in myths and legends actually exists in the real world? This is the case for tigers. For centuries, they have captured our imaginations and inspired awe. If they were to go extinct, we would no longer be able to see this living legend in our world.