

## Hörtexte – Englische Version

### African Animals

#### *At the Zoo*

a rhino, an elephant, a giraffe, a baboon, a lion,  
an antelope, a crocodile, a hippo, a zebra

#### *In the Savannah – Animals*

##### Hippo

The hippo is a large animal that lives in lakes and rivers in Africa. Hippopotamus means *river horse* in Greek. They spend most of the day in water. At night they leave the water to look for food. Hippos are plant eaters. Each night they eat up to 40 kilos of grass.

##### Giraffe

The giraffe is the tallest land animal and has an extremely long neck. Giraffes are plant eaters and can live some days without water.

##### Elephant

The African elephant is the largest living land animal. It has large ears and a long trunk. Elephants eat up to 260 kilos of plants each day.

##### Rhino

The rhino has a thick skin and one or two nose horns. Rhinos are plant eaters and graze on grassland.

##### Lion

Lions are large cats that live on grassy plains in Africa and India. Lions are active at night and hunt antelopes, zebras and other large animals.

##### Antelope

Antelopes are animals that can run and jump very well. They are hunted by lions and other wild animals and spend most of their time grazing on grassland.

##### Crocodile

Crocodiles are large reptiles with four legs and a huge tail. They swim very well and can also run very fast. They eat mostly fish and other animals living in the water. Sometimes they even catch big animals like gnus, which come to the water to drink

##### Zebra

Zebras are related to horses and donkeys and can run very fast. They have black and white stripes. Zebras eat grass and need to drink lots of water.

##### Baboon

The baboon is a large monkey with a greyish brown fur. Baboons eat plants and meat, grass and insects and other small animals like lizards.

##### White ants

White ants build tall anthills in the savannah. The queen of the ants with her eggs lives in the anthill under the ground. White ants are eaten by birds and ant-eaters, called aardvarks in Africa.

## **A Story - Lazy Lion**

### ***Setting the Stage - Animals***

a lion, white ants, weaverbirds, a honey badger, a crocodile, an ant-eater or aardvark

*Bild 7: Attention!* - The ant-eater is called Erdferkel in German. It lives in Africa. The African name is aardvark. - The ant-bear is called Ameisenbär in German. It lives in South America.

### ***Setting the Stage - File Wild Animals***

#### Lions

Lions are large cats that live on the grassy plains in Africa. They live in groups, called prides. The male lion has a thick mane around the head. He can weigh up to 250 kg and live for about 15 years. Lions are meat-eating mammals and hunt antelopes, zebras, wart-hogs and other large herding animals. Lions are active at night and sleep most of the time during the day. The baby lions are called cubs, and the lioness gives birth to 2 to 4 cubs.

#### White ants

Termites sometimes are called white ants because most of them are white and they live in large colonies like ants. They have been living on earth for more than 200 million years. These small insects build large nests with tunnels and towers for the whole colony. These nests are called mounds. They live in Africa and Australia and like to eat wood.

#### Weaverbirds

Weaverbirds are small tropical birds that build nests that look like baskets. They are made of grass, palm leaves and fluffy seeds. Many weaverbirds nest in huge colonies. Weaverbirds are very noisy and like to eat seeds.

#### Honey badgers

Honey badgers are wild animals that live in holes under the ground or in hollow tree stumps. They are strong burrowers and good climbers. Honey badgers are active at night. They have short legs and strong claws. Their thick dark fur has a white patch on their heads. Honey badgers live singly or in pairs. The young, usually two, are born in burrows.

#### Crocodiles

Crocodiles are huge, meat-eating reptiles with long snouts. The best known type of crocodile is an African crocodile. They live in rivers and lakes and they can swim very well. Crocodiles are usually around 2.5 m long. Crocodiles hunt mostly at night and have very sharp teeth. They feed on fish and smaller animals that they find in or near the water. Female crocodiles lay from 16 to 27 eggs in their nests, built on the banks of rivers.

#### Ant-eater or aardvark

The ant-eater is an animal that eats white ants and other insects. Its African name is aardvark. The aardvark is quite big and lives in holes under the ground. The animal is only active at night. The aardvark has powerful claws and teeth that grow again and again throughout its lifetime. The female gives birth to one or two babies.

### ***Setting the Stage - Animal Homes***

Lion lives on the African plain. He has no house to live in.

The white ants live in the earth.

The weaverbirds live in a nest up a tree.

Crocodile lives in a cave on the riverbank.

Honey badger lives in a hollow tree stump.

The ant-eater lives in a hole under the ground.

### ***Setting the Stage – The Savannah and the King***

#### Tafel 1

This is the savannah, the African plain. In one part of the year it is hot and dry. And Lion wanders around on the hot sunny days.

#### Tafel 2

In one part of the year it is hot and sometimes very wet. Big black clouds appear. And sometimes there are big rainfalls – with flashes of lightning and thunder.

#### Tafel 3

Lion says: “I am your king. The big rain is coming. I need a house to keep me dry. Build me a house. A big house.”

### ***Step by Step - Lion’s Dislikes***

Lion doesn’t like the white ants’ house.  
Lion doesn’t like the weaverbirds’ house.  
Lion doesn’t like the ant-eater’s house.  
Lion doesn’t like honey badger’s house.  
Lion doesn’t like crocodile’s house.

### ***Step by Step - Lion is Cross***

“I won’t live in the earth”, says Lion crossly.  
“I won’t live up a tree”, says Lion crossly.  
“I won’t live underground”, says Lion crossly.  
“I won’t live in a tree stump”, says Lion crossly.  
“I won’t live in the water”, says Lion crossly.

## **Lions in the Savannah**

### ***Predator and Prey - Animals***

a lion, a leopard, a cheetah, a hyena, a jackal  
an antelope, a wart-hog, a gnu, a buffalo, a zebra

### ***Predator and Prey - File Wild Animals***

#### Lion

Lions are found mainly in the African savannah. They are the only large cats which live in bigger groups, which are called prides. Lions are meat eaters and hunt antelopes, wart-hogs, zebras and other large herding animals. You can always spot a male lion by his thick mane.

#### Leopard

The leopard is the most common of all large cats and lives in Africa, as well as Asia. Leopards are lone animals and they’re active at night. They can jump very far and can climb trees easily. There, in the dusk and at night, they lie in wait for their prey, antelopes for example, or other smaller mammals.

#### Cheetah

The cheetah is the fastest land mammal in the world and can run up to 100 kilometres per hour. But it can only keep this up for a short time. Cheetahs hunt mainly during the day, and

they often make up a group of four. This improves their hunting and gives them more chance to protect their prey.

### Hyena

You can find hyenas - which look like dogs, but are related to cats - almost anywhere in the whole of Africa. It is well known that they steal the booty from other animals in groups. But they are very successful hunters, too. Mainly at night they chase after gnus, zebras and antelopes. They can even break up elephant bones with their strong teeth.

### Wart-hog

Wart-hogs live together in smaller groups. They are mostly active during the day and often spend the night in a deserted ant-eater's hole, which they make larger and pad down with grass. Lions and leopards belong to their enemies, but they can defend themselves with their lower canine teeth, their sharpest weapon.

### Jackal

Jackals were worshipped by the ancient Egyptians as gods. Today humans see them as a danger to their animals, so they hunt them. But jackals are quite useful animals, as they get rid of dead animals, and they kill sick animals. They hunt during the early morning and live alone, or together for a long time with a partner.

### Antelope

The 29 different kinds of antelopes are the animals which are seen most of all in Africa. They live in the savannah, in the bush-land and the semidesert. They feed on grass, foliage and leaves. Cheetahs and leopards are their deadly enemy. Antelopes often go on long treks in small groups to look for food.

### Gnu

Gnus live in large herds, often with several thousand animals. They feed almost totally on grass, and they themselves are the prey of lions, hyenas and leopards. People say they can smell rain from a long distance away. Then the herd moves on to the rain region, where new grass will soon grow.

### Buffalo

Buffaloes live in herds, in the savannah as well as in the deep forest. They graze mainly during hours of the cool morning, evening and night. You can often see them wallowing in mud, which gives their skin a protective layer against insects. They are naturally very peaceful, but they can fight off their enemies aggressively.

### Zebra

The striped zebras, typical African animals, live in herds in the savannah and in thinned out forests. Every animal has its special black-and-white markings, which helps families recognise their own kind. But it also serves as camouflage against predators and flies. Zebras feed on grass and sometimes on leaves and bark.

## ***Kamuniak, the Lioness***

### **Kamuniak, the Lioness**

In December a childless lioness adopted an antelope baby. “It’s completely against her nature“, said gamekeepers from the Samburu National Park in Kenya. When the lioness went out hunting the mother antelope came to suckle her baby. Everything went well, until the little antelope kid was torn to bits by a lion.

In February the lioness once again took in another antelope kid. This time she was so careful that the little antelope was in danger of starving. Gamekeepers therefore took it away.

At the end of March the lioness took another antelope baby into her care. This time the antelope mother managed to get her child back. She seized the opportunity when the lioness wasn’t there, to take her kid away from the lionesses den.

Meanwhile the lioness is a big attraction in the Samburu National Park. Gamekeepers have given her the name of “Kamuniak“, which means “the blessed one“ in the Samburu language.

## **Treasure Box**

### ***Song: Leo the Lazy Lion***

#### **Leo the Lazy Lion**

Here comes Leo.  
He's the laziest lion I know.

Leo is a lazy lion.  
Leo is the laziest lion.  
He likes to lie in the nice warm sun  
And listen for the lizards as they're on the run.  
Leo is the laziest lion I know.

Leo is a lazy lion.  
Leo is the laziest lion.  
He licks his lips in a lion way  
And laughs when the lion cubs come out to play.  
Leo is the laziest lion I know.  
Leo, the lazy lion.

La la la ... Lazy lion, lazy Leo  
La la la ... he was a lazy lion, Leo.

Leo is a lazy lion.  
Leo is the laziest lion.  
He lounges in the night.  
He lounges in the day.  
He lives his life in such a lazy ol' way.  
Leo is the laziest lion I know.

La la la ... Leo, lazy lion.

La la la ... he was a lazy lion, Leo.

He lounges in the night.  
He lounges in the day.  
He lives his life in such a lazy ol'way.  
Leo is the laziest lion I know.  
The laziest lion I know...

### ***Fable - The Lion and the Mouse***

#### **The Lion and the Mouse**

One day a lion was sleeping in the grass of the savannah. A tiny mouse ran over the lion's head. The lion awoke with a loud roar, and down came his paw over the little mouse.

The great beast was about to open his huge jaws to swallow the tiny mouse. "Pardon me, oh King, I didn't want to disturb you. I beg you, Your Majesty", cried the frightened mouse. "If only you will forgive me this time and spare my life, some day I will help you, too."

The Lion began to laugh, and he laughed and laughed. "How could a tiny mouse ever help me?" – "Oh well", he shrugged, looking down at the frightened mouse. "You're not so much of a meal anyway." He took his paw off the poor little mouse and she quickly ran away.

Some time after this, some hunters set up rope nets in the jungle. The lion, who was hunting for some food, fell into the trap. He roared and tried to free himself. The tiny mouse heard the lion's roars and remembered her promise. As quickly as she could she ran to see whether she could help.

When she saw the lion, the mouse said to him, "Stop, stop! I'll get you out of this trap." With her sharp little teeth the mouse gnawed at the ropes until they broke. When the lion was free, he said, "Thank you, good Mouse. You did help me even though I am big and you are so little."