

Describing a cat

Describing a cat is made easy by reading these sentences and paragraphs. It comes in 3 Levels: basic, intermediate and advanced. This post deals with cats as predators and hunters, not as the cuddly moggies we pet on our lap.

The reason for this is that it is easier to describe cats as hunters rather than companions.

LEVEL 1: USING BASIC WORDS TO DESCRIBE CATS

gleaming, jade-green eyes	invisible at night as it hunts in the bat-light	purrs when he is happy	small, triangular ears
rippling muscles	ghost-silent	fierce and cunning	arrow-tipped teeth
flicks his tail when hunting	leaps on its prey	striped fur	flame-and-coal coloured
deadly movements	prowling/creeping	the top garden predator	the 'ghost of the garden'
his paws are Gollum-silent	slinky movements	powerful/fearless	snub-nosed (i.e. a stubby nose)

1. A cat has gleaming, jade-green eyes. He is almost invisible at night as he hunts in the gloomy bat-light.
2. He has rippling muscles and he is ghost-silent.
3. He flicks his tail when he is hunting and leaps on his prey.
4. His movements are deadly and he likes to prowl and creep around the garden.
5. His paws are Gollum-silent and sneaky and he has slinky movements.
6. Cats purr when they are happy and they have small, triangular ears.
7. They are fierce and cunning and have vicious, arrow-tipped teeth.
8. They have striped fur and the wildest ones are flame-and-coal coloured.
9. The cat is the top garden predator and many people use the metaphor 'the ghost of the garden' to describe him.
10. He is powerful and fearless and has a snub-nose which is great for sniffing out prey.

LEVEL 3: DESCRIBING A FERAL (WILD) CAT

glowing, beryl-green eyes	melts into the shadows	snarls/hisses/spits	bloodless lips
fluid and sinuous movements	phantom-silent	fearsome/pitiless	broken-glass teeth
swishes his tail	pounces on his prey	radar-strength ears	elf-sharp eyes
he pads silently	claws like thorns	the alpha predator	serial killer eyes
skulks and lurks in the undergrowth	sunrise-orange and cellar-black stripes	brush bristle whiskers	he is pug-nosed (i.e. a stubby nose)

1. Feral cats have glowing, beryl-green eyes and they can melt into the shadows.
2. They are phantom-silent and have fluid and sinuous movements.
3. A feral cat will swish his tail before pouncing on his prey.
4. Even though he has claws like thorns, he can retract them in order to pad silently.
5. Most feral cats tend to have sunrise-orange and cellar-black stripes. They blend into most surroundings and skulk about and lurk in the undergrowth.
6. Feral cats will hiss, spit and snarl when they are upset. Their lips can appear bloodless when they do this.
7. They are fearsome and pitiless when they have located their prey. They use their broken-glass teeth to rip and rend their victims.
8. Feral cats have radar-strength ears and elf-sharp eyes.
9. They are the forest's alpha predator and they can freeze their prey to the spot with their serial killer eyes.
10. Feral cats have sensitive, brush bristle whiskers and are pug-nosed.

LEVEL 5: AN ADVANCED PARAGRAPH ON A WILDCAT

smouldering, *chatoyant eyes	satin-soft fur	a convex head	vampirish teeth
a sinewy strength	wraith-silent paws and snow-soft pads	feral and implacable	spree killer eyes
whisks his tail when threatened	springs with a coiled energy	transverse stripes and a bushy tail	otter-sensitive whiskers
moves with a balletic grace	brass-brilliant fur	the apex predator	bat-sharp ears
stalks his prey with an icy malice	indomitable and remorseless hunter	retractable claws	a cob nose

The European wildcat is a truly spine-chilling hunter. His fur may be satin-soft but he transfixes his prey with his smouldering, chatoyant eyes. He creeps through the brush like a ghoulish blood-slurper seeking out his next victim. His wraith-silent paws and snow-soft pads barely make a noise as he moves. He uses his sinewy strength to sit back on his haunches and whisks his tail before springing with a terrifying, coiled energy.

A wildcat moves with a balletic grace, much like a panther in slow-mo. His brass-shiny fur burns brilliant under the moonlight and he stalks his prey with an icy malice. He is an indomitable and relentless hunter who never gives up once his victim has been located. He has a convex head and wicked, vampirish teeth which he uses to clamp his prey in a death grip.

He is a feral and implacable adversary and once his spree killer eyes lock on to you, there is no hope. His otter-sensitive whiskers enable him to judge spaces to crawl through and negotiate the thick undergrowth at night. His transverse stripes break up the silhouette of his body so that his prey cannot see him. The bushy tail is used for balance and his bat-sharp ears can here mice squeaking from 50 yards away under the right conditions. His retractable claws unsheathe and then it is over for the mouse.

All cats are the apex predator of the garden.

European wildcats are perfectly capable of hunting and killing roe deer, such is their power and cunning. The European wildcat's cob nose enables him to smell at 4 times the capacity of humans. He may not be the alpha predator of the forest but he is its most efficient killing machine.

The next time you look at your domestic cat, make sure to afford him the respect he/she deserves.