MEET THEM AT PLUMPTON PARK ZOO

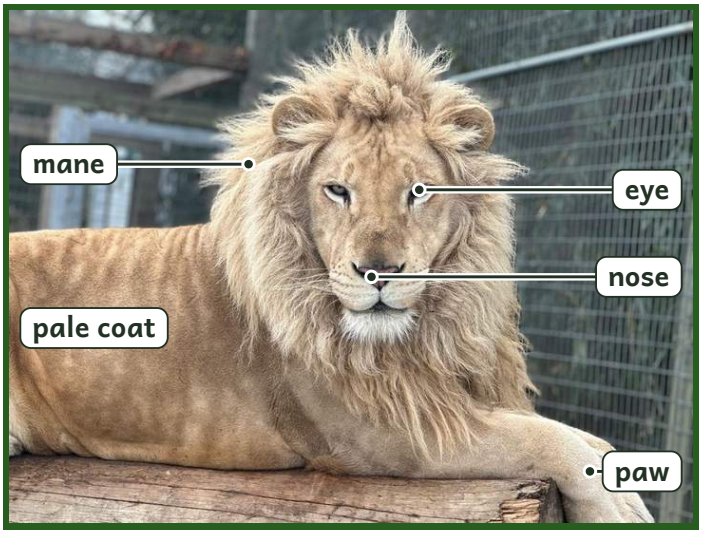
WHITE LION

Panthera leo melanochaita

GRADES K–2

Teacher & Student Fact Sheet · © 2026 Plumpton Park Zoological Gardens Inc.
Teachers may copy and share this sheet freely as long as they credit Plumpton Park Zoo.

Teachers: read this page aloud, one part at a time (about 5 minutes). Children follow along and say the bold words.



A white lion on a log at our zoo.

Its body

A white lion has a pale coat.
It is an African lion.
It still has color in its eyes and nose.

Its home (habitat)

White lions come from Africa.
Kimba and Jaala live at our zoo.



■ Lives in parts of this area ★ Plumpton Park Zoo, Rising Sun, MD

Its food

It hunts other animals.

Its babies (life cycle)

A baby lion is a **cub**.
A white cub can have tan parents.
Kimba was a cub at our zoo.

Fun facts

White lions are very rare.
People once thought they were not real!

Words to know

cub: a baby lion
pale: very light in color
rare: not found very often

Talk about it

1. How is a white lion different from other lions?
2. Where does a white lion keep its color?
3. Can tan parents have a white cub?

Learn more: plumptonparkzoo.org/mammals/white-lions/ · **Sources:** Plumpton Park Zoo contacts in the Kruger National Park region; Plumpton Park Zoo records.
Supports Maryland and Delaware (NGSS) and Pennsylvania (STEELS) standards: K-LS1-1 (3.1.K.A)
Plumpton Park Zoo · 1416 Telegraph Rd, Rising Sun, MD 21911 · (410) 658-6850 · plumptonparkzoo.org · a 501(c)(3) nonprofit zoo · Photo: Plumpton Park Zoo

WHITE LION

Before and after your visit

GRADES K–2

 © **2026 Plumpton Park Zoological Gardens Inc.**
Teachers may copy and share this sheet freely as long as they credit Plumpton Park Zoo.

Name _____ **Date** _____

Before you visit · 5 minutes

What do you think? Circle **YES** or **NO**.

1. A white lion is a real lion. **YES** **NO**
2. White lions have no color at all. **YES** **NO**
3. A baby lion is a cub. **YES** **NO**
4. Lions eat only plants. **YES** **NO**

At the zoo · with a partner

Check each one you see.

- ☐ mane
- ☐ pale coat
- ☐ eyes
- ☐ nose
- ☐ paws
- ☐ tail

What is it doing? Circle one.

resting · walking · watching

After your visit · 10 minutes

Draw a white lion with a big mane.

Draw here

A lion has a _____

I learned that _____

ADJUST IT Kindergarten: read everything aloud; children talk and draw, and an adult writes their words. **Grade 2:** children read page 1 on their own. **Grades 3–5:** use the regular white lion sheet on Teacher Resources. **Second source:** read about this animal in your class database or a library book too, then ask what both said and what was new. **No zoo trip?** Check off what you can find in the photo on page 1. **Answers:** 1 yes, 2 no, 3 yes, 4 no.

Learn more: plumptonparkzoo.org/mammals/white-lions/ · Page 1 of this sheet has the words and picture this page refers to.
Science, grades K–1: Maryland and Delaware (NGSS): K-LS1-1 · Pennsylvania (STEELS): 3.1.K.A
Reading and writing, grade 1: Maryland and Delaware: RI.1.1 · RI.1.7 · RI.1.9 · W.1.8 · Pennsylvania: CC.1.2.1.B · CC.1.2.1.G · CC.1.2.1.I · CC.1.4.1.W
Plumpton Park Zoo · 1416 Telegraph Rd, Rising Sun, MD 21911 · (410) 658-6850 · plumptonparkzoo.org · a 501(c)(3) nonprofit zoo