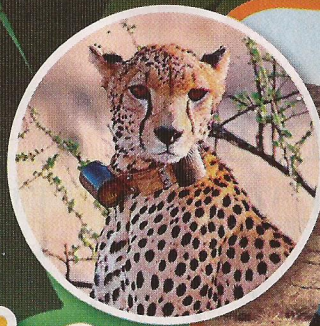


Meet 10-year-old Joris:

"I'm working to get cheetahs off of the endangered species list!"



Want to help cheetahs like Joris? Visit naankuse.com with a parent to learn how!

For as long as he can remember, 10-year-old Joris Hutchison has loved cheetahs. When he learned that they were in danger of going extinct, Joris sprang into action! This year, thanks to his hard work, Joris has been named a winner of the Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes. Read all about what he's doing below!

ANIMAL TALES: Hi, Joris! Can you tell us about how you're working to save cheetahs?

JORIS: I started fundraising when I was 6 years old after I learned what the word extinct means. I've raised over \$14,000 doing fundraisers like roller skating parties and garage sales.

AT: Wow! What does that money do for the cheetahs?

JH: The money I've raised has been used to buy several cheetah GPS collars. At least four cheetahs can stay out in the wild where they belong because of those collars.

Maybe that doesn't sound like much, but those cheetahs can now have cubs, and so forth!

AT: How exactly do those collars help the cheetahs?

JH: The biggest reason cheetahs are endangered is because of conflict with humans. In Namibia, Africa, farmers will shoot them because they blame the cheetahs for killing their animals. The GPS collars tell the farmers where the cheetahs are and helps prove that they aren't killing their livestock.

AT: That's amazing! And do

you get to visit the cheetahs?

JH: Yes! I go to N/a'an ku sê, an animal wildlife sanctuary in Namibia. While I'm there, I help prepare food for the animals, feed them and clean their enclosures.

AT: What's it like being around cheetahs in real life?

JH: It's amazing getting to see cheetahs in real life! But N/a'an ku sê isn't a cheetah petting place. They are wild animals, so we don't come to close to them!

AT: Can you tell us your favorite awesome cheetah fact?

JH: Cheetah ancestors used to live in North America! Also, cheetah purrs are the same as domestic cat purrs, only louder. They're the only big cat that can purr! 🐾