

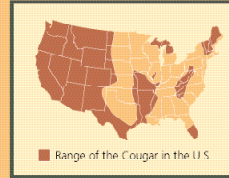


# Cougar

*Puma concolor*

**Habitat:** steep, rocky canyons, tropical rainforests, prairies, deserts, coniferous forests and swamps

**Range:** Other than humans, cougars are the most widely distributed land mammal in the Western Hemisphere.



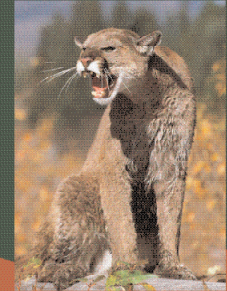
## FUN FACT

Due to its wide range, the cougar has many different common names depending on what area you are in. Names include Florida panther, puma, catamount and mountain lion. In Native American folklore, cougars are known as ghost walkers or ghosts of the wilderness.

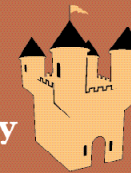


## How is a cougar like a house cat?

- Cougars have flexible backbones that allow them to jump high from stationary positions.
- Cougars have retractable claws.
- Cougars can hiss, growl, purr, and yowl. Unlike a house cat, they can also scream!



## Fact or Fairy Tale?



**Cougars are native to Mississippi...Fact.** Unfortunately, they have now disappeared from Mississippi due to hunting and development.