

## **BOBCATS-3rd GRADE**

Bobcats have fur that is gray or brown in color. The fur on their belly is white. They have spots and short tails. The short tail is how the bobcat got its name. These cats weigh between 13 and 30 pounds. Males are usually larger than females.

Baby bobcats are called kittens. Litters can be as large as 8. However, they usually have 2 to 3 babies in a litter. Their eyes will open at around 6 days of age. After they grow up, they move away from their family and live alone most of the time.

Bobcats are meat eaters. Meat eaters are also called carnivores. Their main food is rabbit. Other food includes rodents, beaver, birds, bats and deer.

These cats live in Canada and the United States. Bobcats live in Florida including Hillsborough County. Habitats include forests, swamps, desert and scrubland.

Bobcats are hunted for their fur. They also compete with humans for habitat. People bring bobcats to Big Cat Rescue that have been hit by cars or orphaned.

### **THIRD GRADE:**

1. True or False – The Bobcats habitat includes forests, coastal swamps, desert & scrubland.

Answer: True

2. What have humans done to contribute to the decline of the Bobcat population?

Answer: Hunting Bobcats for their pelts.