

Bobcat

Bobcat (*Lynx rufus*)

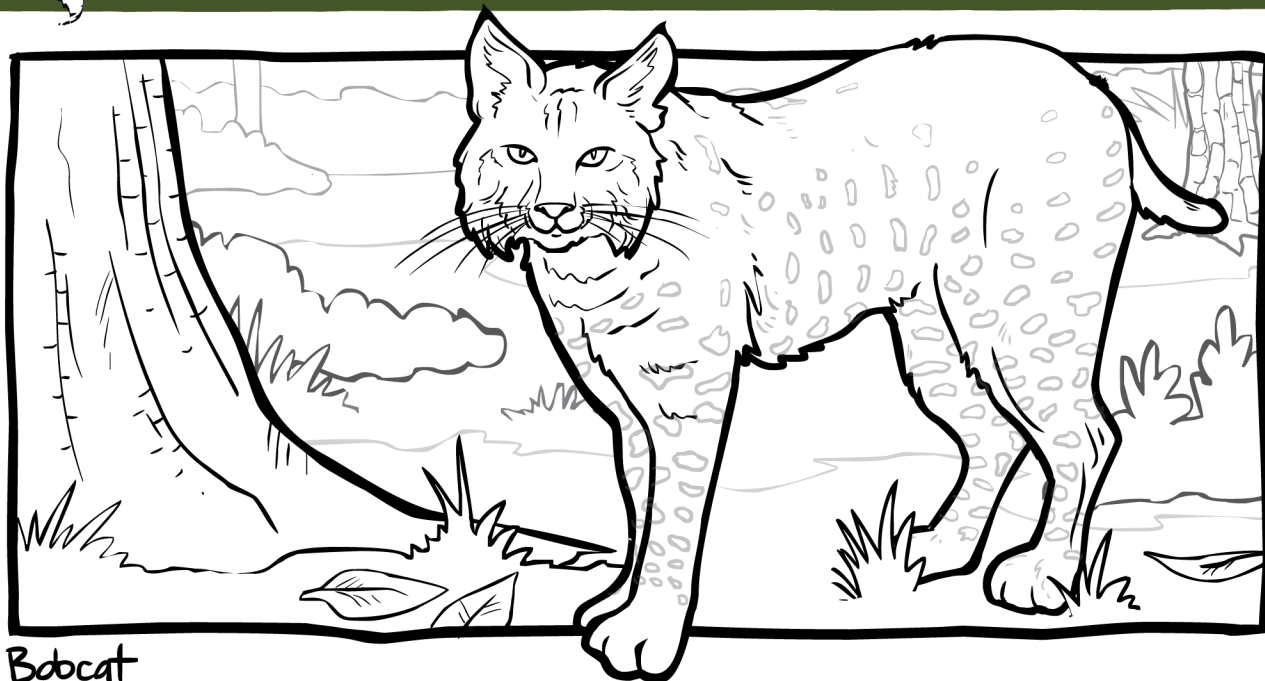
Instant ID

- A lightly spotted cat, which weighs up to 30 pounds in Florida and is more powerfully built than a housecat
- Has a facial ruff and short ear tufts
- Its short tail gives this animal its name

Native Niches

- Found throughout Florida's native habitats, wherever there is enough cover for hunting
- Often rest in trees during the day





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Favorite Foods

- Eat rabbits, squirrels and other small mammals
- Will hunt a variety of birds, including turkeys and herons

Critter Characteristics

- Adults only seen together when breeding
- Crepuscular (preferring to hunt at dawn and dusk)
- Can take prey larger than themselves, such as deer
- Over 10 melanistic (all black) bobcats have been recorded in Florida, possibly sparking the myth of the black panther

Population Protection

- Bobcats live longer, healthier lives when left alone by people
- Keep pets and food inside to prevent attracting bobcats