

Cheetah Speed Challenge



Objectives

Cheetah Speed - Cheetahs can run at speeds up to 65-70 mph. How fast can your child run? How fast does the parent/teacher run? Who is the fastest runner in the family/class? Can you train and get faster over time?

Materials

- ShamuTV: Cheetah Speed Part 1 & 2* (seaworld.org/en/animal-info/shamu-tv/webcasts/cheetah/)
- Tape measure
- Stop watch
- 2 Traffic cones (or 2 random objects that can designate start and stop times)

Action

1. Set- up: Create a running path. Measure the length of your path in feet; remember to measure the path people will be running on. Write down the measurement of your path. Use an object (cone, rock, chalk line) to designate the start and end portions of the path. One person is at the start line, this person starts the stop watch when the runner starts to run. Another person is at the finish line to yell “stop” when the person running crosses the finish line. The stop watch person stops the clock. Record your time with your path measurement.

2. Using the information, calculate your speed. Speed is a measure of distance/time. You know the distance you traveled, you have the time, now calculate your speed.

$$\text{Speed} = \text{distance/time} = \text{_____ft/_____sec}$$

3. The cheetah’s speed is measured in miles per hour. In order to compare your speed with the cheetahs you need to convert from ft/sec to miles/hour.

$$\text{Speed} = \text{_____ft/_____sec} \times 60 \text{ sec/1 min} \times 60 \text{ min/1 hour} \times 1 \text{ mile/5280}$$

$$\text{feet} = \text{_____mph}$$

4. Compare your speed with the cheetah’s speed. Compare your speed with teachers, parents, friends, family, etc.