



Intelligent and ruthless predators, many species of carnivores are becoming increasingly rare in the modern world. From the dwarf mongoose to the polar bear, carnivores are at once respected and misunderstood, invoking both fear and curiosity in the humans with whom they share their world.

Ronald M. Nowak celebrates these fascinating mammals in *Walker's Carnivores of the World*. Featuring 225 illustrations, this comprehensive guide covers the world's eight terrestrial families of carnivores. Each account contains scientific and common names, number and distribution of species, physical attributes, measurements, hunting and social activity, reproduction, habitat, population dynamics, longevity, and status of threatened species. A thought-provoking overview by David W. Macdonald and Roland W. Kays features results from the latest field and laboratory research on topics ranging from evolutionary history to the adaptive value of fur patterns.

Ernest P. Walker (1891–1969) began work on *Mammals of the World* in the early 1930s, when he became assistant director of the National Zoo in Washington. **Ronald M. Nowak** was senior author of the fourth edition and author of the fifth and sixth editions of *Walker's Mammals of the World*. He served as editorial consultant for four editions of *National Geographic Society's Wild Animals of North America*.

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