Words in Context

Context clues are the words that give readers hints about the meanings of unfamiliar words or familiar words used in unfamiliar ways.

Materials:
• Lists of sentences (provided)
• Paper
• Pencils

Preparation:
• Print the lists of sentences (with and without blanks) related to your theme.
• Cut the sentences so that they can be shown to families one at a time.
• Keep one copy of the completed sentences for the facilitator.

Activity Instructions:
1. Give each person paper and a pencil.
2. Hold up sentences with blanks and read them aloud, one at a time.
3. After each sentence is read, ask each person to write a word or phrase to fill in the blank.
4. When everyone has written down a word or phrase, invite participants to read what they have written aloud.
5. Anyone who has written a word or phrase that fits with the sentence and is not repeated by anyone else earns one point.
6. Continue until all sentences have been read aloud.

The person with the most points is the winner!
On the grasslands of Africa lives the world’s ______ land animal, the cheetah.

Cheetahs use their good hearing and sense of smell, but it’s their _____ eyesight that they use for hunting.

When cheetahs spot prey, they move in closer under the cover of _____ grass.
Cheetah cubs have a _____ coat, which helps them blend into the shadows when their mom goes out to hunt.

Secretary birds are primarily terrestrial. This means they spend most of their time on the _______ instead of flying or perching in trees.

While hyenas look like very _____ dogs, they are actually more closely related to cats.
Spotted hyenas live in ________ called clans. Some clans have more than 80 members.

Spotted hyenas play an important role as scavengers. They clean up predators’ leftovers and even ________ left by humans.

While hyenas are excellent hunters, they still have to be _____ of predators.
On the grasslands of Africa lives the world’s **fastest** land animal, the cheetah.

Cheetahs use their good hearing and sense of smell, but it’s their **great** eyesight that they use for hunting.

When cheetahs spot prey, they move in closer under the cover of **tall** grass.

Cheetah cubs have a **dark** coat, which helps them blend into the shadows when their mom goes out to hunt.

Secretary birds are primarily terrestrial. This means they spend most of their time on the **ground** instead of flying or perching in trees.

While hyenas look like very **large** dogs, they are actually more closely related to cats.

Spotted hyenas live in **groups** called clans. Some clans have more than 80 members.

Spotted hyenas play an important role as scavengers. They clean up predators’ leftovers and even **garbage** left by humans.

While hyenas are excellent hunters, they still have to be **wary** of predators.