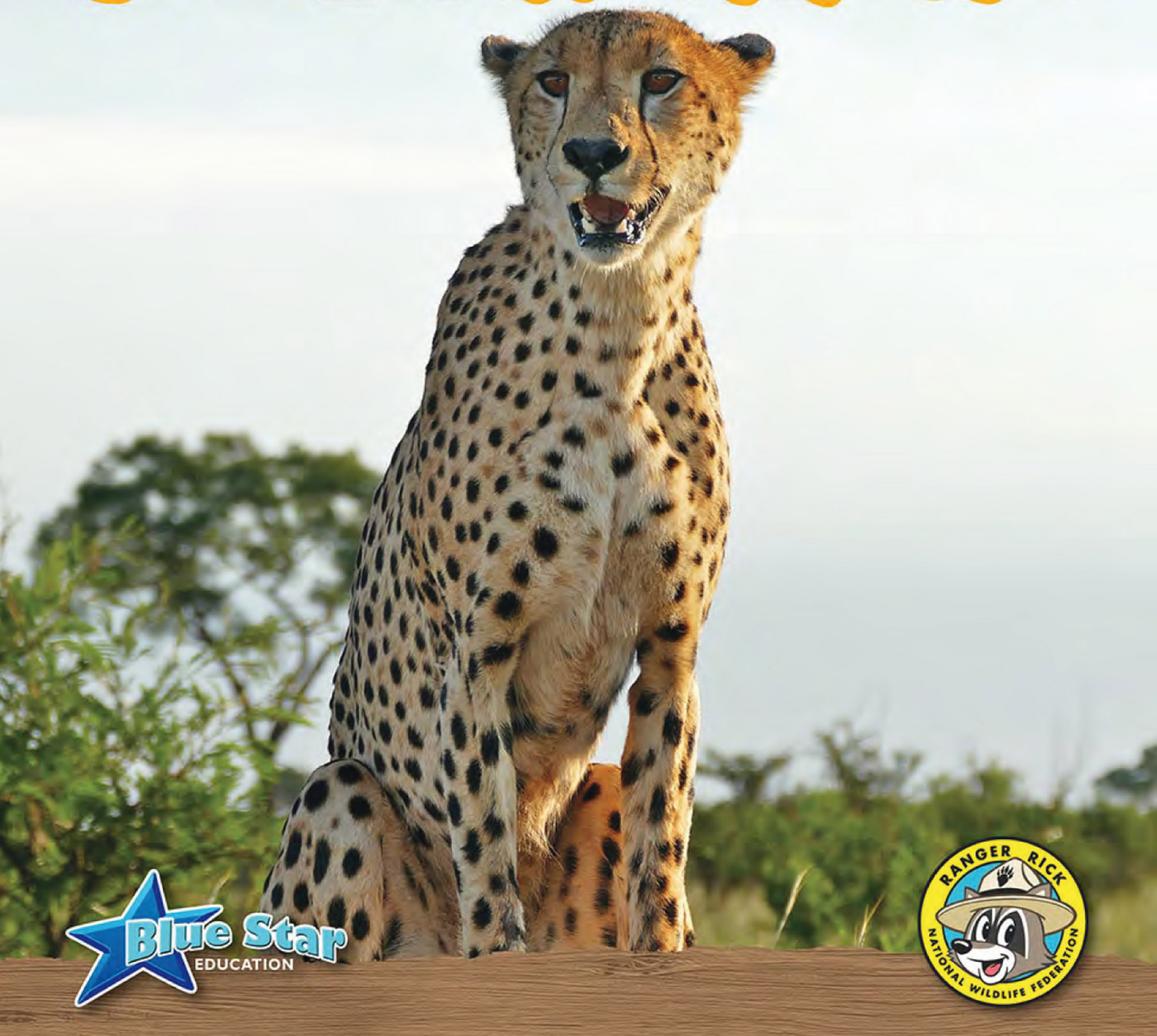
Ranger Rick's Reading Adventures

Book 6

BSE 51896

CHEETAH TRICKS



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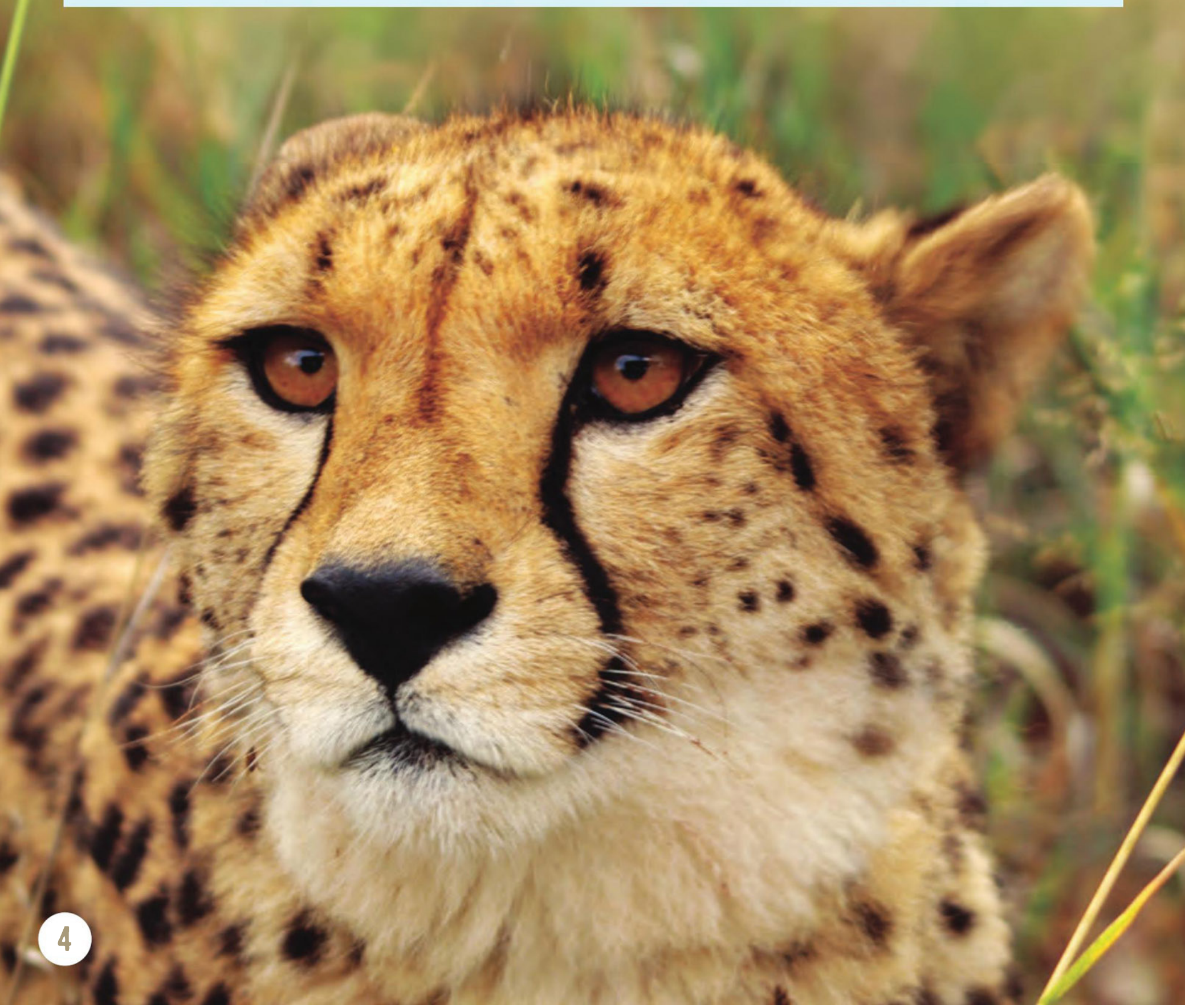
Be a Running Machine

Cheetahs are famously fast, reaching speeds of 60 miles per hour in just three seconds! That's about as fast as a car drives on the highway. These cats' bodies are built for running down prey. Their long legs and **flexible** spines let them cover 25 feet in a single stride. Also, their claws help them get a grip on the ground for fast starts and quick changes in direction. Cheetahs also have extra-large lungs to gulp in lots of air as they run.

Wear Eye Makeup

One of the first things you notice about a cheetah is the pair of black lines that go down from its eyes to its mouth. They're for more than looks, though. Dark colors absorb more sunlight than light colors. So the dark stripes help to reduce the sun's glare when the cheetah is hunting. The black marks football players wear under their eyes work the same way.



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