

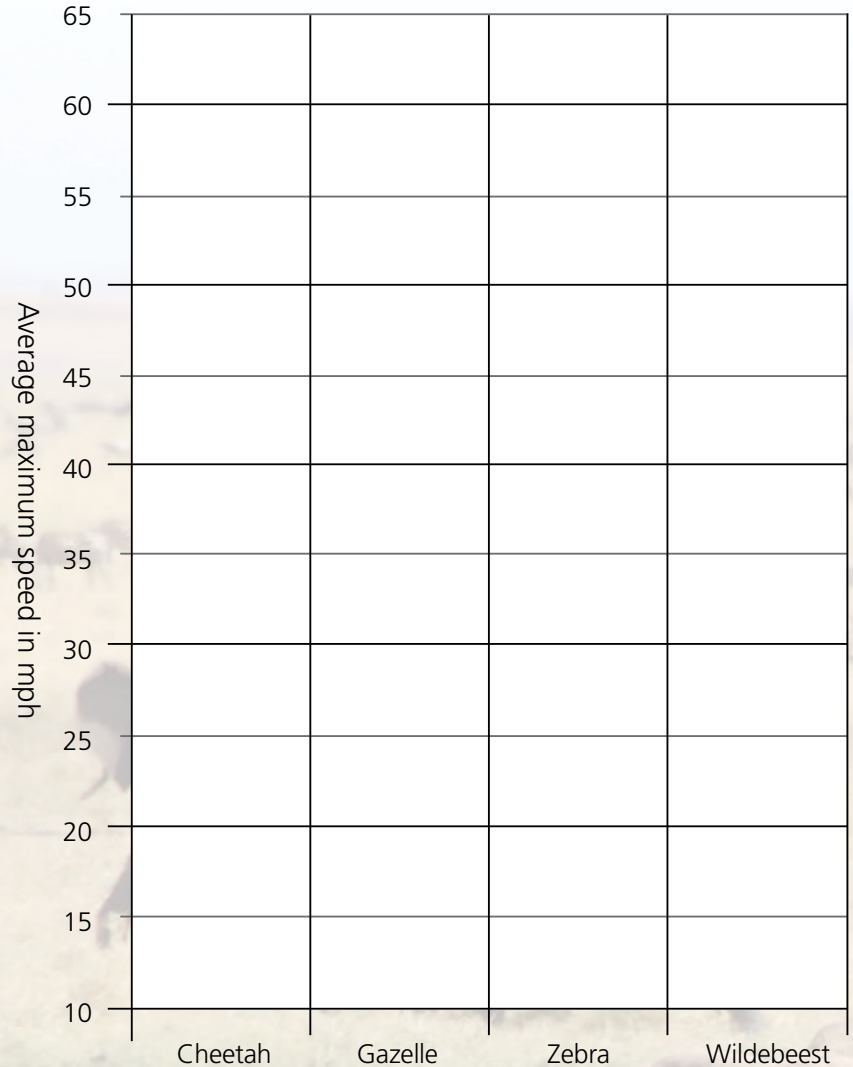
# ACTIVITY 2 BUILT FOR SPEED

In the film *Wild Cats 3D*, you learned that the cheetah is the fastest land animal. A cheetah can reach 64 miles per hour in just three seconds. That’s faster than most cars!

The cheetah is built for speed from its nose to its tail. The cheetah has large nostrils that help it get more air as it is running. It has large lungs and a large heart to provide bursts of power. The cheetah’s legs are long and muscular, and its claws are always exposed to give it extra grip. The cheetah also has a long tail that helps it keep its balance on sharp turns during high-speed chases.

Cheetahs cannot run at top speed for more than one minute, so they must catch their prey quickly. Use the data provided below to create a bar graph comparing the speed of the cheetah and three animals that could be its prey. Then use your graph to answer the questions.

	Top Speed
Cheetah	64 mph
Thomson’s gazelle	50 mph
Zebra	40 mph
Wildebeest	45 mph



**GRAPH OBSERVATIONS:**

1. The longest bar shows the fastest speed. Which bar is the longest? Which is the fastest of the animals?
2. If the cheetah is the fastest, why doesn’t it catch the other animals every time there is a chase?
3. What might help the prey animals survive in a chase?
4. If a cheetah is built for bursts of speed, what might the prey animals be built for?

What else do you know about cheetahs after seeing *Wild Cats 3D*? Use this space to write your own field notes about what you learned.

**WRITE YOUR FIELD NOTES BELOW:**

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