

Z for ZEBRA

There are three species of Zebra, all native to the African continent. They differ slightly in their stripes, but all have the same general shape.



White men in Africa,
Puffing at their pipes,
Think the zebra
Is a white horse
With black stripes.

Black men in Africa
With their pipes
Of different types,
Know the zebra
Is a black horse
With white stripes.

There are different types of zebras, but they all have stripes.

Each zebra has its unique stripe pattern, like human fingerprints.

Zebras usually live in small family groups called *herds*.

The leader of the herd stays at the back of the group to defend against predators.

Zebra foals are dark brown and white at birth.

They can walk just 20 minutes after they are born, and can run after an hour!

Zebras can run at speeds of up to 50 km an hour.

A zebra's eyesight at night is as good as that of a cat or an owl.

Zebras are very dependent on water.

They usually need to drink every day, so they do not wander far from water holes.

Zebras can communicate with each other. Ears flat back, for example, means the zebra is annoyed, uncomfortable or angry.