Spotted Hyena (Crocuta crocuta)

Location: Central to southern Africa  
Size: 90 to 150 pounds and 3 to 5 feet long  
Speed: 35 to 40 mph  
Food Source: Medium sized mammals: wildebeest, zebra, antelope  

What makes them so dangerous? Hyenas are the most abundant predator in Africa. Hyenas can consume up to a third of their body weight in one meal. They have a more powerful jaw than any other land mammal and are able to digest just about every part of the animal. Hyenas are thought to mainly eat carrion, but are actually skilled hunters. Hyenas hunt in packs and are able to take down animals three times their size. Once a prey animal is taken down, the hyenas kill it by ripping it apart and eating it alive.