

JUNIOR FIELD NEWS AUGUST 2019



Image by Amelia Raath
A Jackal buzzard in flight
July Competiton Winner



Field Gunner Association of Southern Africa

FGASA JHB HEAD
OFFICE

DECEMBER HOLIDAY DATES

CLOSE 22 DECEMBER 2019
OPEN 06 JANUARY 2020

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR BOOKS
AND MAKE SURE YOUR MEMBERSHIP
IS UP TO DATE!

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION
BOOKSHOP@FGASA.ORG.ZA
MEMBERSHIP@FGASA.ORG.ZA
TEL : 011 886 8245



FGASA Celebrates Women

APPRECIATING AND CELEBRATING SOME OF
OUR TOP FGASA FEMALE GUIDES
WITHIN OUR INDUSTRY

Noelle van Muiden is a Professional Trails Guide.

She has recently passed her SKS DG Shooting Assessment. She is a CyberTracker Professional Tracker and is working towards achieving her Senior

Tracker Qualification. Noelle was Safari Guide of the Year Runner-Up 2016.



If I had to hand over advice to young aspiring female Guides, it would be this: Learn to change the tyres of the Cruiser by yourself; Be tenacious; Do not loose who you are as a person and a woman, embrace it; Your confidence is directly tied to your self-worth so never use your femaleness as a negative and never let others do so for you; Become so good at what you do that you are irreplaceable regardless of your gender, age, or cultural background; Learn to use your rifle properly, accurately and well; Find your own voice and share this with your guests. Your passion will shine through; And lastly HAVE FUN and embrace the joyous enormity of being able to play out in the African Bush every day!



Nicola Bargiacchi is a Professional Field Guide and a Professional Trails Guide with Tracker Level 3. Nicola completed her BTech/Honors in Nature Conservation before she became a Field Guide at Royal Malewane.

For the other ladies out there, keep your head up girl, the going will get tough and you will question the life you are living but the rewards that come from climbing this ladder (whether you do it loud or quietly) is so overwhelmingly satisfying.

There is no more life fulfilling career in this world than sharing your passion. I have always had this little voice in my head – “slow and steady wins the race”! And if you can persevere and just believe and trust this beautiful journey you are on then the battle has already been won.



Tovhowani (Tovhi) Mudau is a Senior Field Guide and Mentor Guide at Lion Sands, Sabi Sands. She is also a certified Cultural Guide, and studying part time through UNISA doing her Honours degree in Environmental Management.

During the period after graduation and before I started at NJ More Field Guide College, I poured myself into philanthropy as I



had always been passionate about helping people and giving back, and that is when I started a Non-profit organisation that

I Chair to this day called Acts Of Kindness (A-OK) whose main objective is to demonstrate acts of Kindness that aim to elevate the overall well-being of individuals, communities and the South African nation as a whole, by encouraging the practice of Ubuntu and empowering the indigent parts of society. A happy women's month to all the women who continue to bring folding chairs to industries that haven't set a place for us at the table, continue to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we have been asked.

Help Save the Bees

PLEASE BE CAREFUL IF YOU ARE ALLERGIC TO
BEES!

You can help bees in your area by simply planting flowers in your garden. Different flowers attract bees at different times of the year. Now in Winter, bees are flying vast distances in search of pollen.

The next time you go with your parents to the Nursery, try and get a plant or two that will help the bees.
Ask for assistance, the people at the Nursery are very helpful.

Send us a picture of your beautiful flowers you plant for the Bees



Interesting Facts About How Bees Choose Flowers

Colour of a Flower:

Bees prefer violet, blue, white and yellow flowers. According to some research they found bees who harvested from violet flowers harvested far more nectar than the other flower colours

Scent of a Flower:

Choose plants that have a sweet scent because bees only really see flowers when they get reasonably close, maybe less than 60 centimetres, this means bees use scent, rather than sight, to find flowers from a distance.

Pattern of a Flower:

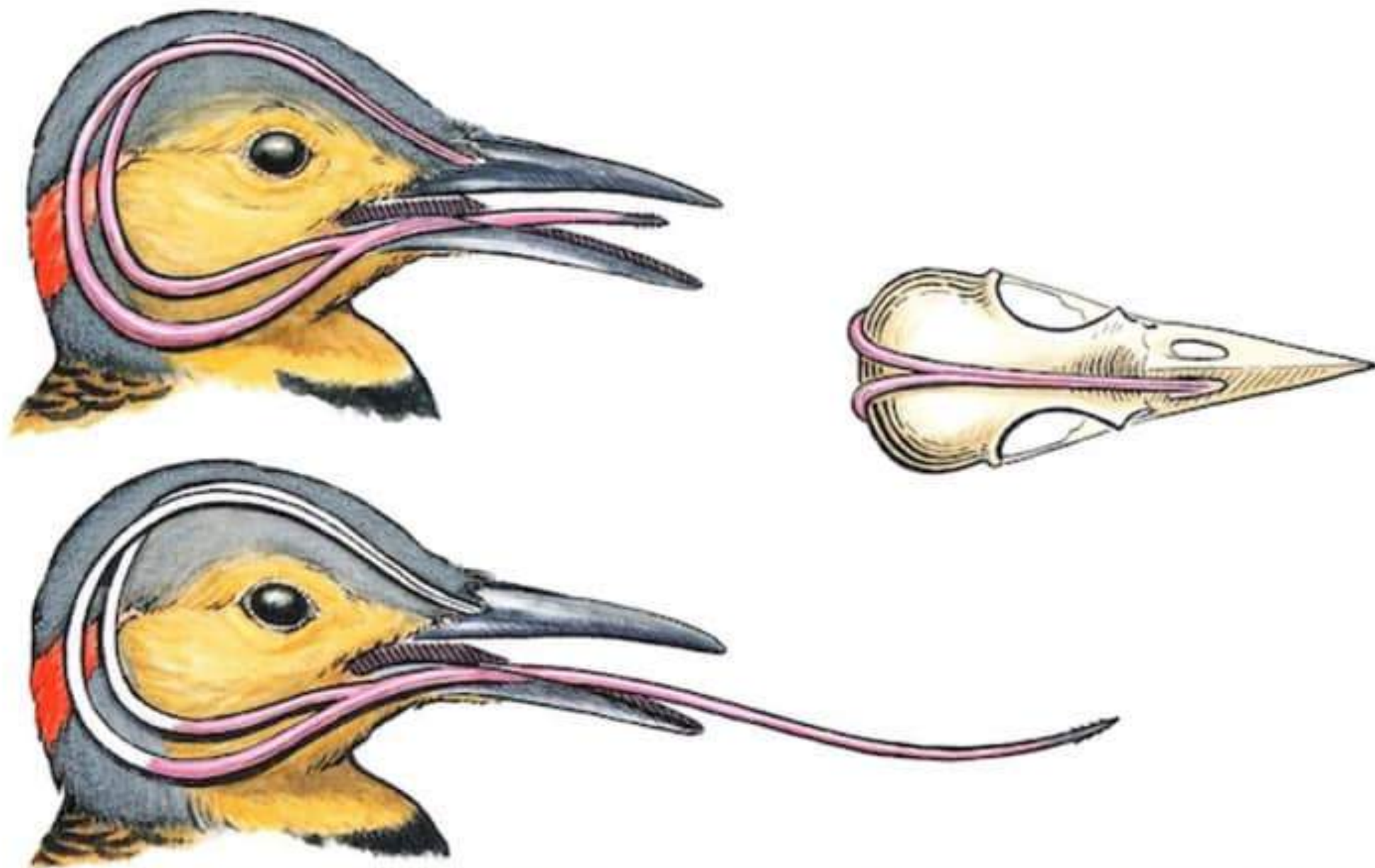
Bees can distinguish between fields of different shapes, which varies according to the flower's geometry, the shape of a flower's petals and how they conduct electricity.

The electric Bee and Flower:

Bees can sense the electric fields of flowers and affect them so that other bees know when its recently been harvested. As bees fly through the air they bump into charged particles like dust and small molecules. When the positively charged bee arrives at the negatively charged flower, the pollen literally jumps from the flower to the bee, as the bee approaches the flower. Research also suggests that bees landing on flowers influences the flower's electrical charge for a short period of time and that this change may signal to the next bee that the Flower has just been visited.

How do Woodpeckers peck, without injuring their head or brain?

It may seem strange for a woodpecker's tongue to wrap around its skull, but this adaptation serves a far greater purpose than simple storage. The muscles of the tongue actually help insulate a woodpecker's brain from the shock of repeated pecks, decreasing its chances of developing serious brain injuries.



The woodpecker's tongue basically acts as a helmet, holding everything in place and absorbing the force from each peck. A combination of tongue bones and soft tissue, known as the hyoid apparatus, allow woodpeckers to do what they do best without suffering from constant concussions.



Golden-tailed Woodpecker by Richard and Eileen Flack

It's not just the tongue that protects a woodpecker's brain — its entire skull is adapted for its rough lifestyle. The section of the skull that holds the brain is enlarged, holding the brain just above the area that receives the most impact from their pecking. The bones in the front of the skull are also crucial in reducing concussions, as they work together with muscles to absorb as much shock from hammering as possible.

Article extraction from Eric Vega,
The Outrageous Length Of A Woodpecker's
Tongue Reveals It To Be For Much More Than Taste Alone

CONGRATULATIONS TO

*Amelia
Raath!*

for Winning July's Photo Competition

Junior FGASA Certificate Name Change

FGASA Junior

Ages 6 - 12

(previously Pangolin)



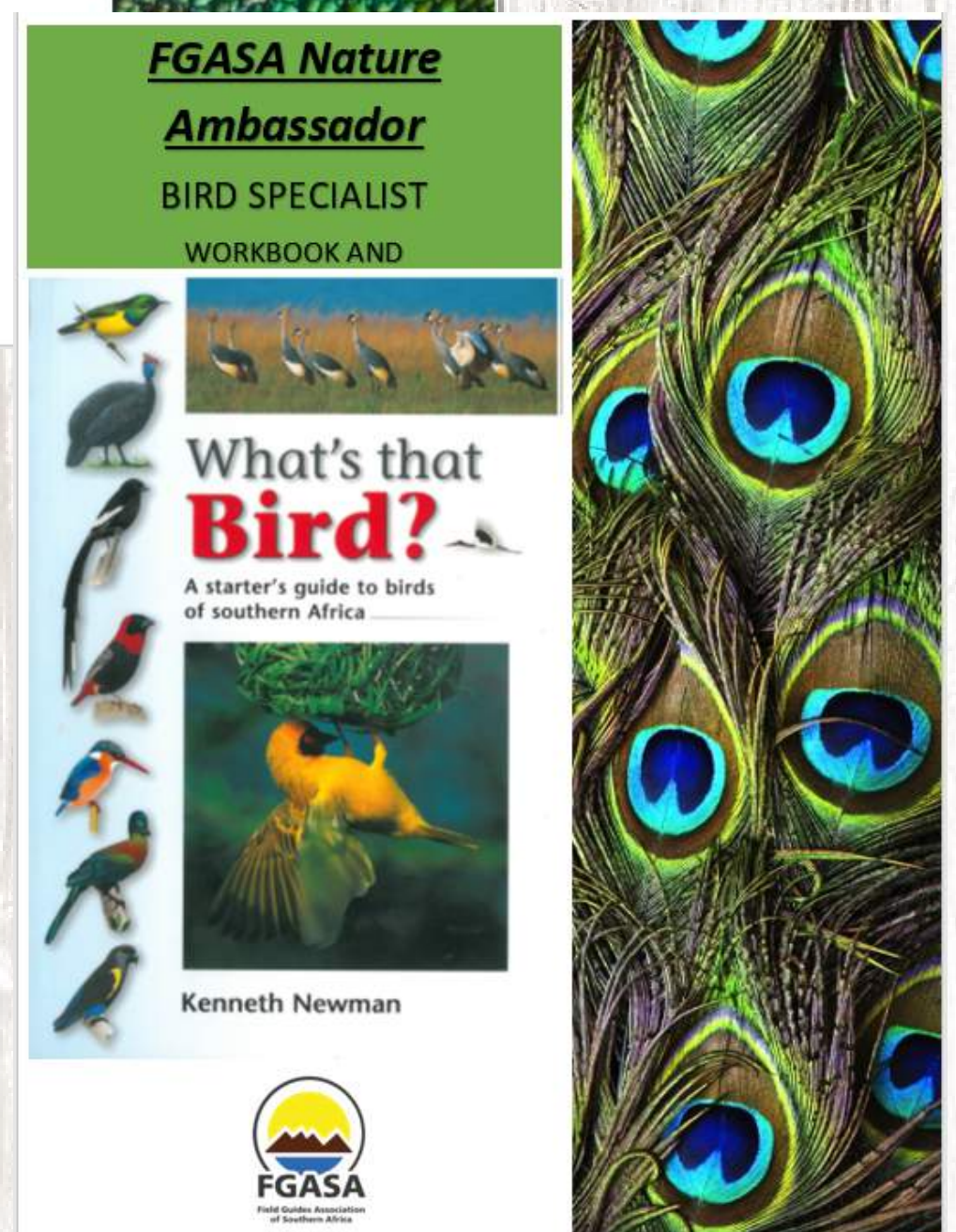
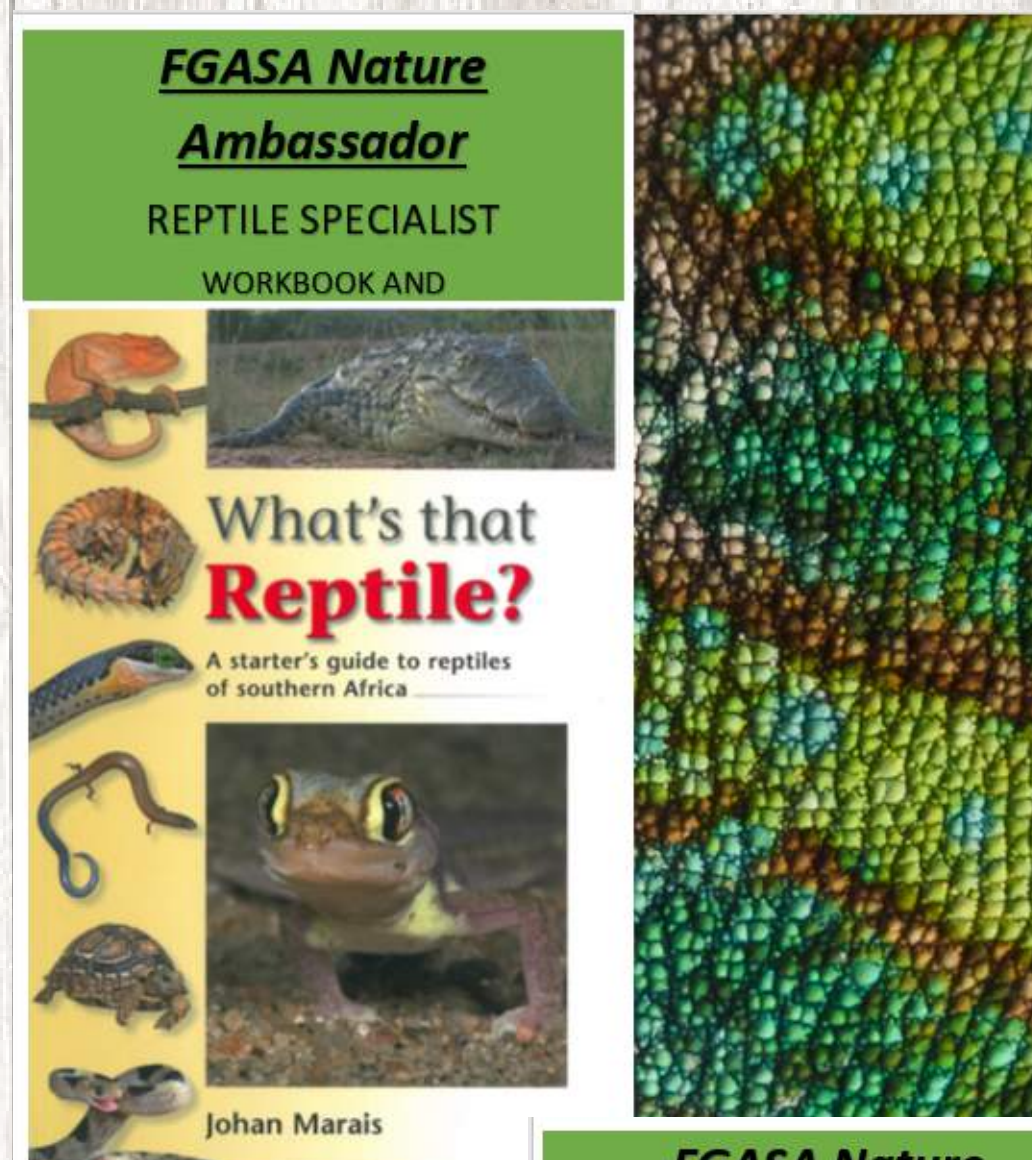
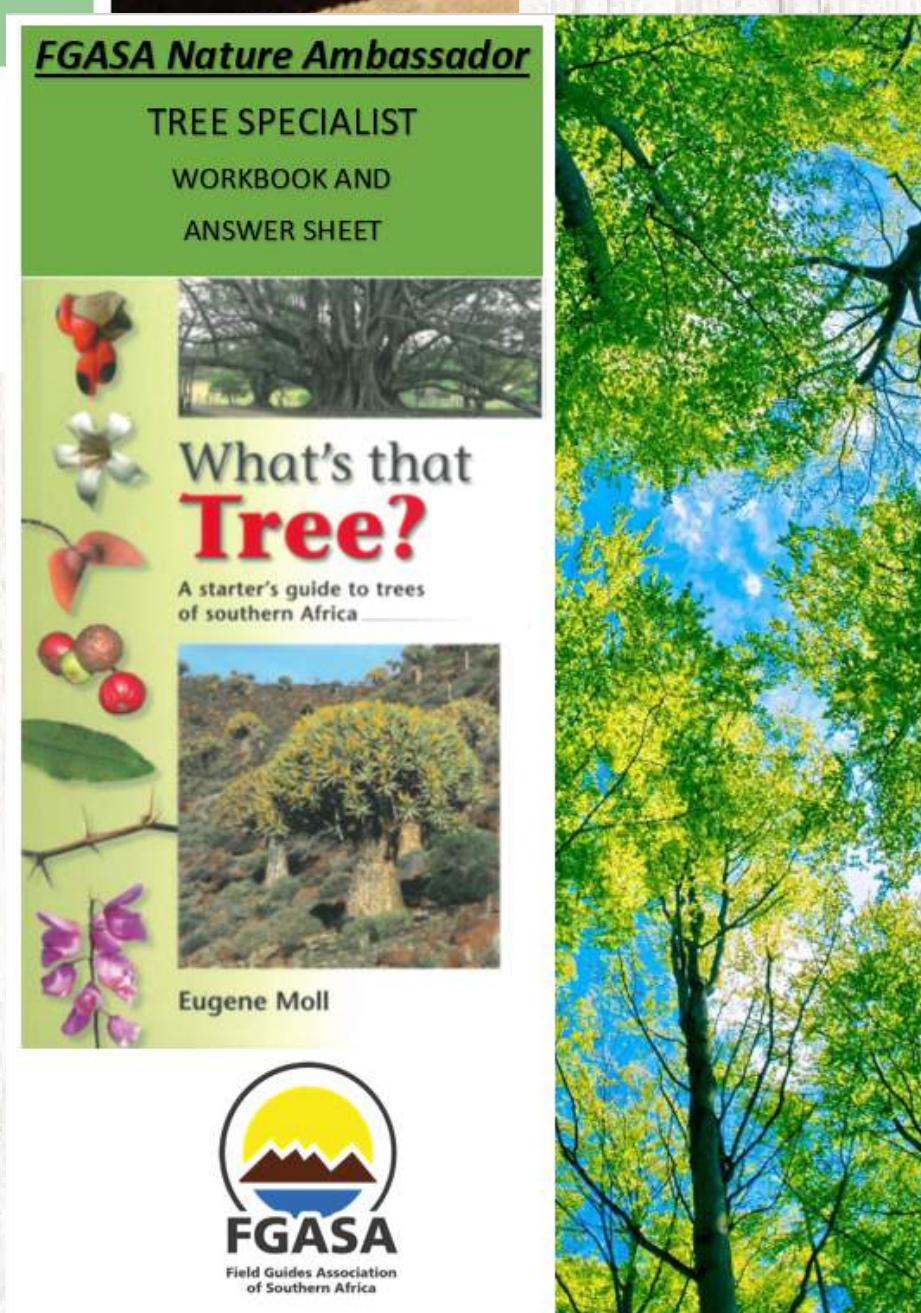
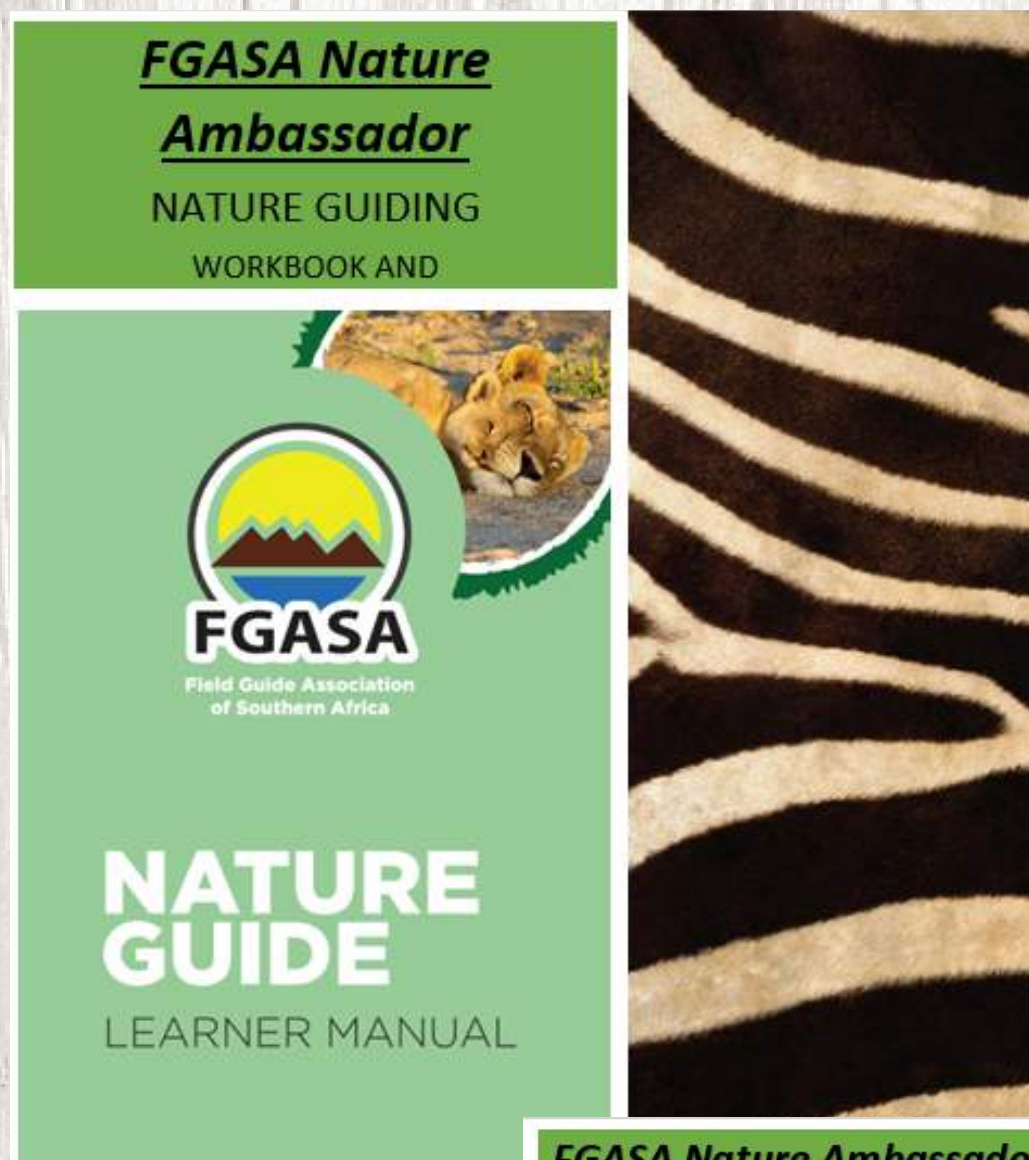
Junior FGASA

Certificate Name Change

FGASA Nature Ambassador

Ages 13 - 18

(previously Wild Dog)



THINGS TO DO AND PLACES TO VISIT ON YOUR NEXT School Holiday!

Explore Maropeng and The Sterkfontein Caves

Within the Sterkfontein Caves, scientists have discovered many hominid and other animal fossils, dating back more than 4-million years, to the birth of humanity.

Archaeological finds within the Cradle of Humankind also include 2-million-year-old stone tools.



WITS Planetarium

.. the lights dim slowly, as the stars appear like magic above you. You are about to go on a trip of exploration, to the planets, stars and galaxies of our Universe. The Planetarium offers educational shows in an exciting setting. Each show lasts approximately one hour. Experienced staff are on hand to answer questions about astronomy.



Bourke's Luck potholes of the Blyde River Canyon

These bizarre natural water features, hewn by centuries of water, mark the start of the Blyde River Canyon. Take the 700 metre walk to view these unusual water features.



The kloofs of the Magaliesberg

These incredible mountains that are older than the Himalayas, reveal kloofs with names like Tonquani, Chosspile, Trident and Mhlabatini, gouged by the water of mountain streams over years, some more than 100 metres deep.





Golden cliffs of the Free State

The ancient sandstone cliffs of Golden Gate National Park, made up of desert sand from 200 million years ago, lie set in amongst over 50 species of grasses. The towering cliffs are known as the 'golden gates' of the park for their position to catch the rays of the setting sun in such a way as to glow as if from an inner radiance. Spectacular.



The Dullstroom Bird Of Prey and Rehabilitation Centre

We believe that the wellbeing of our animals is always our number one priority, not the fiscal aspect of the activities on offer for public entertainment.

A stroll through our enclosures, marked with lovely stories about the history of each animal, well-manicured gardens, kiddies playground, farmyard and is a perfect way to spend a sunny morning or afternoon in Dullstroom. Fishing is also offered on our two dams, run and managed in partnership with Mayungana Flyfishing Centre.



NATURE @ HEART

ALL ABOUT NATURE, IN NATURE

ECOBRIK COLLECTION POINTS & PROJECTS

*ONLY PERSONAL / HOME ECOBRICKS



CAPE TOWN

Pick N Pay

1. Constantia Village
2. Brackenfell Hypermarket

Oceano Reddentes

3. Salt, Kalk Bay

Angels Resource centres

4. E - Zone, 81 Main Road, Fish Hoek

Waste-ED

5. Shop Zero, Woodstock
6. Nude Foods, CBD
7. The Settlers High School, Bellville
8. Michels bakery, Retreat
9. Faithful to Nature, Muizenberg
10. Health Connection, Fish Hoek
11. Wild and Waste free, Glencairn

JOHANNESBURG

Endangered Wildlife Trust &

ADVA Youth Skills development

1. EWT Head Office
Building K2, Pinelands Office Park, Ardeer Road,
Modderfontein.
2. Modderfontein Reserve Arden Road,
Modderfontein
3. Friends of Free Wildlife 193, 1 Maple Road,
Kyalami
4. Eden College Lyndhurst 48 Johannesburg
Road, Lyndhurst.
5. The Biodiversity Company 420 Vale Avenue,
Ferndale (close to Mallongwe)
6. Emmanuel Presbyterian 818 Plaston St, Faerie
Glen, Pretoria, 0081

NATURE@HEART UNDER CONSTRUCTION (STUDY LEAVE)

This year I have decided to further my knowledge in conservation and have been studying part-time.

Unfortunately, the studies need some extra attention, not only do I need to sit in front of my books, but I must attend some practical sessions, therefore I have decided to take a few weeks study break to focus on my studies. This means no Home School nature outings or full moon walks for July and August months; we will resume our weekly and monthly outings in September.

You could say Nature@Heart is under construction, because we do not have actual construction work our construction is in the form of gaining new knowledge, preparing and designing new programmes and sourcing some fun new nature reserves to learn all about nature, in nature!

EVENT PLANNER:

Nature outings for home School kids:

Our nature outings for home school groups will resume in September. New reserves and new programmes coming soon every Wednesday from September onwards.

14 September 2019

Full moon walk & moon gazing event.

25, 26, 27 September

Kids Holiday
programme @
Tygerberg Nature
Reserve

C: 083 300 5146 | E: bookings@natureatheart.co.za | W: www.natureatheart.co.za



Golden-tailed Woodpecker by Richard and Eileen Flack



Kids' SNAKES

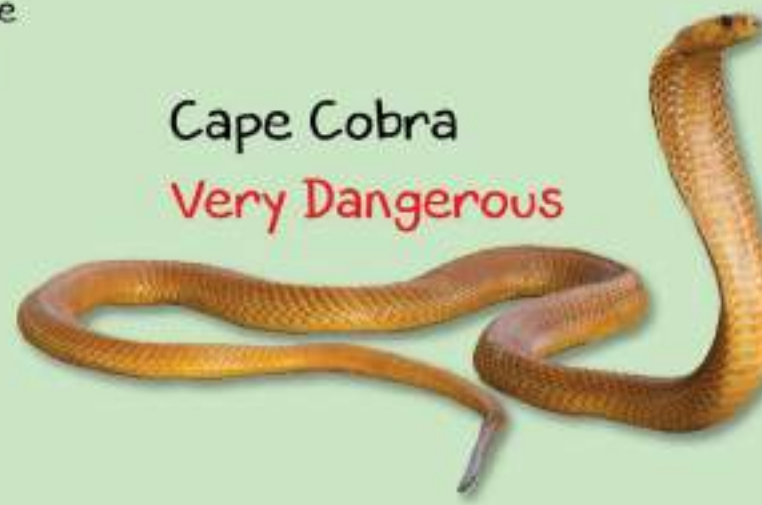


of Southern Africa



Black Mamba
Very Dangerous

Black Mambas have inky black mouths



Cape Cobra
Very Dangerous

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
Very Dangerous
Also spits venom



Male



Cape Male

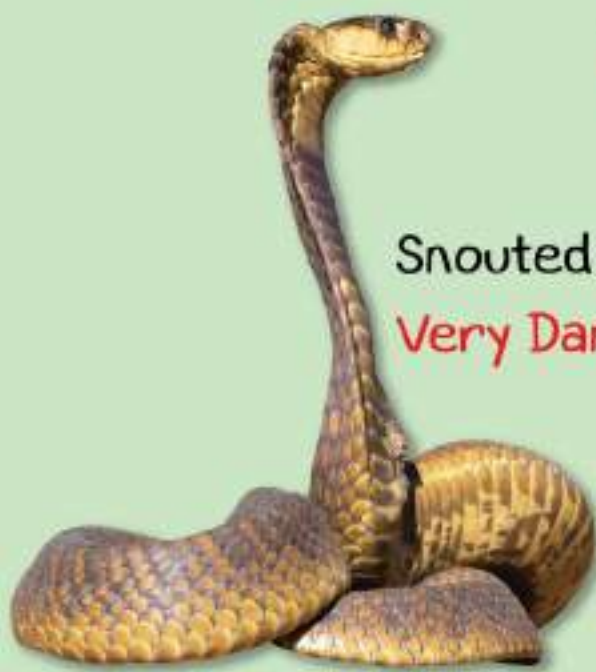


Female



Juvenile

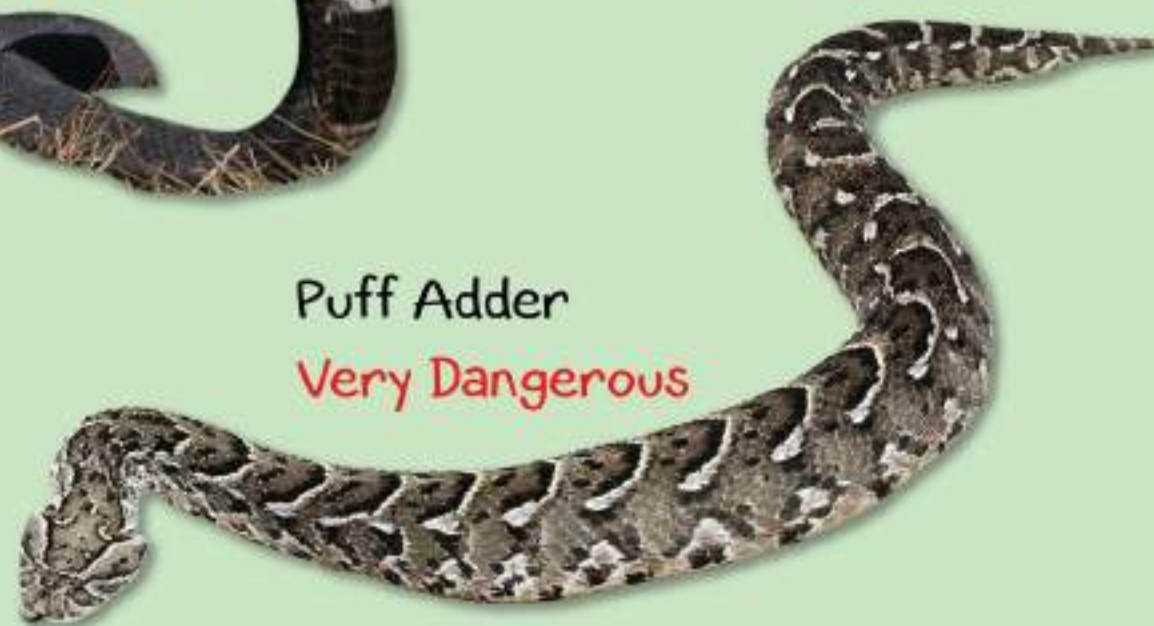
Boomslang
Very Dangerous



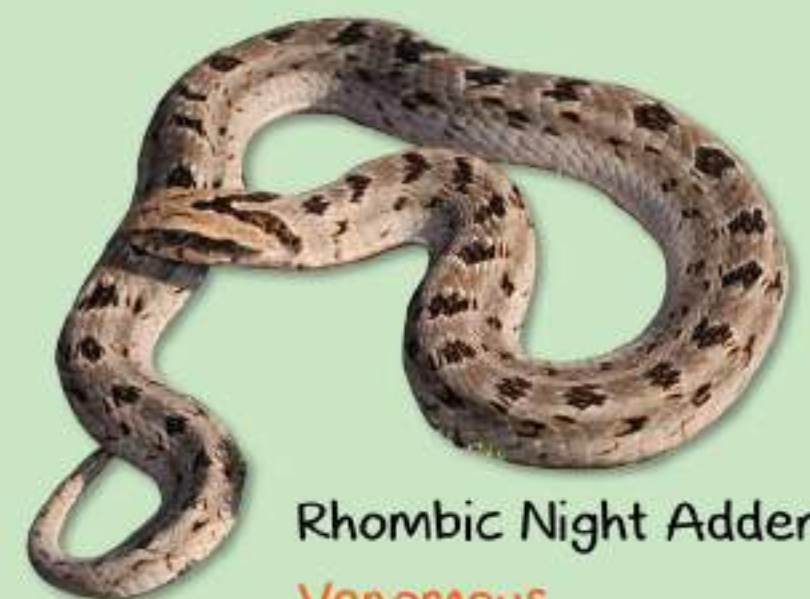
Snouted Cobra
Very Dangerous



Rinkhals
Very Dangerous
Also spits venom



Puff Adder
Very Dangerous



Rhombic Night Adder
Venomous



Stiletto Snakes often arch their necks when they're scared

Bibron's Stiletto Snake
Venomous



Eastern Tiger Snake
Mildly Venomous



These snakes only eat centipedes!



Black-headed Centipede-eater
Mildly Venomous



Herald Snake
Mildly Venomous



Spotted Skaapsteker
Mildly Venomous



Common Slug-eater
Harmless



Mole Snake
Can inflict a nasty bite



Juvenile Mole Snakes have beautiful patterns

Spotted Bush Snake
Harmless



Common Egg-eater
Harmless



Egg-eaters can eat eggs three times the width of their head!



Brown House Snake
Harmless

Common Brown Water Snake
Harmless



More snakes in Kids' SNAKES of Southern Africa available in English and Afrikaans
or get the ASI Snakes app on your phone



www.AFRICANSNAKEBITEINSTITUTE.com

If you see a snake, move 8 paces away and call an adult or teacher.

WELCOME TO THE
BOMA
... WHERE THE FUN BEGINS



Can you **IDENTIFY**

THE BIRDS IN YOUR GARDEN?

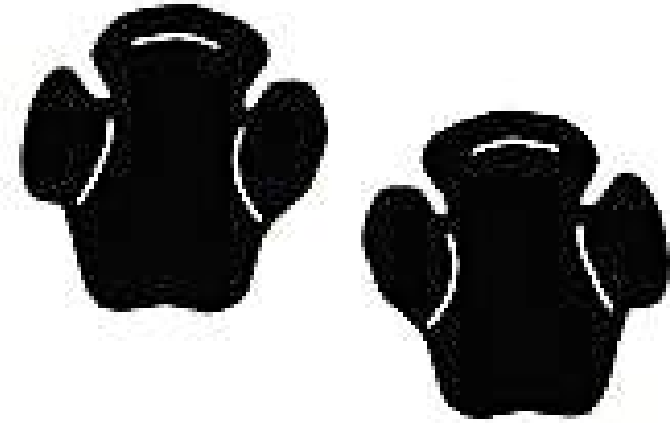
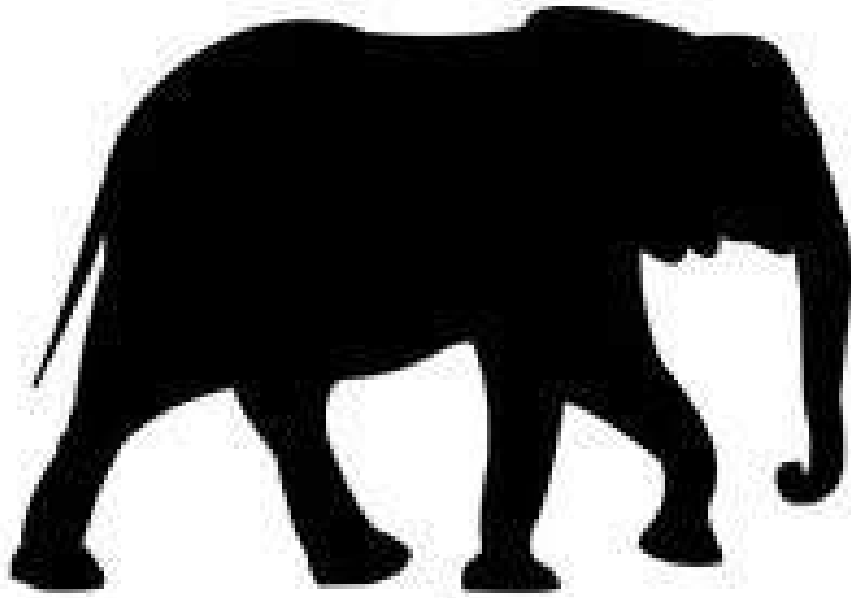
Use Your Bird Books To Identify The Bird And
Tick The Box When You Have Seen It

- ☐ Hadedda Ibis
- ☐ Crested Barbet
- ☐ Common Fiscal
- ☐ Cape Wagtail
- ☐ Common Myna
- ☐ Blacksmith Lapwing
- ☐ Cape Glossy Starling
- ☐ Grey Go-away-bird
- ☐ Cape Turtle Dove
- ☐ Speckled Mousebrid
- ☐ Dark-capped Bulbul
- ☐ Cape White-eye



Match the animal to the track...

1.



A

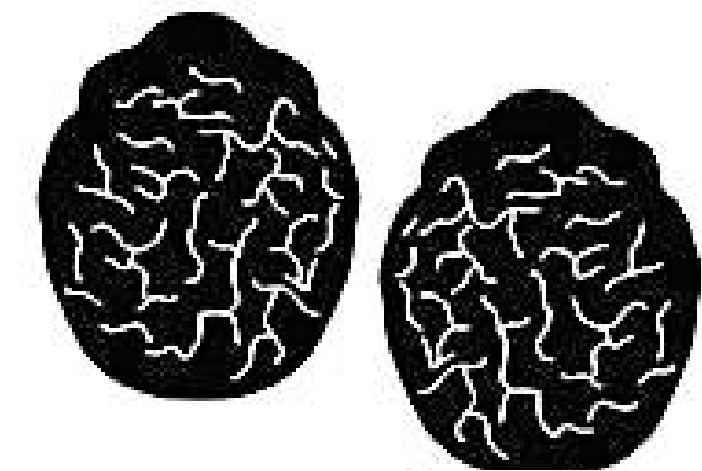
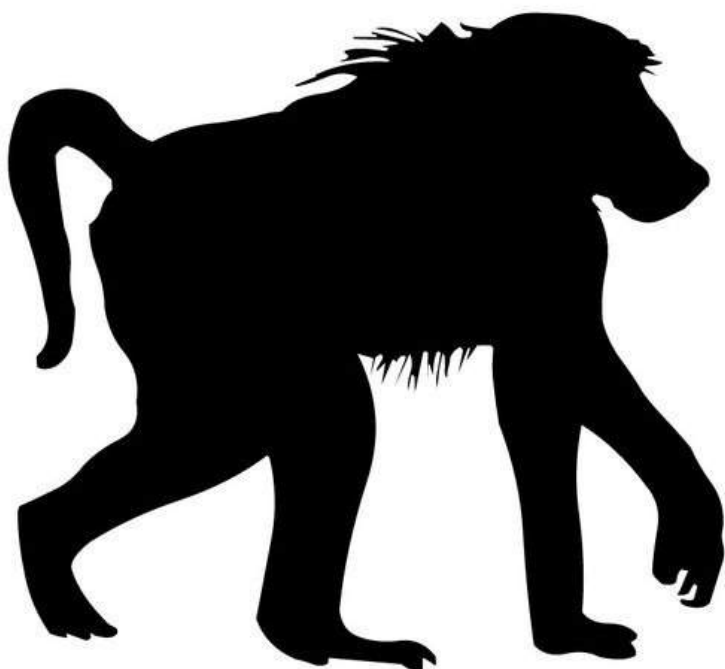
2.



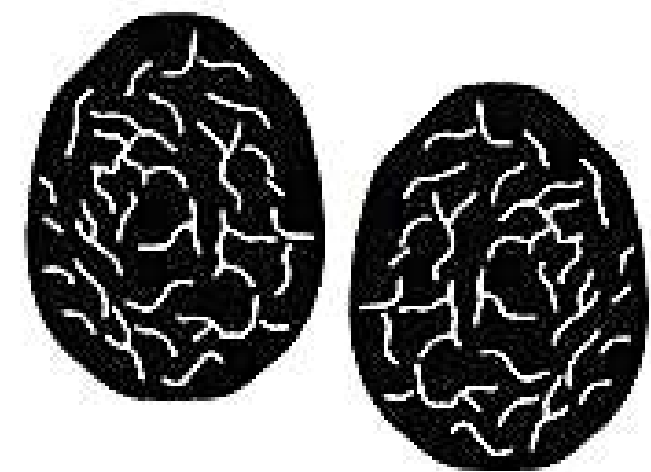
B



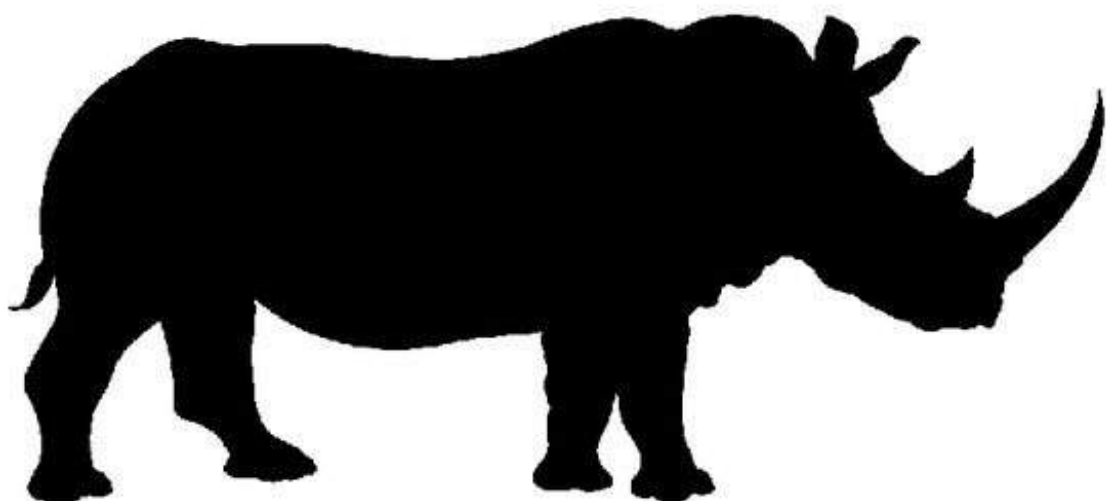
3.



C



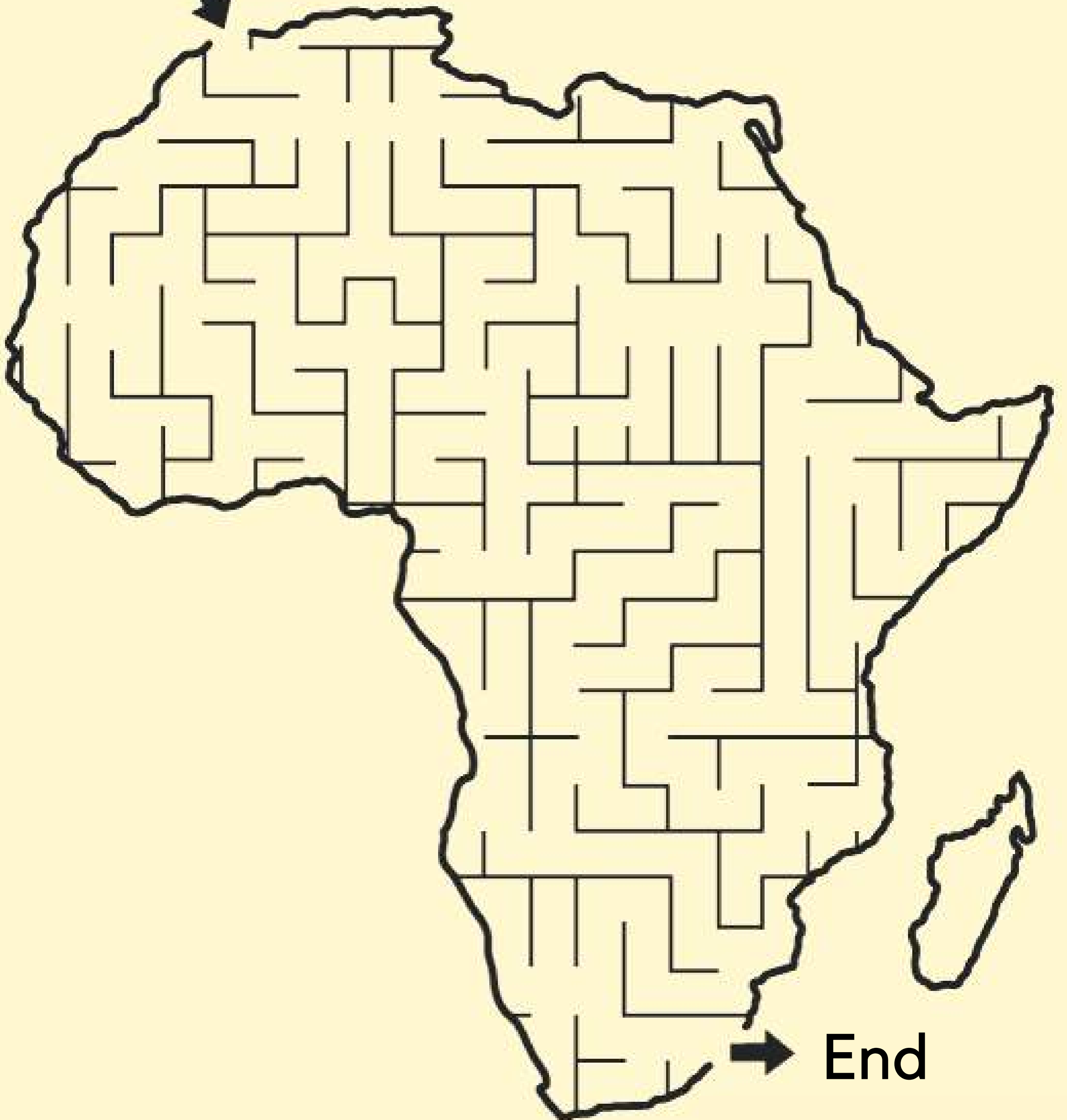
4.



D

START YOUR ADVENTURE THROUGH AFRICA

Start

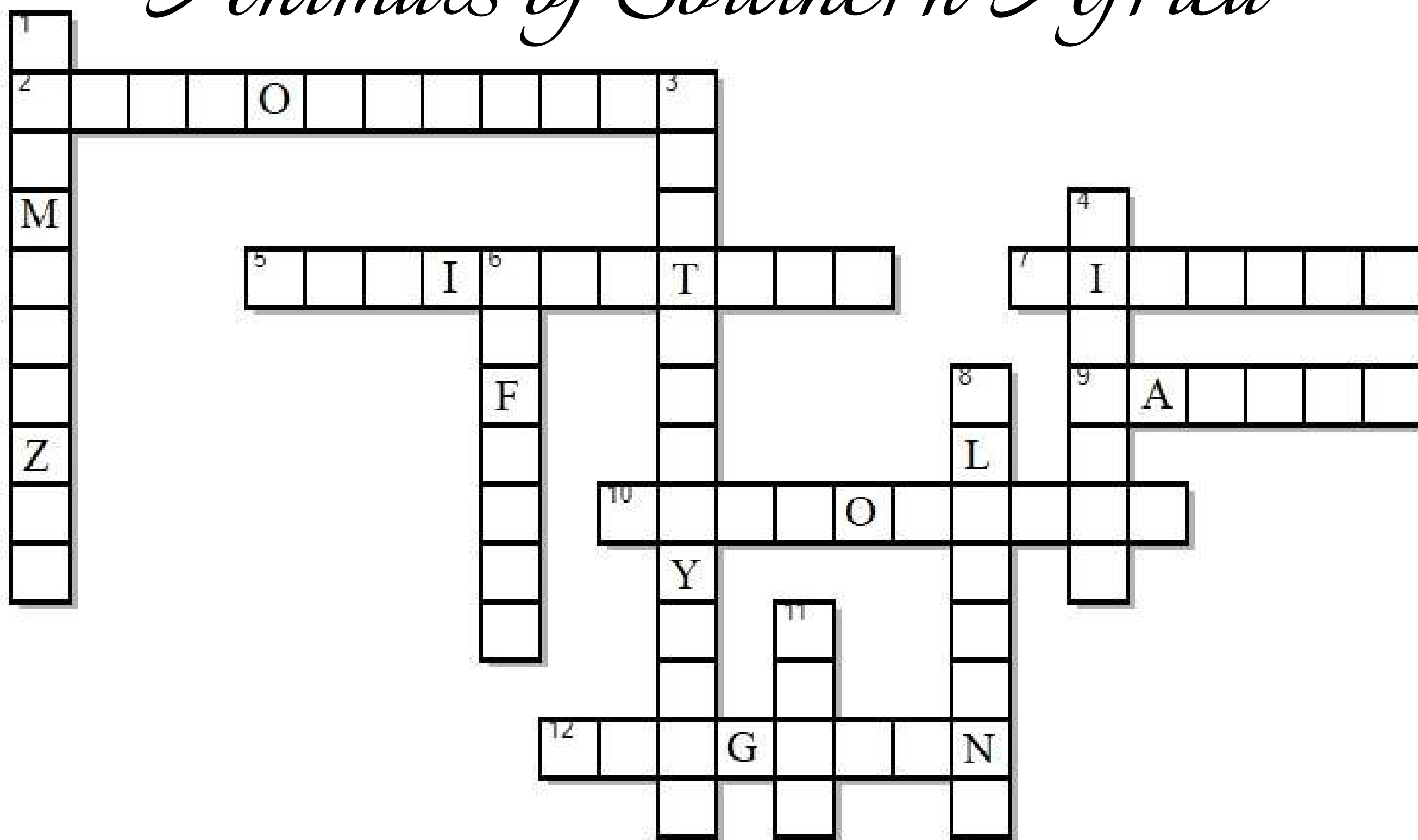


End

CROSSWORD

FOR NATURE AMBASSADORS

Animals of Southern Africa



ACROSS

- 2 Many people believe this animal eats meat but they are actually herbivores and come out to eat at night
- 5 What is the largest flighted bird in Southern Africa?
- 7 What is the tallest land mammal in Southern Africa?
- 9 What is the closest relative to an African Elephant?
- 10 This animal is hunted for its horn
- 12 This animal is endangered and is wanted for its protective armour

DOWN

- 1 What animal is the closest relative to humans?
- 3 This animal has a gestation period of 90 days, they can have 1-2 young per mating season and can live up to 20 years old
- 4 This is the course that you are currently busy with
- 6 This animal is an even-toed ungulate as well as a ruminant (the digestive system)
- 8 What is the largest land mammal in the world?
- 11 This animal can be heard roaring from up to 8 km away

WORD SEARCH

FOR NATURE AMBASSADORS

*Find 30 terms that relate to Astronomy.
You will find various terms in Module 4*

R	E	T	T	A	M	K	R	A	D	H	M	Z	K	P	G	M	H	B
T	D	D	E	L	T	A	C	R	U	C	I	S	G	L	R	I	I	E
G	G	A	M	M	A	X	Z	E	G	A	K	W	N	A	E	L	R	T
B	A	K	J	Z	M	A	R	S	L	V	F	O	I	N	A	K	A	E
H	L	S	T	A	R	S	B	U	H	E	M	R	N	E	T	Y	T	L
U	A	O	T	X	F	J	I	A	B	N	S	D	A	T	N	W	N	G
N	X	U	Z	R	I	G	E	L	F	U	L	T	W	S	E	A	E	U
I	Y	T	H	J	O	B	H	O	U	S	K	G	I	X	B	Y	C	E
V	K	H	G	R	M	N	I	G	H	T	S	K	Y	A	U	I	A	S
E	A	E	F	A	T	M	O	S	P	H	E	R	E	H	L	G	H	E
R	Z	R	L	U	N	A	R	M	E	F	H	X	S	M	A	B	P	B
S	F	N	X	H	O	K	L	O	Y	K	M	U	C	J	E	K	L	U
E	M	C	O	N	S	T	E	L	L	A	T	I	O	N	G	L	A	R
A	A	R	B	M	U	O	I	E	X	F	G	A	R	L	O	H	X	O
S	K	O	G	N	E	A	P	T	I	D	E	L	P	J	H	I	E	M
R	Z	S	U	J	K	M	R	J	G	L	G	N	I	X	A	W	U	F
O	G	S	P	R	I	N	G	T	I	D	E	B	O	K	F	J	L	Z
E	M	H	L	O	E	E	S	P	I	L	C	E	R	A	L	O	S	B
T	I	B	H	E	M	I	S	P	H	E	R	E	H	F	U	X	J	K
E	K	F	A	I	L	B	H	O	Z	N	O	O	M	L	L	U	F	A
M	Z	G	R	A	V	I	T	A	T	I	O	N	A	L	P	U	L	L

MAKE YOUR OWN *SURVIVAL BRACELET*

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

1. Three meters of Paracord per bracelet
2. A buckle that you like
3. Scissors and a Lighter (with an adults supervision)



DISCLAIMER

FGASA does not endorse these establishments or take responsibility for any incidents occurring on these excursions provided in this newsletter. This is a platform to promote environmental activities and to encourage children to get outdoors and learn about the environment around them.

BANKING DETAILS

First National Bank

Account No. 6249 6791 346

Branch code. 260 231

International Swift Code. FIRNZAJJ

POSTAGE DETAILS

POSTNET Bramfischer

Shop 8, Bramfischer

Corner of Bramfischer & George Street

Ferndale, Randburg

Attention FGASA