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CapeNature

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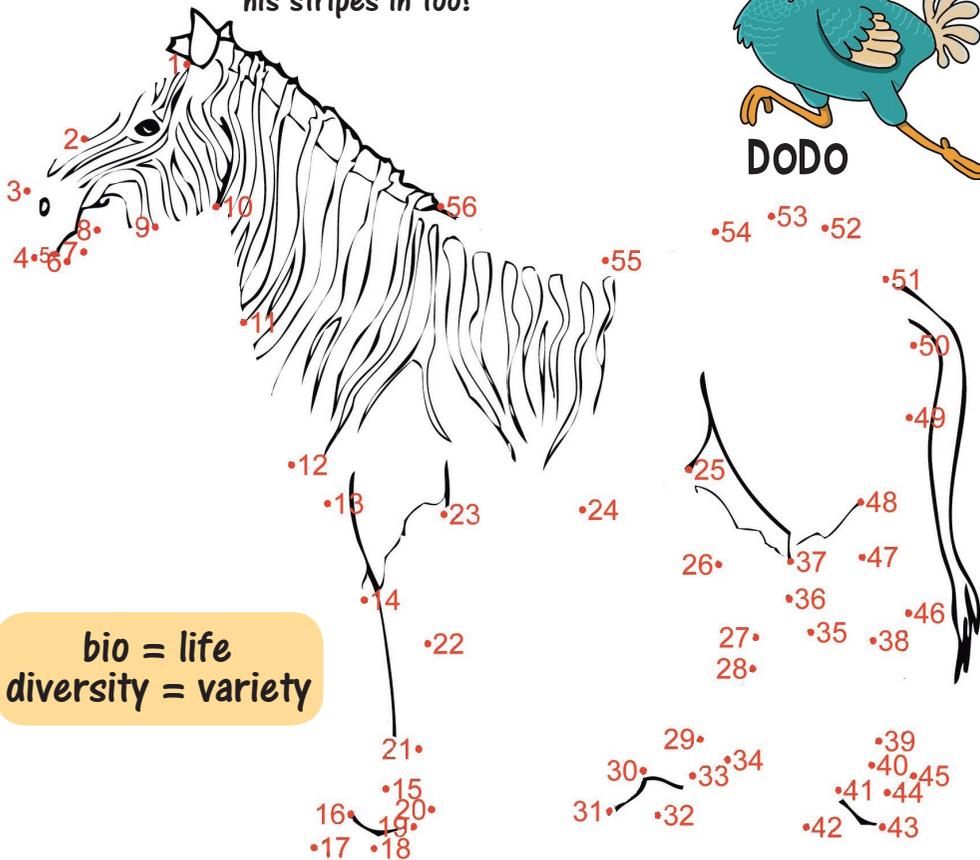
BIODIVERSITY - WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Biodiversity is life in all its forms on earth, the huge variety of animals and plants, the places they live and their surrounding environments. Every human being depends on this diversity of life. It provides us with the food, fuel, medicine and other essentials we simply cannot live without. Humans are part of nature and we have the power to protect or destroy it.

FRAIL FAUNA AND FLORA

If biodiversity is not maintained some plants and animals can die and even become extinct. For example the Dodo (see picture below) and the quagga, are animals that became extinct.

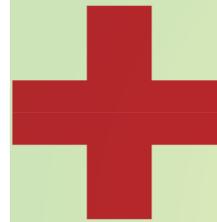
Connect the dots on the picture below to make the quagga come alive once again! Then you can colour his stripes in too!



bio = life
diversity = variety

BIODIVERSITY CREATES:

Draw lines to connect the words to the pictures.



MEDICINE



JOBS

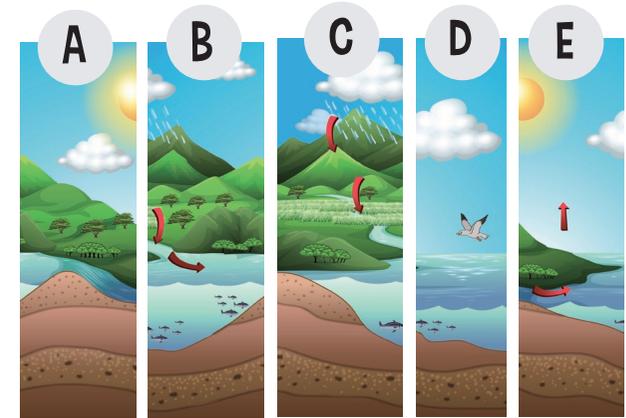
WATER

RECREATION



THE WATER CYCLE

What order should these panels be in to put the water factory picture back together again?



B--D-V-RS-TY G-V-S L-F-!

Nope! This message isn't in Greek - it's in English...but 9 letters are missing! They are all vowels. Write the real message below.



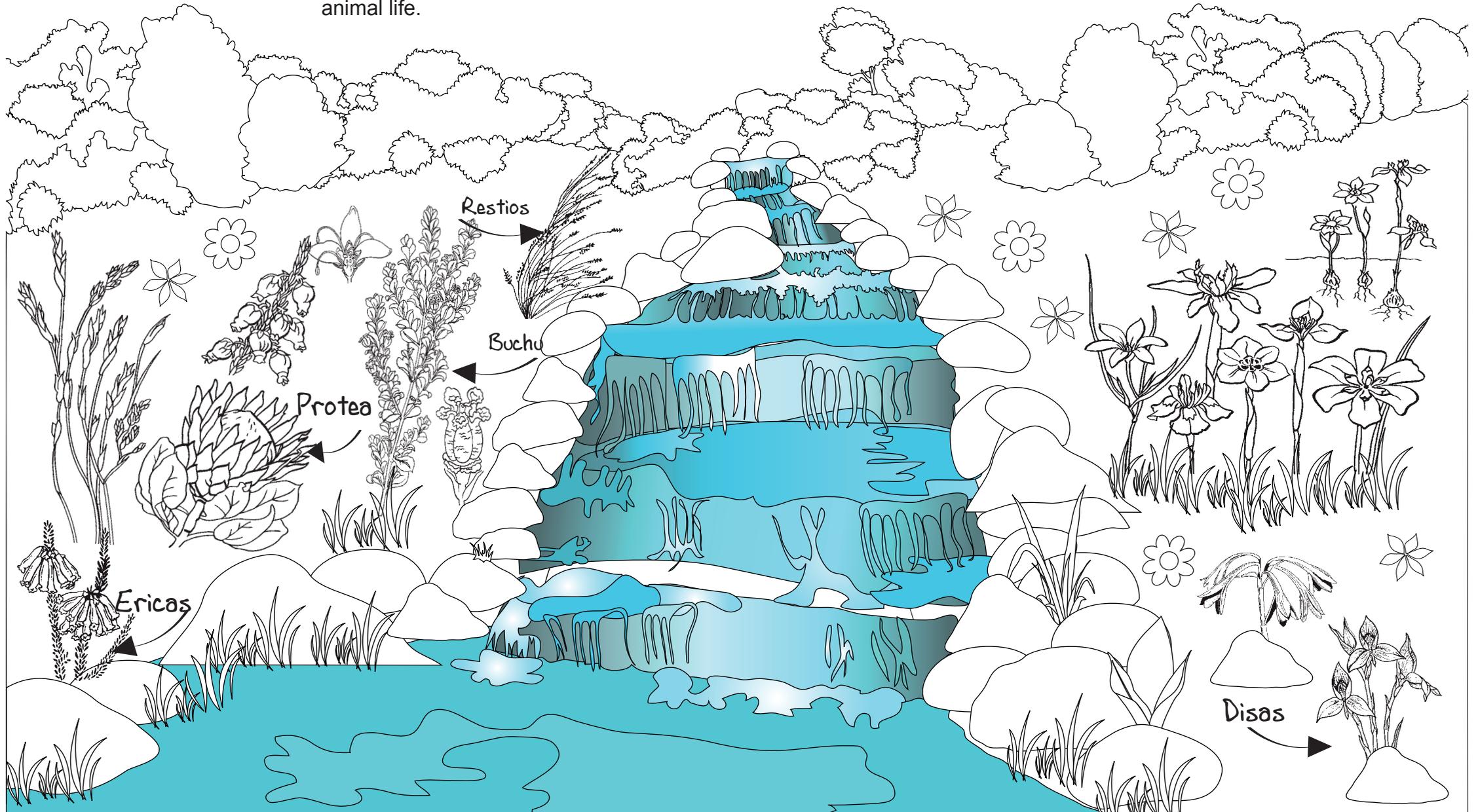
LOWLAND FYNBOS



Did you know that you live in a very special kingdom? The Cape Floral Kingdom is the smallest of the world's six distinct plant kingdoms, but for its size it is one of the regions in the world that is the richest in species and variety found. It is one of the earth's 25 biological 'hotspots', areas that contain the world's greatest diversity of plant and animal life.

Fynbos is comprised of:

- Tall, broad leafed shrubs like proteas
 - Fine leafed shrubs with bell-shaped flowers, like ericas
 - Reed-like plants like restios
 - Plants which regenerate from rootstock, like disas.
- A variety of legumes, buchus and daisies are also part of fynbos.



BIRDS OF A FEATHER

Birds play an important role in ecosystems. They help to disperse seeds and pollinate certain plants.



The Cape Vulture is endemic to southern Africa and is one of the top ten threatened vertebrates of the Western Cape.

Sugarbirds are the only bird family unique to southern Africa. The Cape Sugarbird relies almost exclusively on proteas for feeding and nesting, and even lines its nest with protea down.

How many words can you make with the letters

OYSTERCATCHER?

De Hoop Vlei near Bredasdorp is the only South African breeding site of the Greater Flamingo. Lesser Flamingos are normally smaller and pinker than their cousins and have darker bills.

This is an alien Mallard Duck male. The females look almost the same as the endemic Yellow-billed Duck.

The Blue Crane is South Africa's national bird.

Cormorants have short legs with webbed feet.

Can you spot the main difference between the alien Indian House Crow and our indigenous Pied Crow?

The African Black Oystercatcher is southern Africa's second rarest coastal breeding bird. The name oystercatcher is misleading as they feed on mussels, limpets, crustaceans and worms, rarely if ever taking oysters!

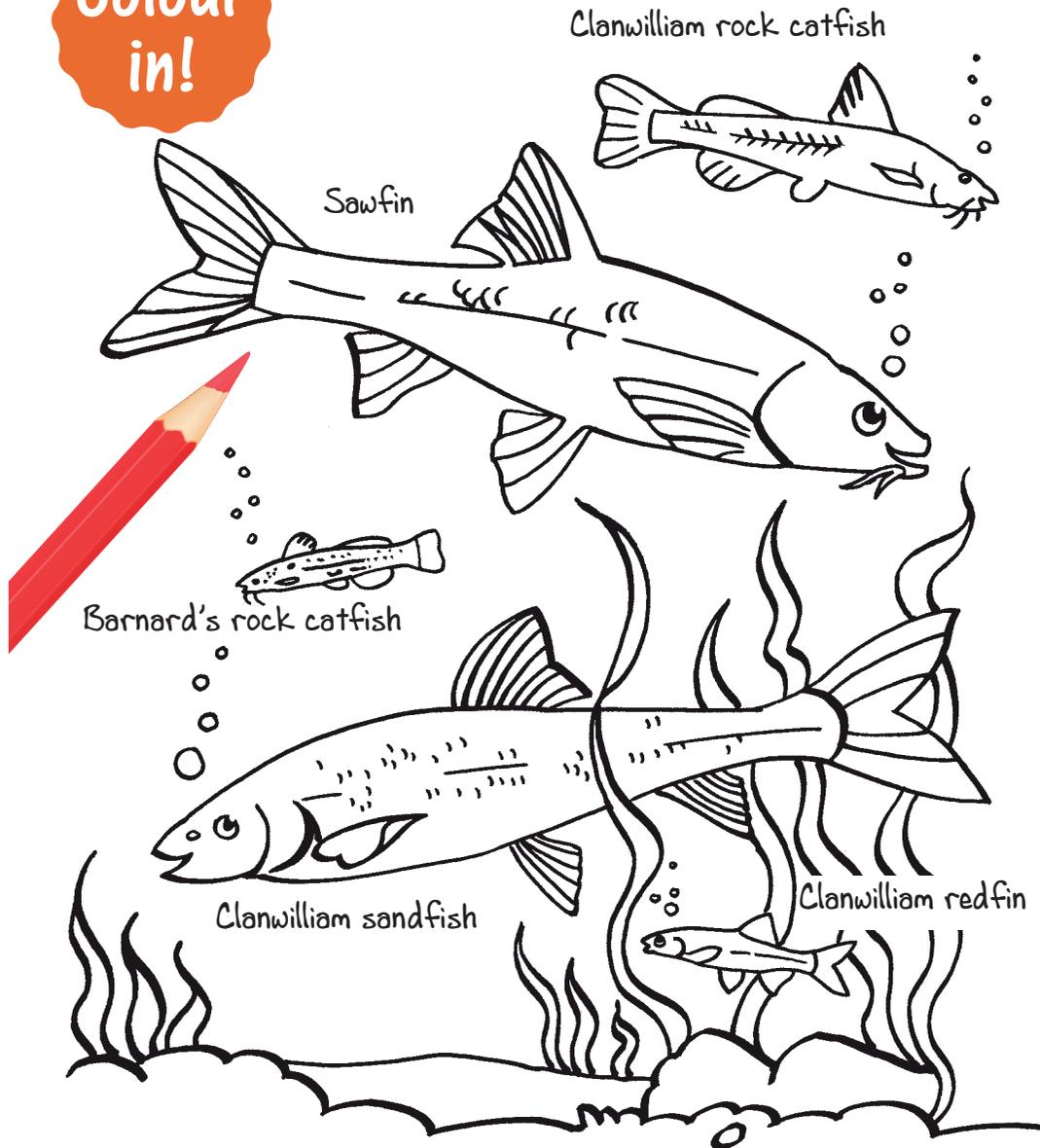
- Across**
- This crow has a white neck and chest, while the Indian House Crow has grey feathers around the neck, breast and upper back.
 - The Cape _____ is a large hawk-like bird that feeds on dead animals.
 - These alien ducks compete against indigenous ducks, such as the Yellow-billed Duck, for food and nesting sites.
 - The African Black _____ is a wading bird with red legs and a broad red bill.
- Down**
- The Cape _____ is grey-brown with a spot of yellow under its very long tail. It makes a *frt-frt* sound when it flies, to attract females.
 - These loud, scavenging seabirds are grey or white, with black markings on the head or wings, and have webbed feet.
 - The _____ Flamingo is the largest species of flamingo, averaging 110 - 150 cm tall and weighing 2 - 4 kg.
 - They look like they wear tuxedos. They walk on land but swim in the sea.
 - This dark feathered seabird has a long neck and a throat pouch for holding fish. They dive from the surface and under water propel themselves with their feet.
 - The Blue _____ is the national bird of South Africa.

CONSERVE OUR INDIGENOUS FISH

The Olifants River is the habitat of eight types of fish, including the Clanwilliam yellowfish and the fiery redfin, that are not found in any other river in the world. "Endemic" means they **only occur here**.

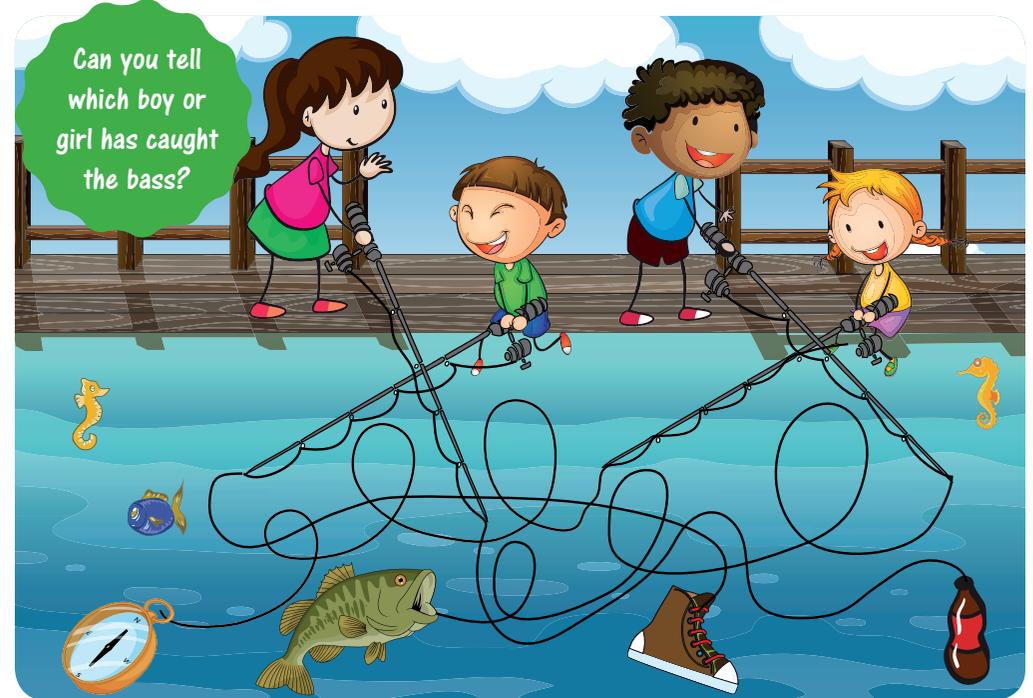
LET'S PROTECT OUR ENDEMIC FISH.

Colour in!



FISHING FOR BASS

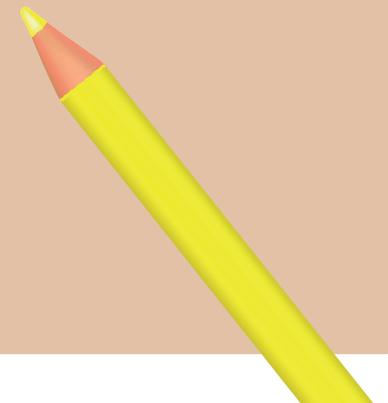
Large and smallmouth bass are predators which are harmful to our local waters and the other fish in it. On the upside, however, bass are popular for fishing, so they draw anglers into areas where they can enjoy and appreciate nature.



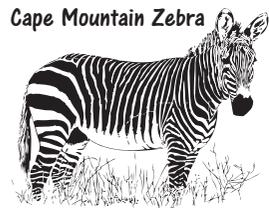
SPELLING BEE!

In the two lists below, some names of animals and plants have been spelled correctly and some haven't. Can you circle all the correct ones?

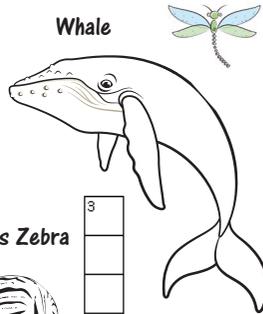
- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| TORTOISE | TORTES |
| LEPPID | LEOPARD |
| WHALE | WAIL |
| PENGWIN | PENGUIN |
| ERIKA (the fynbos flower) | ERICA |
| GALJUNE (our national fish) | GALJOEN |
| PROTEA | PROTIA |



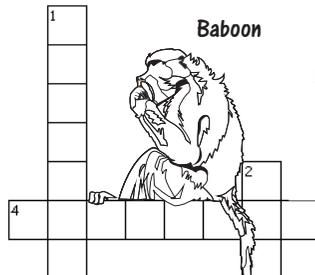
AMAZING ANIMAL CROSSWORD



Cape Mountain Zebra



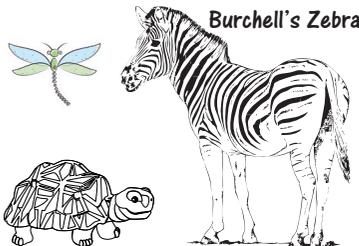
Whale



Baboon



Riverine Rabbit



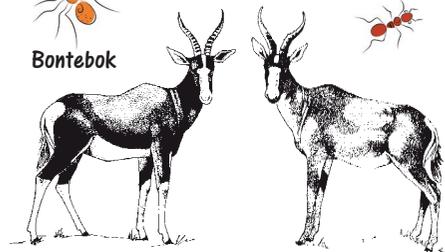
Burchell's Zebra



Geometric Tortoise



Bontebok



Blesbok



Spider



Butterfly



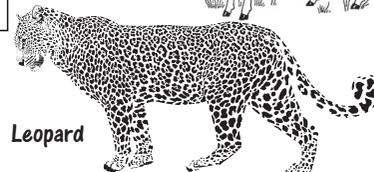
Ant



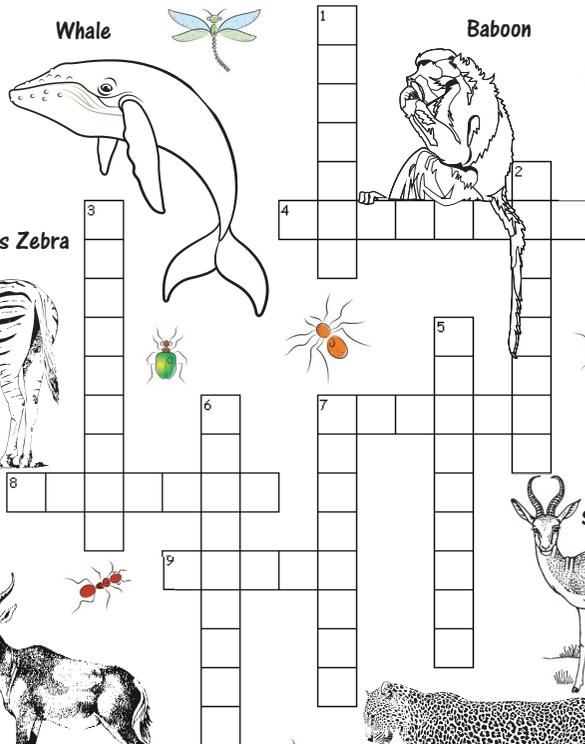
Ladybug



Springbok



Leopard



Across

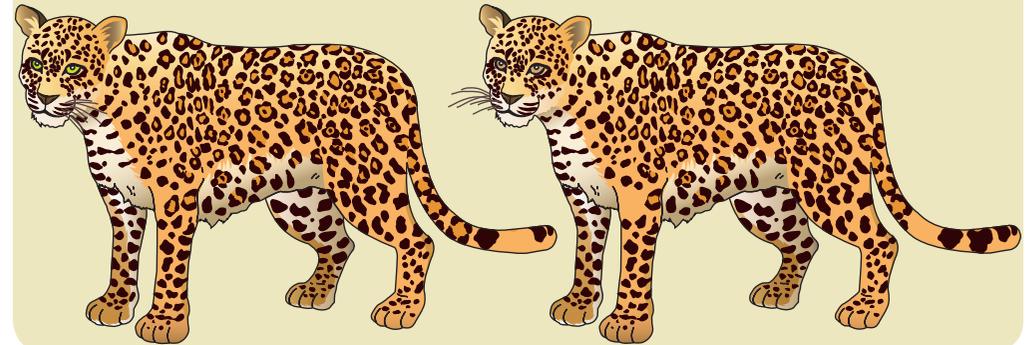
- The Cape _____ zebra was saved in the very nick of time from extinction.
- I am a primate that lives in a troop. My mother carries me on her back or under her belly.
- I am the only large predator left in the fynbos mountains, and you will rarely see me.
- We spend our summers in the cold Antarctic and we are the biggest creatures in the ocean.

Down

- Unlike the bontebok, the white blaze on my face is usually broken by a patch of brown.
- The _____ rabbit is one of the rarest mammals in the world and is only found in the Western Cape.
- I am a graceful brown and white gazelle. I can reach speeds of 100 km/h and can leap 4m through the air when I show off.
- The _____ tortoise is the most endangered tortoise found in Africa.
- The _____ zebra is the species you'll see almost everywhere. Its favourite habitat is the largest ecosystem in the country – savannah.
- Unlike my friend the blesbok, my buttocks are always white.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Leopards are solitary, shy members of the cat family that dwell in mountains, forests, bush, and other areas. They are great athletes, agile tree climbers, and expert swimmers. Adult leopards are the largest spotted adult carnivores in Africa. Their coats, patterned with rosettes of black spots, provide ideal camouflage. *There are six differences between the two leopards below. Can you find them all?*



THE WONDER OF RAIN

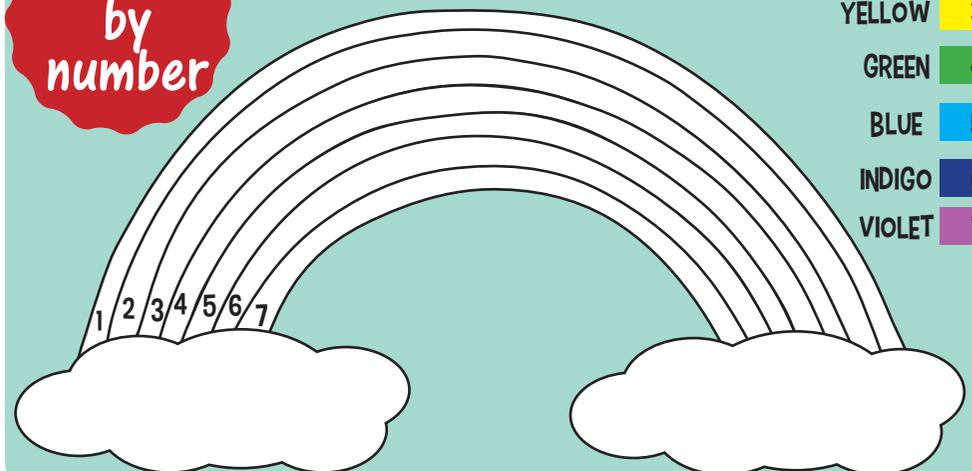


Water is probably the most important resource on Earth. It is a natural insulator and helps to regulate Earth's temperature. Water moves around the planet through the water cycle. Humans are largely responsible for water pollution because waste is often disposed of in streams, rivers, lakes and oceans.

We all need to work out ways to conserve water and keep it clean.

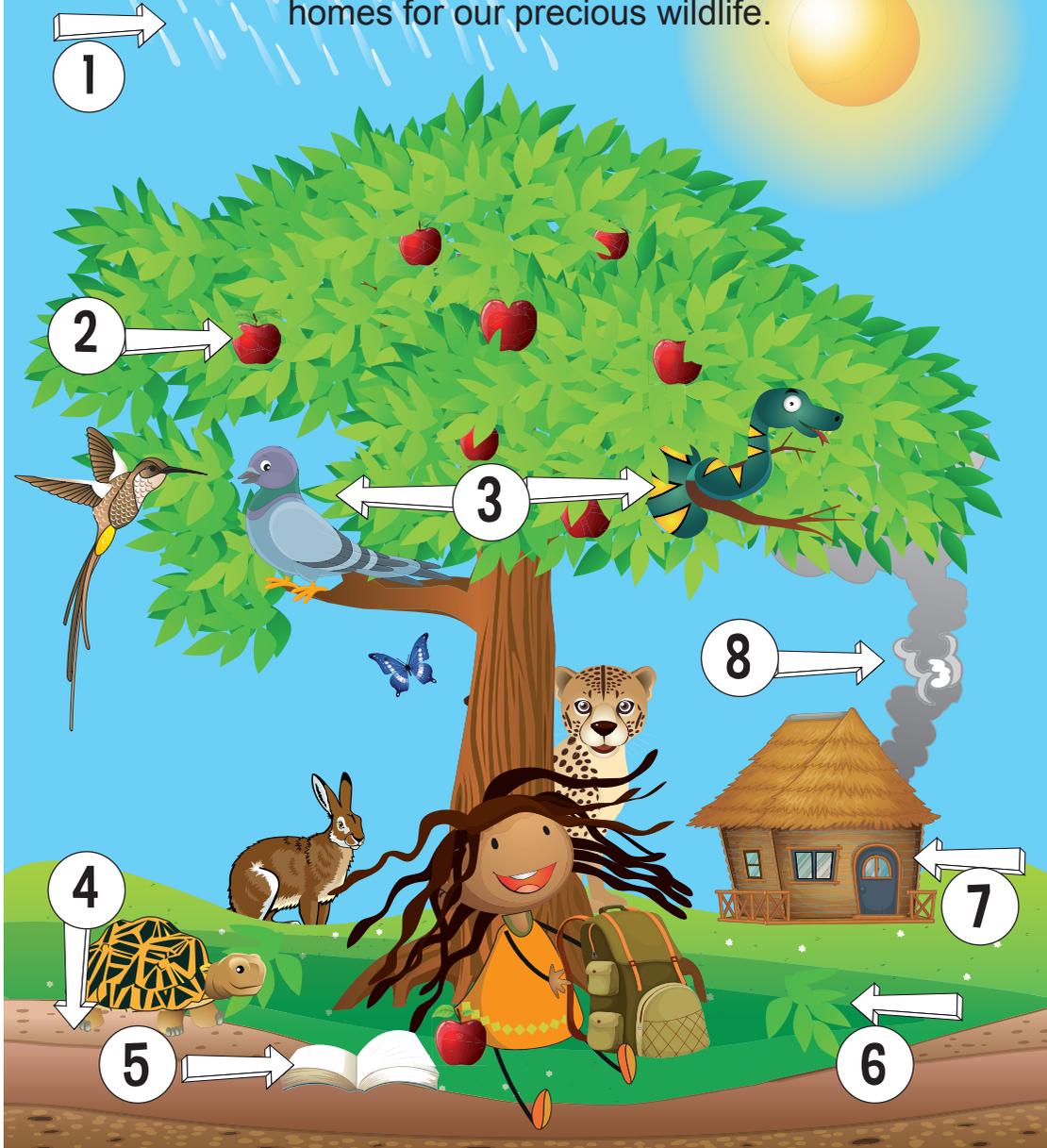
Colour
by
number

RED	1
ORANGE	2
YELLOW	3
GREEN	4
BLUE	5
INDIGO	6
VIOLET	7



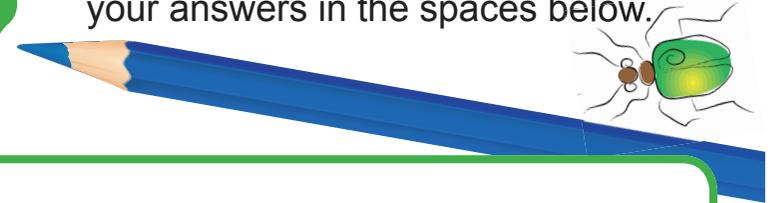
IMAGINE LIFE WITHOUT A TREE!

Trees breathe for the planet. They inhale carbon dioxide from exhaust fumes and what we breathe out, and exhale oxygen, which we inhale. The leaves that fall from their branches add nutrients to the soil. Trees also help to create rain, remove pollution, help rain filter down into the ground, and create homes for our precious wildlife.



Why do we need trees?

Think about all the things we need trees for. (We have already mentioned a few). Look at where the arrows are pointing on the picture to give you some clues. Write your answers in the spaces below.



- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____
- 7 _____
- 8 _____

HOW WELL DID YOU DO?

3 answers: GOOD 5 answers: VERY GOOD 8 answers: EXCELLENT!



WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP?

Plant a local, indigenous tree! When you plant a tree it needs to be watered and cared for, so that it will grow strong and healthy. Ask a grown-up for some advice on how and where to plant a tree.

Every tree makes a difference!



