WILDLIFEDIRECT

Newsletter
Issue #10
July 24th, 2020

WILDLIFE WARRIORS KIDS

Hello Wildlife Warriors!
Stay connected to nature even when you are at home in this tenth edition of the weekly wild update.

Mangrove tree by Tony Wild

On this week's Issue, we will focus on climate change! What does climate change mean to you? Do you know how climate change affects nature and wildlife? Please read on! We continue to give you tips on how to take the **BEST** photographs as you prepare for Season Two of the Nature's Treasures Photo Competition starting this August, wild jokes and much much more…

Stay with us on this fun filled adventure. Always remember to share with your family and friends.

KIDS AND PHOTOGRAPHY!

During Season One of the Nature Treasures Photo Competition on the theme **Our Wildlife Our Pride,** Hanain Ayub (15) submitted a well composed image of zebras walking on a dusty landscape.

Well done Hanain!!

Get ready for season two of the Nature's Treasures Photo Competition starting this August!!!!

PHOTOGRAPHY TIP BY USHA HARISH!

What makes a good portrait?

For a head portrait - The photo has to be in focus with the animal close-up in the frame.

For a full body portrait - A photo that shows the entire animal within the frame without cropping off ears, paws, tail etc.

Also remember – eye level images are more appealing! Try it out.

USHA HARISH
PHOTOGRAPHY

UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE CHANGE

Have you heard of Climate Change or Global Warming? What do these mean?.

Climate change happens when the weather patterns become extreme over a period of time i.e. the rainy and dry seasons become prolonged and no longer predictable.

Causes of climate change

Scientist have been working hard to understand this process and have found that it occurs when gases produced by excessive human activity are released into the atmosphere.

Examples of these gases are Carbon Dioxide, Methane and Nitrous Oxide. Most of these gases are produced from human activities such as when industries release Carbon Dioxide, use of fuel dependent motor vehicles, use of airplanes, destruction of forests and natural habitats, among others.

UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE CHANGE

Ice cap on Mt. Kilimanjaro

Melting Ice cap on Mt. Kilimanjaro

How does climate change happen?

Think about when you are cold and take a blanket to cover yourself.

When gases such as Carbon Dioxide radiate from the earth they form a blanket around the earth's atmosphere.

This blanket traps heat from the earth the same way the blanket you cover yourself with traps heat from your body.

After a long period of time, this trapped heat causes the earth to be warmer. This warming effect over the earth causes changes in daily weather pattern and over time changes the climate conditions.

This is known as global warming.

UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE CHANGE

How can you and I help slow down climate change?

Scientists tell us that in order to slow down climate change we have to reduce the amount of gases released in the atmosphere. We can do this by:

- **Re-using and recycling products**. (read more on the 'What you can do to help nature' section of this issue)

- **Saving energy from home appliances.** You can do this by switching off lights when no one is in the room or unplugging your phone and laptop charger when not in use.

- **Use a bicycle or walk** instead of using cars or public transport when going to a place close to your home.

- **Plant more indigenous** trees and take care of them.

- **Dispose of plastic appropriately** so that it does not end up in our rivers and oceans.

Article courtesy of Olivia Adhiambo

UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE CHANGE

How can you and I help slow down climate change?

- **Do not buy stuff in single - use plastics**. Bring your own containers for cereals and carry your own reusable bags for vegetables.

- **Do not burn waste plastic.** Take it to a recycling center near you. (You can ask your parents to help you identify one.)

- **Compost your organic waste** and use the compost for farming. This ensures the health of the soil is maintained

- **Reduce or avoid chemical input in the farm** by practicing organic farming or permaculture.

- **Tell your friends and family** about climate change and how they can get involved.

HOW CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTS WILDLIFE

Critically Endangered Hawksbill Turtle by Ken Gitau

Climate change affects wildlife in different ways.

For example;

Apes and other tree dwelling animals are loosing their homes due to destruction of forests.

Turtles can not build their nests on the beaches because of rising levels of the ocean's waters, washing away the beaches.

Polar bears are losing their homes because the ice and glaciers are now melting faster.

HOW IS CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTING US?

Wildlife Warriors at Enkaji Naibor Primary School in Kajiado South harvesting sweet potatoes from their club shamba

Farmers in Kenya rely on predictable weather in order to plant and harvest crops that they sell to us as food.

Climate change has affected farmers' ability to produce enough crops because when the rains are delayed or they are more than usual, crops do not survive.

Likewise when the dry season is prolonged farmers are not able to plant crops.

These extreme weather events have also destroyed infrastructure such as roads, schools, homes. They have also caused diseases in humans, plants and animals.

Article courtesy of Olivia Adhiambo

MEET LESEIN

Lesein Mutunkei is a 15 year old high school student and an avid football player with a love for adventure and the outdoors. At 11 years, he began to hear about deforestation, climate change and pollution.

Let's talk to him about what he is doing to save the environment.

Q: **Why are you very passionate about environmental conservation.**

A: As a child, I watched a short video on the famous Kenyan environmentalist, Prof. Wangari Maathai, about how a little hummingbird poured water out of its tiny beak to put out a forest fire. This illustrated how even small actions can make a big difference.

Hearing about deforestation and pollution I became very concerned about the environment.

MEET LESEIN

Q: What inspired you to start Trees4Goals?

A: I love sports like football, athletics, and tennis. I also love adventure and anything that comes with being outdoors and with nature.

I read that the number of trees being cut down every day were equal to the size of about 130 football fields in Kenya.

I realized that if things are not taken care of, the things that I loved to do would be taken away from me.

I thought about how I could do My Little Thing and got the idea to plant a tree each time I scored a goal in football.

I combined my love for sport and the environment and came up with **Trees4Goals.** The aim was that as I improve my game in football, I improve the environment.

You can follow Lesein on Instagram @Trees4Goals

MEET LESEIN

Q: What does Climate Change mean to you?

A: ***It means that if things don't change now, the environment will never be there to be enjoyed.***

When I heard how climate change was affecting the world, I decided at 13 years to increase my commitment to planting 11 trees for every goal scored to represent every football team member that made it possible to score the goal.

Q: How has what you do inspired other kids?

A: My football team at "*Ligi Ndogo*" joined me, as well as my friends at school. ***The more I talked to my peers, the more I realized that most young people are not aware of climate change issues.*** I have been sharing information with others in my school, my neighborhood, my football club, a primary school in Kajiado, in public events and on social media.

MEET LESEIN

Q: What are the results of your efforts?

A: My school made me the Environment Champion and nominated me to attend the first United Nations Youth Climate Summit in New York.
The President of Kenya- invited me to State House to plant trees there.
Now, I have planted over 1,000 trees and reached over 5,000 youth, schoolmates and footballers.

Q: Your advice to the youth?

A: You are never too young to start to conserve the environment and every little thing counts. You can plant a tree or you can reduce your plastic use. What is important is to start **TODAY!**

PHOTO STORY OF THE MONTH

Lemasi Lekulal and baby Zebra

Lemasi Lekulal, a Samburu Warrior was herding his cows on the morning of Friday 24th in Ewaso area, Laikipia County when he saw a baby Grevy's Zebra being chased by domestic dogs.

He quickly went towards the dogs, chased them away and slowly walked towards the frightened foal.

With the help of a fellow Samburu Warrior, Lemasi decided to walk side by side with the baby zebra and went to look for help.

PHOTO STORY OF THE MONTH

Lemasi arrived at the home of Ambrose Letoulai and told him about the rescue.

Ambrose immediately called a team of rangers from Loisaba Conservancy in Laikipia.

Led by Mr. Meshami, the rangers arrived at his home and took the baby Zebra to safety.

The Grevy's Zebra (*Equus grevyi*), is the largest living wild equid and the most threatened of the three species of zebra, the other two being the plains zebra and the mountain zebra. It is found in Kenya and Ethiopia.

Ambrose and the baby Zebra

WILD JOKES! 🤣

Q: What did the solar panels say to the tree cutters?
A: That's not cool at all.

Q: What did the tornado say to the other?
A: Let's twist again like we did last summer.

Q: Have you found a solution for climate change yet?
A: Nope but we're definitely getting warmer.

Q: Isn't climate change getting on the news a lot more nowadays?
A: Yes because it's a hot topic worldwide.

Q: Why are Hippopotamuses unconcerned about the effects of climate change?
A: Because they live in de Nile.

Q: Why is Hollywood really taking climate change seriously?
A: Because Vin Diesel changed his name to Vin Solar.

Wild jokes courtesy of Eric Sasia

TREE OF THE WEEK!

Mangrove tree at the Kenyan coast by Tony Wild

Mangroves are trees that grow in areas where the ocean meets the land between high and low tides.

Mangrove forests support the earth by providing breeding ground for many fish, crabs, shrimp and bird species.

Mangroves absorb and store carbon to help reduce global warming.

TREE OF THE WEEK!

Mangrove tree roots by Tony Wild

FUN FACT

Mangroves have breathing roots. These help in slowing down erosion by protecting our coastline from flooding caused by the rise in sea levels.

The roots also trap and filter soil sediments from reaching the coral reefs.

WILD QUIZ

Name one animal mentioned in this newsletter that is affected by Climate Change.

Send your answer via SMS or WhatsApp to 0746 511787
The winner will be mentioned in the next issue!

ART FOR WILDLIFE!

Drawing of an ideal environment by Lesurukukwa from Lempuranai Primary School in Samburu County

Do you have a drawing, painting, essay or poem you would like to share with other kids? Please send a photo of your drawing and painting or a text/WhatsApp message with your poem /essay to 0746 511 787

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP NATURE!

Did you know that July is the plastic free month?!

This month, we focus on the different ways to reduce plastic pollution.

Superb Starling feeding it's young with plastic waste in Tsavo East National Park at a game lodge by Eric Kaisha

When plastic is not disposed properly, it is harmful not only to humans, but also to the animals

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP NATURE!

In Issue 8, we learnt about REUSING- which refers to using something more than once.

In this issue we will learn about recycling.

What does **RECYCLING** mean?

This is the process of taking anything that we have used and changing it to reusable materials instead of throwing it away.

What can be recycled?

Glass bottles, old magazines and newspapers, aluminum cans and plastic

Why is it important to recycle?

Recycling reduces land, water and air pollution

It helps us protect natural resources such as trees

Share with us what you have done this week to help nature by sending an SMS or WhatsApp text to 0746 511 787

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP NATURE!

Wildlife Warriors at Makobe Primary School in Kwale recycled plastic bottle top rings and made these lovely keyholders!

Wildlife Warriors at Redrose Primary School recycled old newspapers, magazines and calendars and made beautiful necklaces!

Share with us what you have done this week to help nature by sending an SMS or WhatsApp text to 0746 511 787

THIS WEEK ON MY WILD AFRICA!

Follow the lives of cheetah cubs training to become ambassador cats on Cheetah Diaries. This film is an incredible profile of the work done by an extraordinary team of women, cheetahs and dogs.

Tune in to Citizen TV this Sunday at 5:30 p.m. and be part of the cubs growth journey!

You don't want to miss this!

Watch the film with your family and tell us what you learnt by sending an **SMS** or **WhatsApp message** to **0746 511787**

COMING UP… DON'T MISS!

Sunrise in Mombasa, Bamburi Beach by Shiru Ndegwa (14)

- **Wildlife Warriors on Switch TV at 2:00pm on July 26th, 2020**
- **My Wild Africa on Citizen TV at 5:30pm on July 26th, 2020**
- **International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem is on July 26th 2020**
- **International Tiger Day is on July 29th 2020**

FOR PARENTS!

- Please tell us what you think of this newsletter by filling the second part of bit.ly/WWKIDS and we will get back to you.

- If you would love to support Wildlife Warriors Kids, please make a donation to:

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