

# Animal Heroes Activity Pack

March 2022

The Wildlife edition

This belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_



#LIVE  
KINDER 

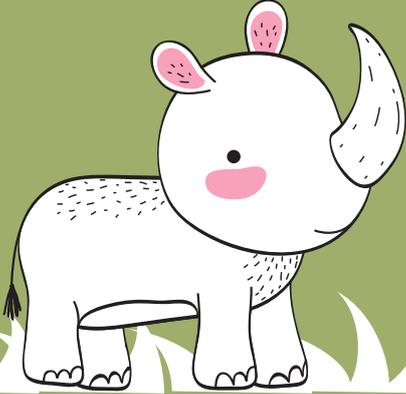
Animal Welfare.  
Worldwide.



# World Wildlife Day - 3 March

Hey kids! We hope you are as excited about the March letter as we are.

This month we are celebrating World Wildlife Day - a big celebration that happens all over the world where people focus on all the wonderful wild animals and plants found on our planet – celebrating all life on our planet!



## DID YOU KNOW?

Each one of us has the responsibility to protect the wonderful wildlife we share our world with – from the smallest birds and insects to the largest whales in the ocean and rhinos and elephants in the bush.

World Wildlife Day is also where we talk about animals and plants that are threatened and endangered, and how we can better protect them.

But what does that mean?

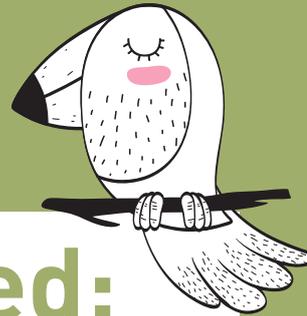
## Endangered:

plants and animals are those whose numbers are so few, they might stop existing, if we do not help protect them.



## Threatened:

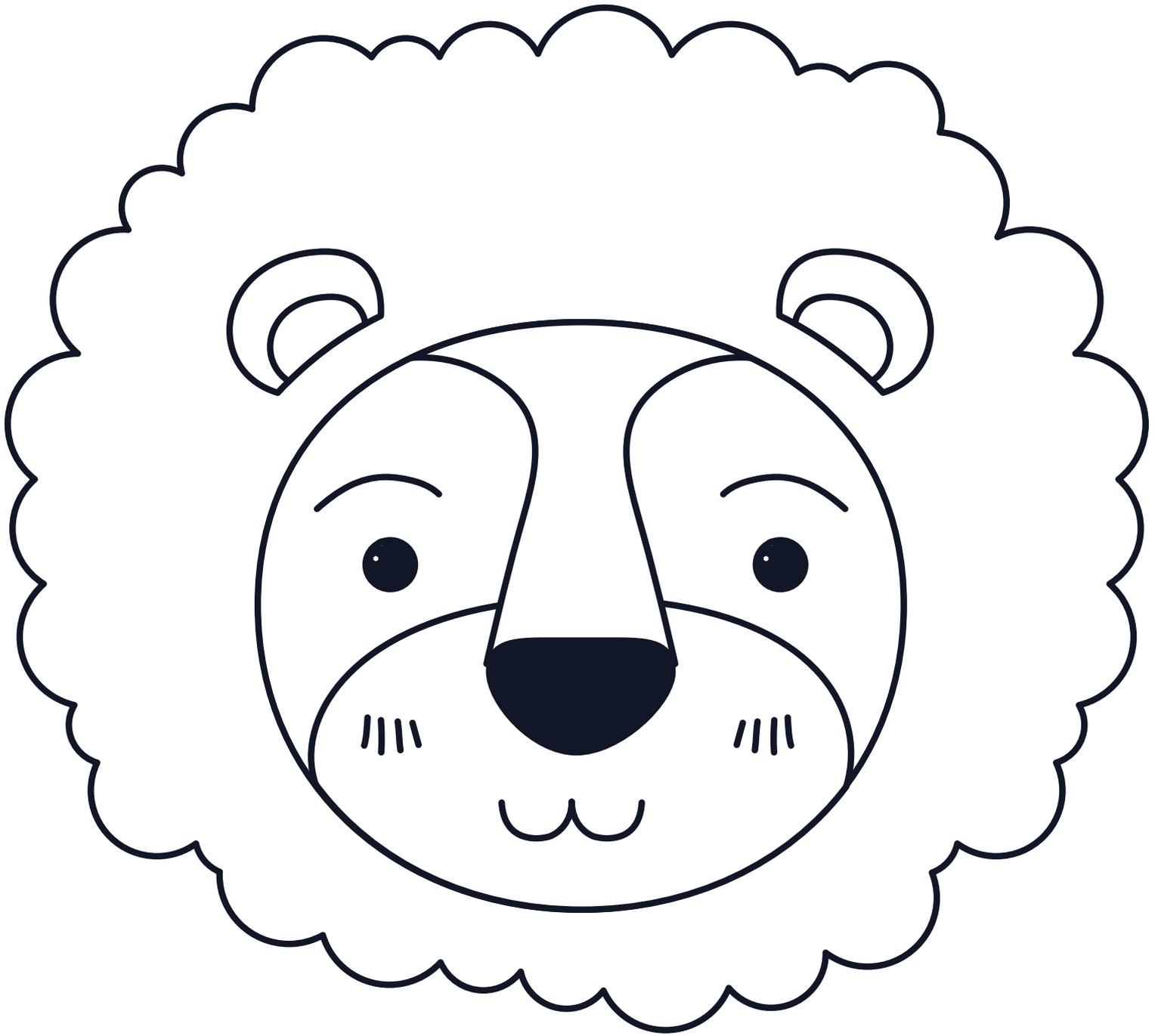
plants and animals are those that could become endangered in the future because their numbers are becoming less and less.



So what can we do?

We can be Animal Heroes and #LiveKinder towards all animals, plants, and the planet!

**Celebrate World Wildlife Day by making your very own wild animal mask with Leroy the Lion!**



### **HOW TO MAKE YOUR MASK:**

- Use your favorite colours to colour in your lion mask
- Carefully cut along the edges of the lion's mane
- Use a stick or ruler with sticky tape to make a mask handle, OR make small holes on the sides and thread some elastic or thin string.
- You can also stick the mask on a paper plate or cardboard to make it stronger and sturdier.



# Let's learn about some of South Africa's most endangered wildlife



Cheetahs might be the fastest land animal on earth but there are still less and less of them. Sometimes they might be seen as a nuisance and farmers poison, shoot or trap them. Their habitat (grasslands and open planes) is also becoming increasingly smaller as people and farms grow across their natural landscape.

The blue crane is South Africa's national bird, and are mostly found in the Western Cape. Sadly these beautiful birds have a blind spot in their vision and often fly into power lines - their long legs get entangled and they are shocked to death. Luckily there are clever people working on how to make power lines more visible to blue cranes.



The African Wild Dog, or painted dog, is very endangered and some say there are less than 450 painted dogs left in South Africa with a total of about 1,400 all over Africa. Humans are their biggest threat and the building of homes and factories as well as roads, farming, mining, and drilling all threaten their numbers.



Cape Vultures are only found in Southern Africa and though they might not be a pretty bird, this animal is very important. Vultures eat from dead animals in the wild which means they prevent diseases from spreading amongst the animal kingdom.



## SO WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Learn more about these and other wildlife who face dangers because of humans and educate others about it!

Dan-Dan is not sure what he should do.

Can you help him?



Should I visit a zoo where animals are in cages or should I see animals where they are out in the wild?

**ANSWER:**.....

Is it fine if I ride on a camel or an ostrich?

**ANSWER:**.....

Is it a good idea to go to a place that says they have rescued animals and call themselves a True Sanctuary?

**ANSWER:**.....

Can I go to a place where I can hold a baby lion and pose with them for a photo?

**ANSWER:**.....

If the animals look sick and the place they live in is dirty, should I stay and support them?

**ANSWER:**.....

Is it ok to walk with a big lion if the guide has a big stick which he uses to hit the lion?

**ANSWER:**.....



## Remember Dan-Dan:



Never feed wild animals - they learn bad habits from these interactions



Try to see wild animals in their natural habitats in the wild



Only visit True Sanctuaries - here there will be no touching of a wild animal by visitors



Avoid places where animals are in cages - like zoos, circus, etc

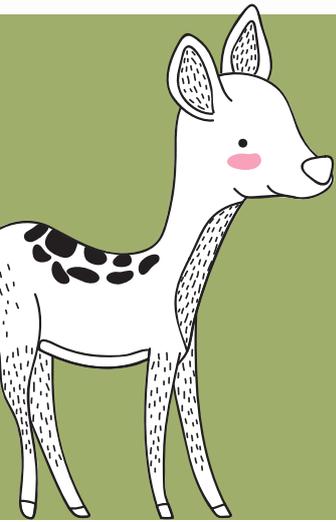


Never ride on a wild animal - it is cruel



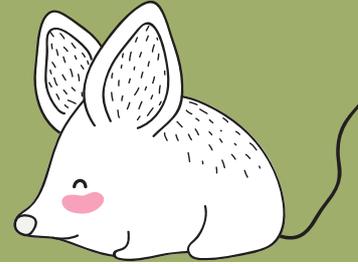
Wild animals are not toys or pets to be played with

# Some wild animals even live close to us in our towns and cities!



Many of us share our lives with – birds, squirrels, small buck, lizards, mice, vervet monkeys, dassies, baboons and more.

Have you had any encounters with wildlife where you live?



**How do you feel about animals living close to you? Write it down:**

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



## BIRDS ARE IMPORTANT!

Most of us see and hear birds every day. These are some of the most important wildlife as they help to distribute seeds so we can grow more plants that give us food, medicine, and many other things.

Birds like pigeons, house sparrows, cape canary and starlings are often found in our gardens. You can help birds, especially during the colder winter months, by offering them bird feeders and in return, they can help you recycle, by eating your leftover scraps!



**Turn to the next page where will Carla the Cat will teach you how to make an easy bird feeder that will also help you recycle!**



# Let's make an easy bird feeder and recycle at the same time!

## WHAT YOU NEED:

- An old / used water or cooldrink bottle - preferably a 2 liter bottle.
  - Rope - from natural material
  - A bag of mixed bird seed
  - A good pair of scissors
- please ask an adult to help!

## HOW TO DO IT:

- Make sure bottle is clean
- Cut out a big piece on the one side so birds can get to seeds - see picture.
- Make two small holes with the scissors and thread your rope through. Decide where you will hang it so you can decide how long rope has to be.
- Fill with seeds, hang on your tree, stoep or balcony, and watch the birds enjoy!



# How can you be a hero for wildlife?

## DON'T:



Buy things made from wildlife body parts like shark tooth necklaces, animal head trophies, fur clothing, and more.



Visit places where wild animals perform, like the circus.



Don't hunt or kill wild animals.



## DO'S:



Use as little plastic as possible and choose tin and paper above plastic if you can. Plastic and other trash is bad for our health as well as wild animals and plants.



Be respectful of wild animals you may see in your area and never hurt them, tease them, or bother them.



Choose a veggie burger instead of a beef burger - this will help to lower our impact on the climate and the animals we share our world with.



I, .....

PLEDGE TO BE A

**ROARSOME**

**WILDLIFE HERO**

I pledge to:

1).....

2).....

3).....



## Meet Paco, Richard and Rici

### Quick facts:

- They are the first all-male group at LIONSROCK.
- Paco, Richard and Rici arrived on 2 December 2009.
- They are 14 years old.
- All three come from Romania.

Before 2009, these three male lions lived a sad life - all three come from Romania where they were living illegally in private ownership, used and abused for money making purposes. Rici and Richard come from the same traumatic background where they were rescued and FOUR PAWS managed to convince the owner that Paco would have a better life at a sanctuary.

The friendly group love sunbathing on their backs with their legs in the air and love their enrichment, particularly Paco who usually tries to grab all 3 at once.

### Did you know?

Enrichment is toys, food and other activities that encourage the animals to display their natural behavior, gives them the opportunity to exercise and have fun. It can be anything from hiding their food, giving them trees to scratch on or a pool to swim in.