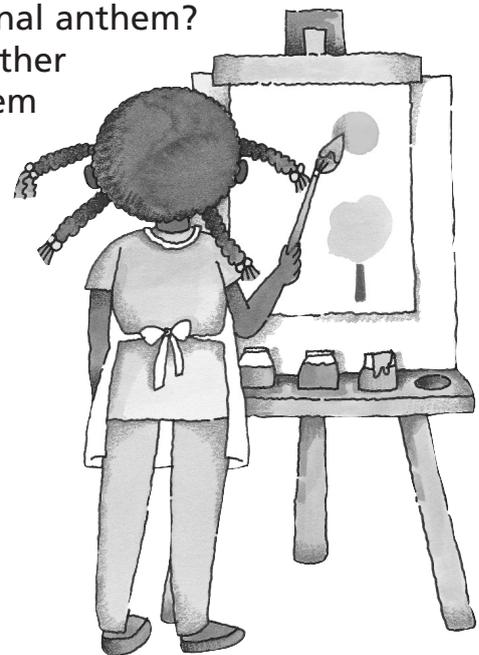


Online Book Club

The Rip-Roaring Mystery on the African Safari

Bring It To Life!

1. Draw it! Pretend you are on safari and you've forgotten your camera! Luckily, you have a piece of paper and drawing materials. Draw what you see on the African savanna. Make sure to include what animals you see. Can you see a watering hole? Is there a mountain or hills in the distance? Make your picture look as real as possible so you can show your friends and family when you get home.
2. Plan your own safari! Make a list of all the things you plan to bring along with you. What do you hope to see on your trip? How many days will you be gone? Don't forget to include who will be taking the adventure with you!
3. How's the weather? Ask an adult to help you use the Internet to learn about the weather in South Africa during this time of year. Is it hot and humid or cold and rainy? Compare the weather in South Africa to the weather where you live. Which do you like better? Why?
4. Display the colors! Find a picture of the South African flag and draw a picture of it! What is South Africa's national anthem? About how many people live there? Find three other interesting facts about South Africa and share them with the members of your book club!



Online Book Club

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Fact or Fiction?

Read the statements below. Write F if it is a fact, or FIC if it is fiction.

- _____ 1. Dr. Herman Applegate was the game warden at Kruger National Park.
- _____ 2. While the children were sleeping, a lion entered their tent and let out a horrifying roar.
- _____ 3. The Hoyo Hoyo Tsonga Lodge was located near an ancient elephant trail.
- _____ 4. While the children were watching the animals drink by the watering hole, a baboon fought off a prowling hyena.
- _____ 5. Bukekayo was the name of Kruger National Park's famous water buffalo.
- _____ 6. Dr. Applegate was the one responsible for stealing Bukekayo and trying to sell her on the black market.
- _____ 7. When Grant jumps out of the jeep by the ravine, he gets bitten by a venomous diamondback rattlesnake.
- _____ 8. After throwing a mango at Grant, the monkeys in the trees by the Hoyo Hoyo Tsonga Lodge are frightened by an eagle.



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Fascinating Facts

- Kruger National Park was founded by Paul Kruger in 1898 and was originally called the Sabie Game Reserve.
- The puff adder is a venomous viper species that can grow to over six feet long. The puff adder is responsible for more deaths than any other African snake.
- The lion is the second largest cat on the planet with some males weighing over 550 pounds!
- Johannesburg is home to more than three million people, making it the largest city in South Africa.
- Today, Kruger National Park is connected to the Limpopo National Park in Mozambique and the Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe, two of South Africa's neighboring countries.
- Vervet monkeys have cheek pockets for storing food and have blue skin on their stomachs! Europeans exploring Africa commonly took vervet monkeys as pets.
- Visitors to Kruger National Park are warned not to leave food lying about because monkeys and baboons will often steal it.
- When a hippopotamus submerges in water, special muscles keep water from entering its nostrils and ears.



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Talk About It!

1. It's important to bring the necessary equipment when you go on a safari. If you were going on a safari, what would you bring?
2. What was your favorite part of the story? Why?
3. The children get to go camping during their safari. Have you ever been camping before? If so, what is your favorite thing about camping? If not, would you ever like to go camping with your family and friends?
4. While talking in their tent, the children encounter a snake. Have you ever had a close encounter with a snake in real life?
5. What is your favorite animal that lives in the African savanna? Why is it your favorite?
6. Were you frightened when Grant came face to face with the lion after he jumped out of the Land Rover? What should he have done instead? Why is it important to think about things before you do them?
7. Mandisa loves lemon drops and constantly shares them with her friends. What is your favorite type of candy?
8. If you could go on a safari, who would you like to bring along with you?



Know your SAT Words!

Mystery Name: The Rip-Roaring Mystery on the African Safari

SAT Words



1. Conspire: _____
2. Dehydrate: _____
3. Emit: _____
4. Diminished: _____
5. Ferocious: _____

Write a sensational sentence using all five SAT Words from this mystery.

