

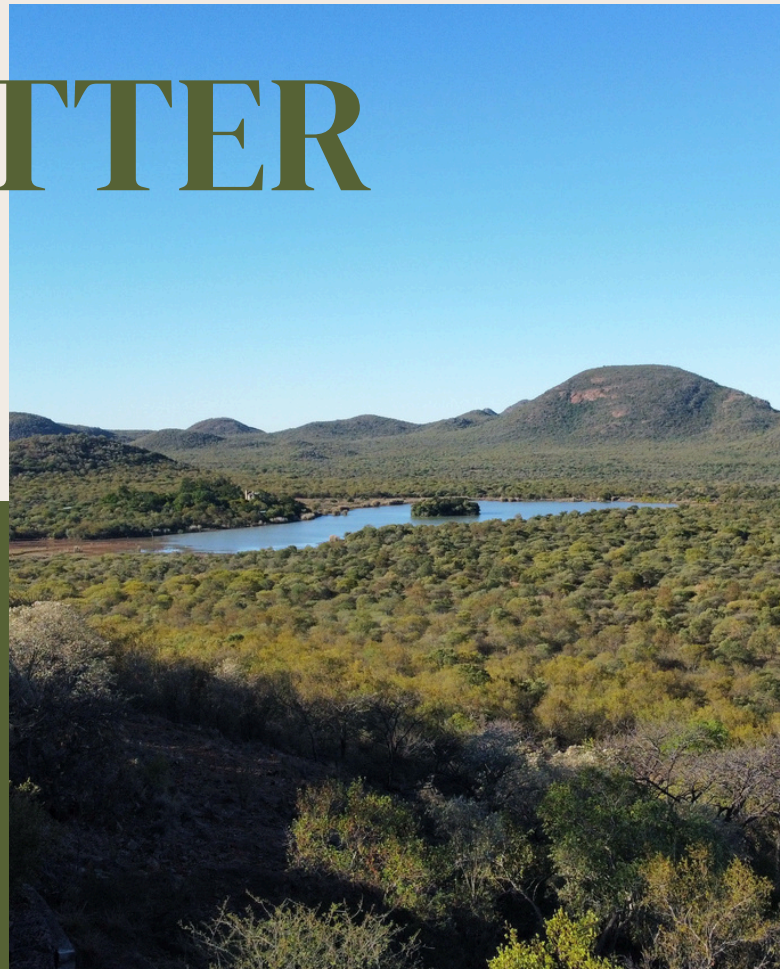
July Edition

NEWSLETTER

MOKOLODI NATURE
RESERVE

TOP NEWS

- Introducing our newsletter
- Change to our board
- Conservation success
- How you can help and future changes
- Past and future events



@Zoe Allouchery

INTRODUCING OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Our Friends of Mokolodi community has begun to feel more like acquaintances, and we want to rekindle the sense of friendship. We hope this newsletter initiates this process by keeping you informed about what's happening within our gates, the well-being of our animals, upcoming events, and ways you can help make Mokolodi Nature Reserve a success for everyone who visits to enjoy its natural beauty.



@Image Lounge BW

CONTACTS:

For bookings:

bookings@mokolodi.co.bw

Tel: +267 3161955/6

WhatsApp: 71321021

For conservation concerns

conservation@mokolodi.co.bw or

volunteers@mokolodi.co.bw





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Monthly Calendar – Pg. 3

Meet the Board Members – Pg. 4-5

World Conservation Day – Pg. 6

Past events – Pg. 7

Conservation Success Stories. Pg. 8

Call for help – Pg. 9

Changes Happening – Pg. 10

Kids corner – Pg. 11-12

Photos of the Month – Pg. 13



@Image Lounge BW

@Image Lounge BW



CALENDAR

A LOOK INTO THE UPCOMING MONTH

Notable events include:

- World Snake Day
- World Nature Conservation Day
- Camping opportunity at Mokolodi Nature Reserve

July

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1 SIR SERETSE KHAMA DAY	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 WORLD POPULATION DAY	12	13	14
15 PRESIDENT'S DAY	16 WORLD SNAKE DAY	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 ALEXANDER MCCALL-SMITH CAMP TRIP	28 WORLD NATURE CONSERVATION DAY ALEXANDER MCCALL-SMITH CAMP TRIP
29	30	31 WORLD RANGER DAY				

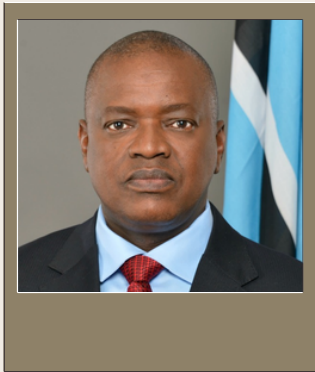


MEET THE BOARD

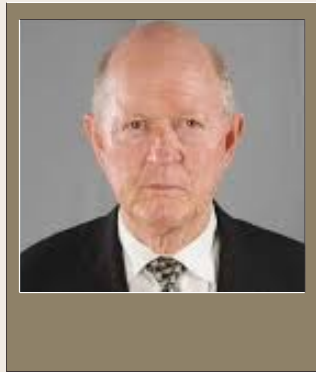
INTRODUCING THE NEW AND OLD

As old board members leave, we wish them luck in retirement and thank them for their dedication over the many years they have helped to make Mokolodi Nature Reserve a success. We say goodbye to Dave Gilbert and Max Marinelli.

Ramachandran has become our new Vice Chairman of the Board and Chairman of the Executive Committee for an interim period until December 2024.



His Excellency Dr. M.E.K.
Masisi
Patron



Hon Dr Ian S. Kirby
Chairperson



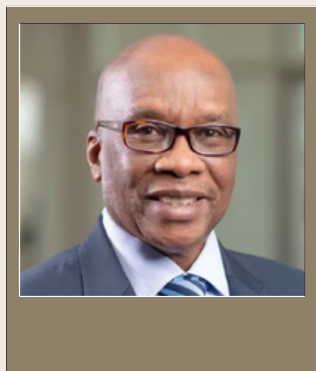
Mr. Ramachandran
Ottapathu
Vice Chairperson
Exec Committee



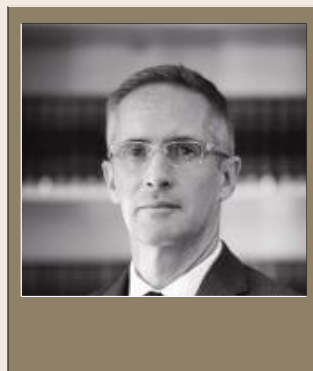
Mrs. Gwithie Kirby



Chabo Peo
Secretary
Exec Committee



Mr. Joe Matome



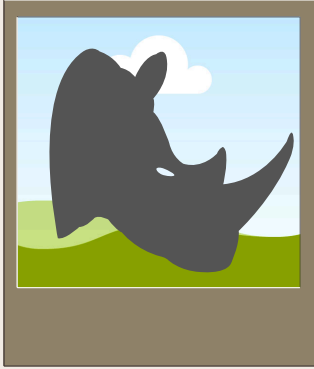
Mr. Mark McKee



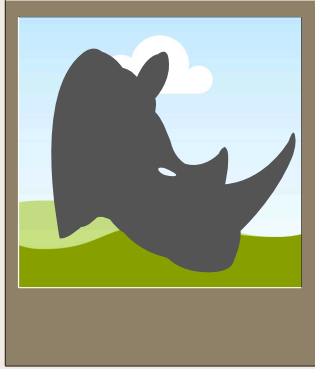
Mr. Grant Buckmaster



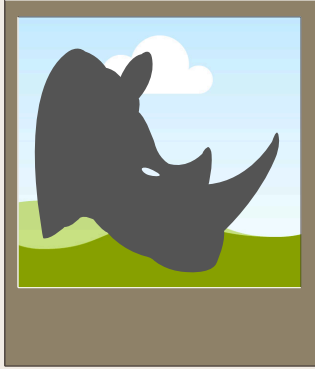
Mr. Shatho Lopang
Botswana Tourism



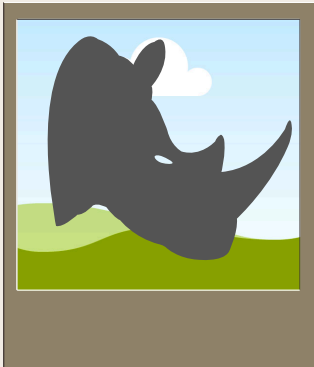
Mr. K Mathe
Malete Landboard



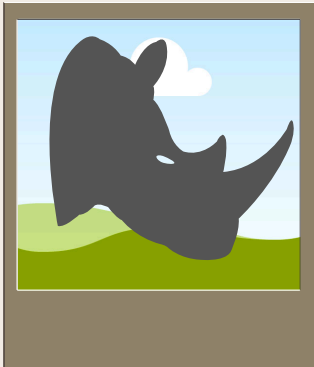
Mr. Ontlametse Kgang
Kweneng Landboard



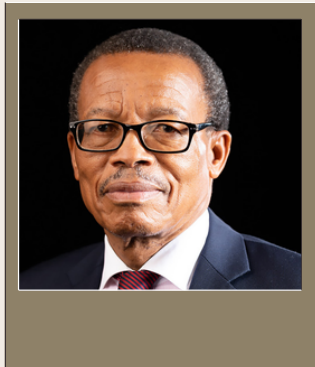
Moemi M Batshabang
DWNP Representative



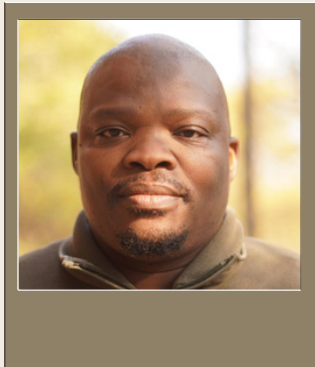
Mr. B Tlhabiwe
Ngwaketse Landboard



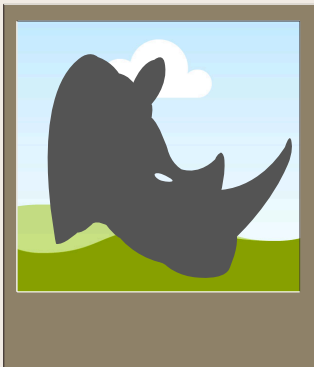
Mrs. Tlhabologo
Ndzinge



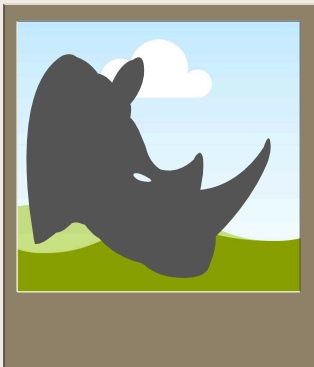
Mr. Neo Moroka
De Beers



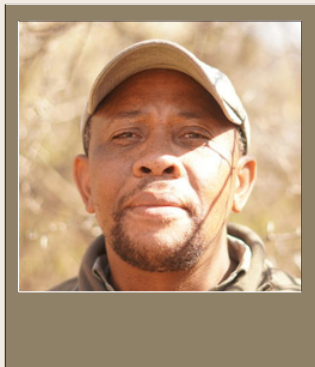
Mr. Dennis Ramokgau
Mokolodi Nature
Reserve



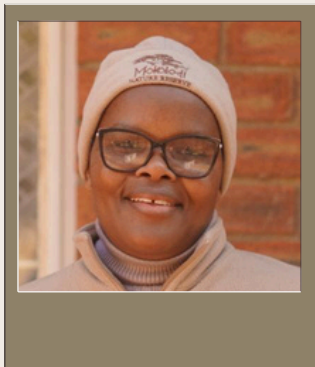
Mr. Brett Warren
Bearing Man Gaborone



Mr. Themba Giddie
Debswana
Executive Committee



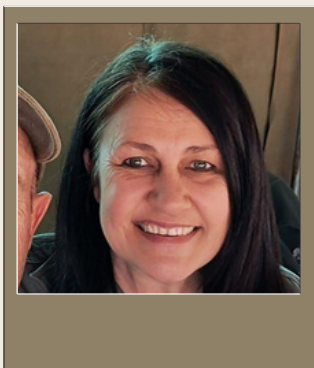
Mr. Oarabile
Monyamane
Mokolodi Nature
Reserve



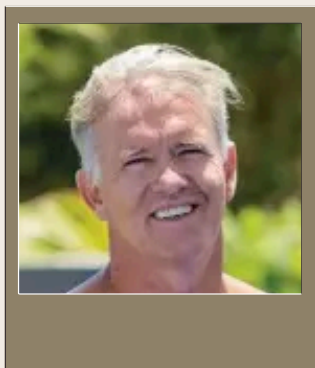
Mrs. Onkgomoditse
Kebonang
Mokolodi Nature
Reserve



Mr. Lean Marnewick
General Manager
Mokolodi Nature
Reserve



Mrs. Elmarie Marnewick
Mokolodi Nature Reserve



Mr. Angus Boxall-Smith
Executive Committee



Mr. Kabelo Binns
Executive Committee



A NIGHT IN THE BUSH

CELEBRATE WORLD CONSERVATION DAY!

World Conservation Day is an annual event dedicated to raising awareness about conservation and the importance of our natural resources, encouraging sustainable use. What better place to celebrate than at Mokolodi Nature Reserve?

Spend the weekend immersed in nature! Arrive on Saturday, drop off your sleeping bags and tents at reception, and start your walk to Alexander McCall Smith Camp at 2 PM. At camp, enjoy a delicious bush braai and a peaceful evening in the bush. The following morning, wake up to the sound of birds chirping. A game viewer will be waiting to take you on a drive through the bush and back to reception. End your adventure with a brunch at reception and reflect on your bush experience.

JULY 27 - 28

WORLD WILDLIFE CONSERVATION DAY



Celebrate with us for a walk and camp out at Alexander McCall-Smith Camp. On arrival, everyone will set up their own campsite and then join us for one of Mokolodi's legendary bush braai's. The following morning jump on the game viewer and go for a game drive. Breakfast will be served at the tea garden upon return on Sunday.

Price: P550 pp

Arrival: Saturday, July 27 @ 1pm

Departure: Sunday, July 28 @ 11am

Tents and sleeping bags will not be provided.

To sign up, click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code.



For more information, contact:

volunteers@mokolodi.co.bw or conservation@mokolodi.co.bw





SSSSSSNAKE DAY



CELEBRATE WORLD SNAKE DAY!

World Snake Day
July 16, 2024
Mokolodi Nature Reserve

Activities:

- Display of a variety of snakes
- Snake show/ demonstration
- Snake topic discussions with key speaker: Aaron Tsatsi
- Interaction with snakes
- Photoshoot

Price: P150 pp
Times: 9:30, 12:30, 15:00

Please book by July 15, 2024 to secure your spot!





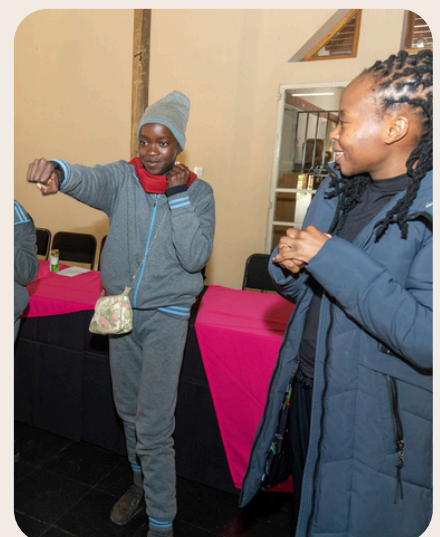
PAST EVENTS

AFRICAN CHILD DAY

On Sunday, June 16th, we had the pleasure of hosting a truly memorable African Child Day event in partnership with the Brazilian Embassy. The event brought together 100 enthusiastic students for a day filled with learning, fun, and cultural exchange. The children who participated were from the Otse Young Stars Football Club and the Girl Child group, brought together by community member Itireleng Mosime. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Brazilian Ambassador, Mr. Joao Genesio de Almeida, the children enjoyed an exciting game drive and a delicious lunch. Additionally, Choppies contributed by providing snack packs and juice for each child. Mokolodi arranged all activities and sponsored safe transport for the children to and from their villages.

The event featured inspiring talks from notable figures:

- Lethabo Modukanele, the first female boxer from Botswana to win a bronze medal at the Commonwealth Games, shared her journey and boxing secrets, leaving the children motivated and inspired.
- Tsosetso Magang, president of the Botswana Volleyball Federation and renowned sports leader, encouraged the children to believe in themselves and pursue their dreams with determination.
- Puso Demapo from Birdlife Botswana delivered an informative talk on vultures, their importance to the environment, and the dangers they face. The children were thrilled to see the vultures in rehab and received information leaflets and activity books on vultures.





CONSERVATION SUCCESS

VULTURE REHABILITATION AT MOKOLODI

We are thrilled to share a heartwarming update from our sanctuary at Mokolodi Nature Reserve! On January 28th, we received a poisoned vulture from the Otse Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP). The poor vulture was weak and dehydrated, but our dedicated team, along with a vet from Vet & Agric, Dr Erik Verreyne, worked tirelessly to nurse it back to health.

After careful attention and extended rehabilitation, we are overjoyed to announce that over the weekend of June 15, we successfully handed the vulture back to the DWNP custodians. The vulture was released at Otse, where it can thrive at the natural breeding site at Manyelanong.

This incredible journey of recovery wouldn't have been possible without the combined efforts of our team and the DWNP.





HOW CAN YOU HELP?

WAYS TO SUPPORT MOKOLODI NATURE RESERVE

Mokolodi Nature Reserve management have set new rules that you are not yet aware of. These include not driving on restricted roads or using restricted sites which include the lakeside picnic area.

Watch the newsletter for upcoming volunteer opportunities! We will be hosting a community volunteer event for World Conservation Day on July 28. Bring yourself, family, and friends to help conserve our environment and make Mokolodi Nature Reserve a sustainable conservation area for you to visit and for the animals to persist.

Next time you come to Mokolodi, check your fridge for fruit and veggies that are going bad. Bring the to us and we'll feed them to the animals in the sanctuary that rely on us.

We are reliant on donations for other goods as well including:

- Rabbit pellets / Bird feed
- Blankets
- Baby bottles
- Kitchen knives
- Wheelbarrow
- Cleaning products (Jik, Handy Andy)

Monetary donations are also appreciated

- Please reference your transfers as "SANCTUARY DONATION" and include name + surname
- BANK DETAILS:
 - Bank name: First National Bank
 - Account Name: Mokolodi Wildlife Foundation
 - Account no: 62080409785
 - Branch no: 281-667
 - Branch: Industrial Branch, Gaborone Botswana
 - Swift Code: FIRNBWGX



CHANGES LOADING...

NEW MAPS, CYCLE ROUTES, HIKING ROUTES, AND ADOPT A VULTURE PROGRAM

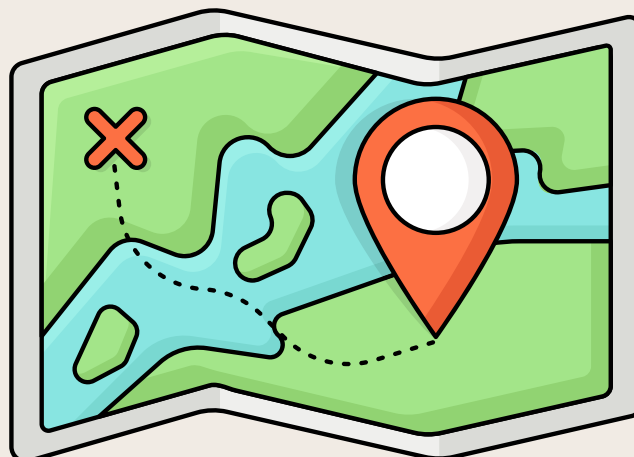
Mokolodi Nature Reserve is thrilled to announce the opening of our brand-new cycling and hiking trails, designed to offer outdoor enthusiasts an exciting and immersive experience in the heart of nature. Whether you're an avid cyclist or a passionate hiker, our trails promise adventure, scenery, and a closer connection to the incredible wildlife that calls Mokolodi home.

Discover the Trails

Our new trails have been meticulously planned to cater to both novice and experienced adventurers. Each trail is marked by informative boards at the starting points, ensuring that visitors can easily find their way. These boards provide a clear path to follow, highlighting key points of interest along the way. Additionally, to enhance your experience, we've integrated technology to keep you on track.

Navigate with Ease

At the beginning of each trail, you'll notice new boards that not only guide you on the path but also feature QR codes. By scanning these codes with your smartphone, you can access detailed maps of the trails via the KOMOOT app. The digital maps are easy to use and provide real-time updates, making your adventure seamless and worry-free.





A Look Forward: Adopt a Vulture Program

As you enjoy the natural beauty of Mokolodi, we're excited to share an upcoming initiative that underscores our commitment to conservation. In July, we will be launching the "Adopt a Vulture" program, a unique opportunity for visitors and nature lovers to contribute to the preservation of these majestic birds.

Why Vultures Matter

Vultures play a critical role in maintaining the health of our ecosystem. They are nature's clean-up crew, helping to prevent the spread of disease by consuming carcasses. Unfortunately, vultures face numerous threats, including habitat loss, poisoning, and human-wildlife conflict. Our Adopt a Vulture program aims to raise funds for vulture conservation efforts, ensuring these essential birds continue to thrive in our reserve.

How You Can Help

By adopting a vulture, you'll be directly supporting our conservation projects, including habitat protection, research, and education initiatives. Each adoption package will include a certificate, information about the vulture you've adopted, and updates on how your contribution is making a difference.



@Zoe Alloucery

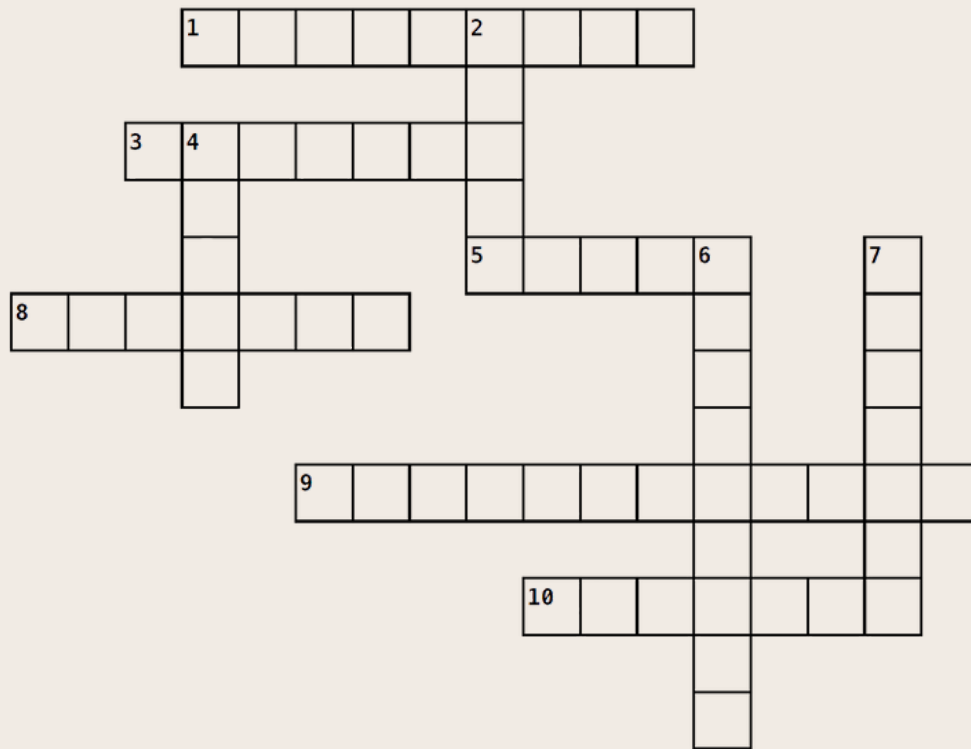


@Image Lounge BW



KID'S CORNER

CROSSWORD



Across

1. Can be air, noise, light, plastic _ _ _ _
3. A way to dispose waste so it does not go into the landfill
5. A reptile that many people are scared of
8. A bird of prey that keeps our ecosystem free of disease
9. One goal of Mokolodi Nature Reserve
10. The natural home of an animal or plant

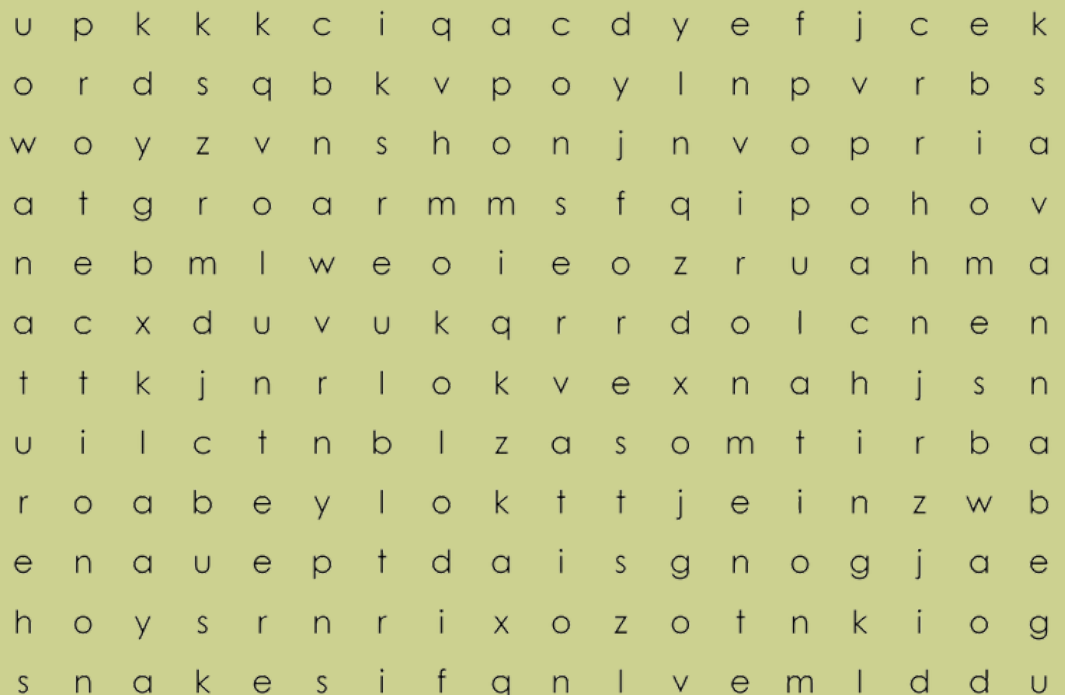
Down

2. What provides us with oxygen
4. Our planet
6. Another goal of Mokolodi Nature Reserve
7. What you can make with fruit and veggie discards

WORD SEARCH

Words to find:

- Environment
- Biomes
- Conservation
- Forests
- Mokolodi
- Nature
- Poaching
- Population
- Protection
- Savanna
- Snakes
- Volunteer



KID'S CORNER

ALL ABOUT VULTURES!

Have you ever seen a bird soaring high in the sky with other birds? If so, you are very lucky! You might have seen vultures, a special bird family that can be found around the world. But their numbers are getting smaller very quickly. Do you know why?

Some people believe that vultures can help them see into the future or make important decisions because they have amazing eyesight and can spot things from way up in the sky. But actually, vultures can't see into the future and shouldn't be used as medicine.

Another reason there are fewer vultures is because of poisoning. Sometimes, farmers and poachers put poison in dead animals, and when vultures eat them, they get sick and die.

So, what can you do? Tell your friends and family that vultures are an important part of our world! They help keep our environment clean and healthy so we can play outside.

If you see a sick or hurt vulture, tell your parents and call the DWNP or Mokolodi Nature Reserve.



PHOTOS OF THE MONTH



@Image Lounge BW



@Leticia de Almeida



@Image Lounge BW



@Image Lounge BW



@Zoe Allouchery

Do you have photos from your visit that you want to show, send them to us at volunteers@mokolodi.co.bw and receive credit in next months newsletter!