Club Zeb: Puzzles & Games

Fun facts, colouring pages, and word searches



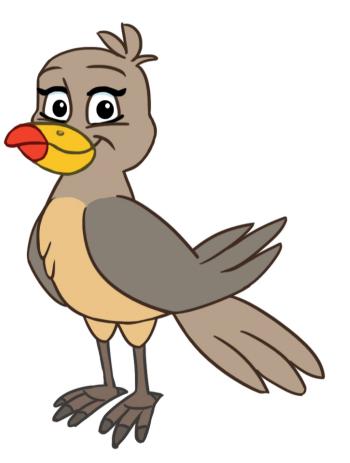
Learn more about Oki the Oxpecker

'Jambo' everyone! My name is Oki and I am an oxpecker.

To learn a bit more about me and other oxpeckers, please take a look at the Five Fun Facts on the next page.

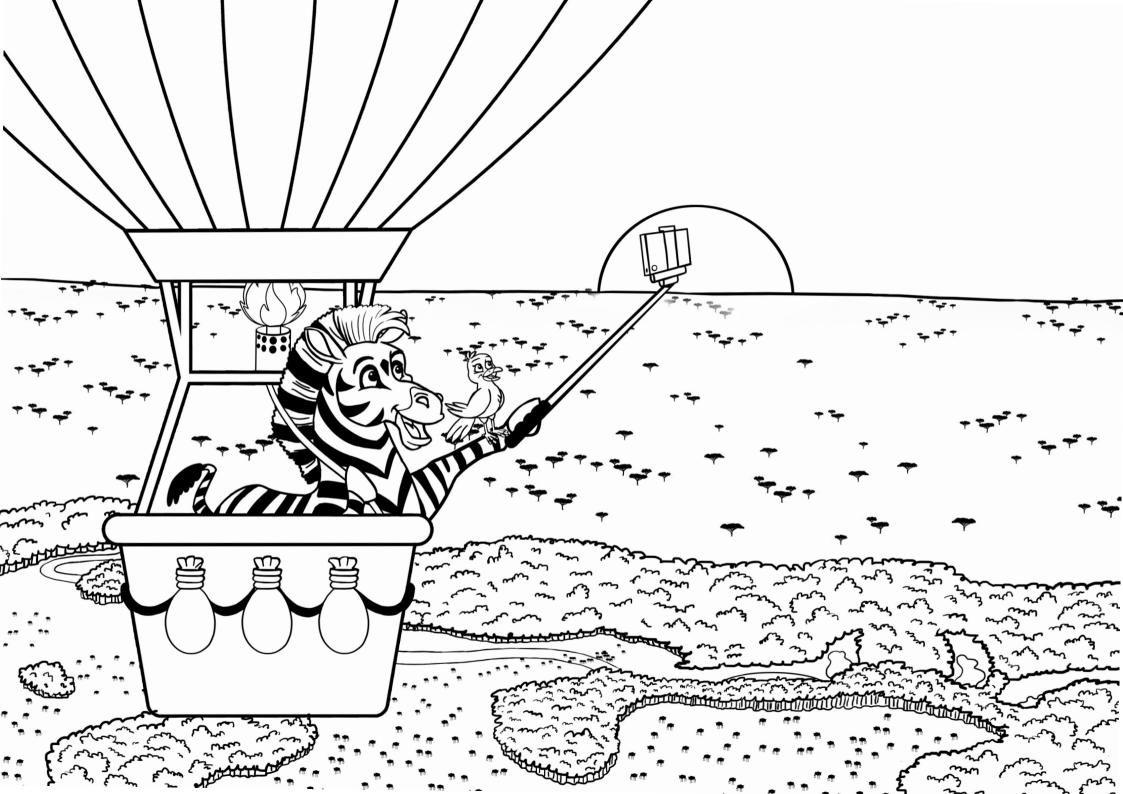
I've also made a word search puzzle for you!

And there's a lovely colouring sheet of Zebediah the zebra, and me taking a 'selfari' – a selfie on safari! – as we drift over the wildebeest migration of the Maasai Mara.



Fun Facts about Oki and oxpeckers

- Oki is a yellow-billed oxpecker. There are two types of oxpecker, yellow billed and red billed and the yellow-billed oxpecker has red on its beak as well as yellow!
- Oxpeckers eat ticks! They search for ticks on the coats of zebras, wildebeests, and a type of antelope called an impala. They often eat ticks off cattle too!
- The birds also provide a sort of cleaning service for their hosts, snacking on their dandruff, earwax, and even dried-up poo!
- Sometimes, oxpeckers get a bit too keen to help out. If a host has an open wound, an oxpecker might prevent it from healing by feeding on the fresh blood! However, scientists think that on the whole they are useful birds.
- Oxpeckers also meet and mate with each other on top of their hosts! When it's time to build a nest, the birds pluck hair from the hosts to make a snug lining for the eggs they lay.



Oki's word search!

Oki has placed her words horizontally, vertically, and diagonally within the grid! You might find it helps to use a ruler, so you can read along each line. Some words read forwards, while others read backwards. Once you have found a word, you can draw a ring around it or highlight it using a pen. Good luck!

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Learn more about Wilay the Wildebeest

"Habari" (hello in Swahili), children. My name is Wilay and I'm a wildebeest.

To learn a bit more about myself and other wildebeest, there are five fun facts on the next page.

I've also made a puzzle for you, and finally, there's a lovely coloring sheet of Zeb, Oki, and myself on a boat in the Selous Game Reserve.



Fun Facts about Wilay and Wildebeestt

- Wilay is a blue wildebeest. Wildebeest come in two species blue and black. Blue wildebeest are blue-ish rather than true blue and tend to be blue-ish grey, brown-ish grey, or, like Wilay, a rather smart shade of slate!
- Wildebeest are also called gnu. The "g" is silent in this word, so it sounds a bit like "new".
- Most people know about wildebeest because of the famous Great Migration when hundreds of thousands of blue wildebeest move around Tanzania and Kenya in search of food! Black wildebeest are described as "nomadic", which means they wander around rather than following a particular route.
- The wildebeest mating season is called the "rut". Male wildebeests, called "bulls", set up their own territories from May to July and attract wildebeest cows by standing up very tall and shouting "Ga-noo!" Blue wildebeest calves are born from January to March, while the herds are grazing on the Serengeti's southern plains.
- Wildebeests often graze with zebras. This is because zebras like the upper part of the grass and wildebeests like the lower part. So it makes sense for the two species to eat together on the plains!



Wilay's word search!

Wilay has placed his words horizontally, vertically, and diagonally within the grid! You might find it helps to use a ruler, so you can read along each line. Some words read forwards, while others read backwards. Once you have found a word, you can draw a ring around it or highlight it using a pen. Good luck!

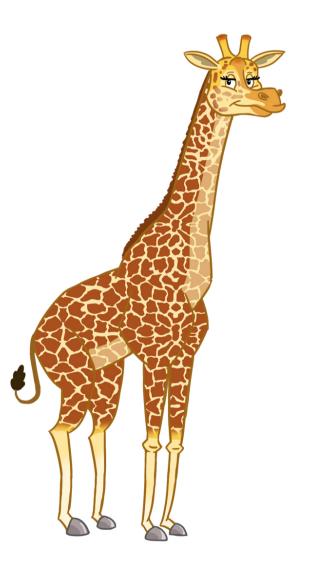
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E	Т	V	Q	В	0	L	K	Ι	R	V	Х	F	L	Ι	G	FLAMINGOS GAZELLES	NGORONGORO PELICANS	WILDEBEEST WIND
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Learn more about Jira the Giraffe

"Ola!" Hello again, children. I am Jira, a giraffe from Mozambique.

To learn a bit more about me and other giraffes, please enjoy the Five Fun Facts on the next page...

There's also a word search for you, as well as a colouring sheet showing Zeb, Oki, and I relaxing in the sun at the seaside!



Fun Facts about Jira and giraffes

- Jira is a South African giraffe. Her family lives in parts of South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, and her home, Mozambique. There are four species of giraffe in total and they all have slightly different markings! Their colours differ slightly too.
- All giraffes have lovely long necks so they can reach the leaves of the tallest trees. They also eat grass, some shrubs, and even fruit!
- Usually, giraffes live in groups, called "towers". These mostly consist of all males and all females, "bulls" and "cows", but there are mixed towers as well! Towers of cows and calves are particularly strong because of the bonds between mothers and children, and between the children too.
- Giraffe bulls find out whether cows are in season, able to become pregnant, by tasting the cows' wee! A bull will stand over the wee while curling his top lip back to show his front teeth in a really strange smile!
- Adult giraffes are good at kicking away their enemies with their powerful legs, but calves are often snatched by leopard, hyena, and wild dog. Giraffes rely on oxpeckers like Oki to warn them of danger, and to take care of their coats too!



Jira's word search!

Jira has placed her words horizontally, vertically, and diagonally within the grid! You might find it helps to use a ruler, so you can read along each line. Some words read forwards, while others read backwards. Once you have found a word, you can draw a ring around it or highlight it using a pen. Good luck!

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Learn more about Leila the Leopard

"Shani" kids – hello there! I'm Leila, a lady leopard from Zambia.

To learn a bit more about me and other leopards, have a read through the Five Fun Facts on the next page...

After that there's a puzzle, and also a colouring sheet showing Zeb, Oki, and me on a wild walking safari!

Fun Facts about Leila and leopards

- Leila is an African leopard. Her family lives all over the continent! Other species of leopard are also named for the place where they are found, including Arabia, India, and Persia.
- All types of leopard have spots, sometimes called rosettes. These help leopards to hunt, as the colours and patterns blend into the plains and trees. However, a leopard may be black all over and known as a black panther. Black jaguars are called black panthers too!
- Leopards are mostly nocturnal, meaning that they are active at night. During the day they rest, often in trees. They are very strong tree climbers and are even able to drag the animals they have killed quite high up into trees!
- Leopards are carnivores, meat eaters, and they hunt a wide range of mammals, from antelopes to squirrels. This means that they can live in the same areas as other predators yet still find enough food!
- Female leopard usually have from two to four cubs, and the youngsters start to follow their mum on hunts from just three months old!



Leila's word search!

Leila has placed her words horizontally, vertically, and diagonally within the grid! You might find it helps to use a ruler, so you can read along each line. Some words read forwards, while others read backwards. Once you have found a word, you can draw a ring around it or highlight it using a pen. Good luck!

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D	S	E	0	F	S	Ν	L	L	В	Α	E	Ν	R	0	G	CRUISES	LOVEBIRDS	TRAM
Х	R	R	R	L	Α	Α	G	Μ	Ι	L	K	0	С	Α	R	EVERGREEN EXPLORER	LOWERZAMBEZI MOSIOATUNYA	VICTORIAFALLS WALKING
Ζ	E	Α	Α	0	W	Ι	Α	S	Α	F	Η	E	D	Т	E	GRASSLANDS	POOL	WATTLEDCRANES
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Learn more about Elimu the Elephant

"Mhoro shamwari", dear children. My name is Elimu and I am an African elephant.

To learn a bit more about me and other elephants, do take a look at the Five Fun Facts on the next page.

There's a word search puzzle for you too! And there's a charming colouring sheet, showing Zeb, Oki, and me enjoying tea and cakes in a little place called Stanley's Terrace in Zimbabwe.

Fun facts about Elimu and elephants

- Elimu's impressive ears show that he is an African elephant! The other type of elephant is the Asian elephant, which has smaller ears, as well as smoother skin and bumps on its head.
- One of the most interesting features of elephants is their very long trunk. They use their trunk to breathe, smell, pick up food and drink, and to make sounds! Their beautiful tusks are also very useful, for clearing a pathway through thick forest and digging for water during the dry season.
- Groups of elephants, known as "herds", tend to consist of either all males ("bulls") or all females ("cows"). In both herds, the eldest elephant is in charge.
- Elephants tend to breed during the wet season and the pregnancy lasts for about two years! Newborn baby elephants, called calves, are cared for only by their mother during the first few days of life, but after that time other cows look after them too.
- The whole herd protects its young by making sure the calves are in the centre of the group when a predator is close. Adult elephants are too big for carnivores to hunt, but the little ones must be guarded against attacks from lion, hyena, and wild dog.



Elimu's word search!

Elimu has placed his words horizontally, vertically, and diagonally within the grid! You might find it helps to use a ruler, so you can read along each line. Some words read forwards, while others read backwards. Once you have found a word, you can draw a ring around it or highlight it using a pen. Good luck!

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Learn more about Belinda the buffalo

"Dumela", girls and boys. Hello! I'm Balinda Buffalo, from Botswana.

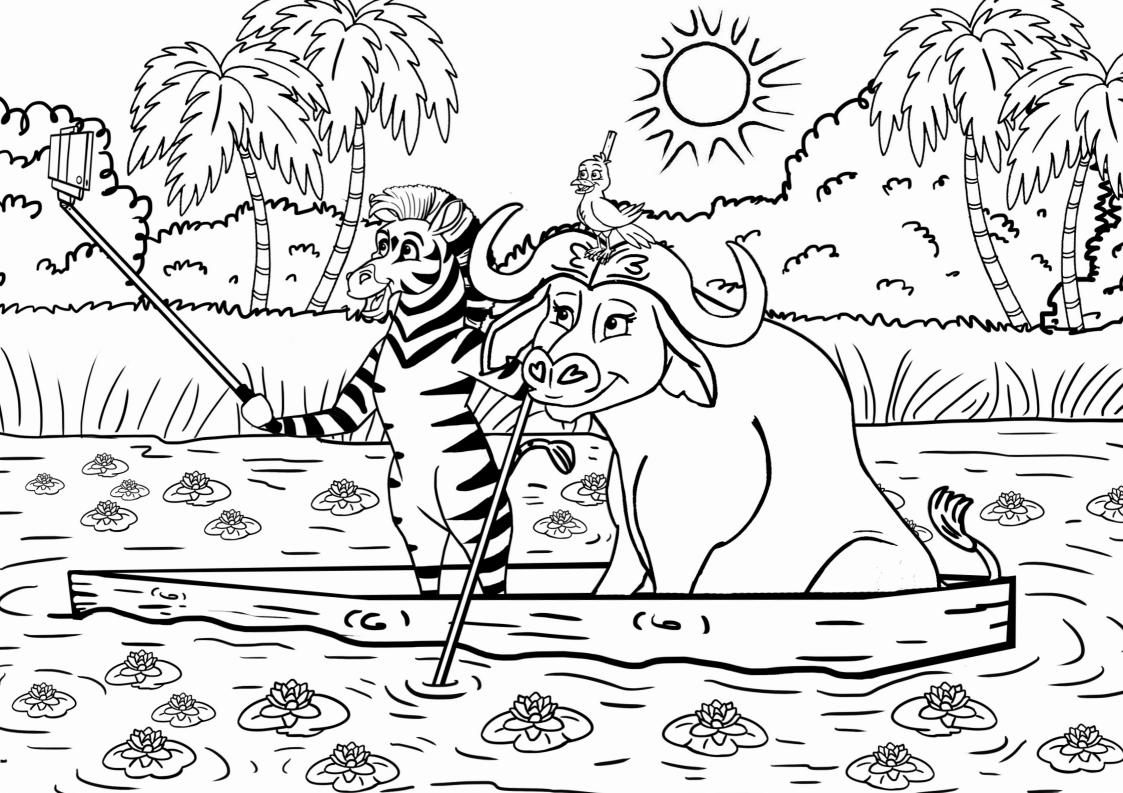
To learn a bit more about me and other buffalos, do have a read of the Five Fun Facts on the next page.

Under that, there's a word search! There's also a colouring sheet, showing Zeb, Oki, and me exploring Botswana's wet areas in a mokoro.



Fun facts about Belinda and buffalos

- There are five types of buffalo and Balinda is a Cape buffalo, the largest and fiercest type! Cape buffalo are twice the size of African forest buffalo and the biggest males weigh in at 1,000 kilograms!
- The Cape buffalo has huge horns, which are fused on top of its head. The horns form by the time the buffalo is 5 or 6 years old.
- The size of a herd of Cape buffalo varies, but most are made up of females, called "cows", and their female relatives.
- As adult Cape buffalo are so enormous, their only threat is from lion and a herd of buffalo is able to resist a lion attack. Balinda once rescued a member of her herd from several lions and she has the scars to prove it!
- Cape buffalo eat long grasses and need to drink every day. When it is time for them to move, the herd votes by sitting in the direction they think they should take. Sometimes it takes as much as an hour for them to agree!



Balinda's word search!

Balinda has placed her words horizontally, vertically, and diagonally within the grid! You might find it helps to use a ruler, so you can read along each line. Some words read forwards, while others read backwards. Once you have found a word, you can draw a ring around it or highlight it using a pen. Good luck!

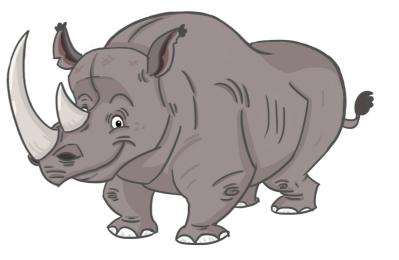
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Ι	Р	D	K	Α	D	E	Ν	D	R	Ν	L	Μ	М	Ι	Ν	BUSHMEN	LIZARDS	SCARS
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N	S	D	K	S	A	0	K	G	W	Е	R	Р	Х	Ν	Ν	HIGHLANDS	MOKORO	
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Learn more about Rudo the Rhino

Wa lalapo! Howzit? My name's Rudo and I'm a rhino from Namibia.

To learn a bit more about me and other rhinos, check out the Five Fun Facts on the next page.

There's a word search too, and a cool colouring sheet showing Zeb, Oki, and me just before we surfed the dunes in Sossusvlei.



Fun facts about Rudo and rhinos

- Rudo is a type of black rhinoceros. The word "rhinoceros" means "nose horn" and there are five species of rhino in the world today –black, white, Indian, Javan, and Sumatran! Both black and white rhinos live in Africa, and both are actually grey!
- Black and white rhinos have two horns, whereas the other rhinos have just one. Rhino horns are made from keratin, a protein found in human hair and fingernails.
- Rhinos eat tree branches and roots. They use their horns to break branches off trees and to dig for roots. They also use their horns to defend themselves and their thick skin is good for protection too!
- Black rhinos live alone and each rhino has a home range. These areas can be as small as one square mile and as large as 40 square miles!
- A rhino pregnancy lasts for 15 to 16 months. When the calf is born, the mother looks after it very well.



Rudo's word search!

Rudo has placed his words horizontally, vertically, and diagonally within the grid! You might find it helps to use a ruler, so you can read along each line. Some words read forwards, while others read backwards. Once you have found a word, you can draw a ring around it or highlight it using a pen. Good luck!

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U	N	Q	E	0	Η	E	0	Κ	С	F	R	Т	E	L	R	ANTELO COOL
D	E	С	Ν	R	L	S	С	0	Е	М	Α	R	N	E	E	DAMAR
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S	Η	С	Т	K	R	А	F	Т	Т	М	Ν	C	Т	0	A	HORSE
R	E	Р	В	W	Y	0	D	E	E	Ι	Α	K	S	N	E	HYENA MEATE
Р	E	D	Р	D	Ν	А	L	Α	R	Α	Μ	Α	D	С	Т	PELSFI
R	Ι	Ι	Ι	Т	Р	0	Η	0	Р	W	V	R	N	0	А	
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F	Ι	Y	Η	Т	R	E	R	S	Т	0	Ν	E	A	G	E	
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S	E	N	U	D	D	N	А	S	Η	Ι	W	K	D	Ζ	U	

ANTELOPES	PICTURE
COOL	REPTILES
DAMARALAND	RHINO
DESERTADAPTED	ROCKART
ETOSHA	RODENTS
HORSERIDES	RUDO
HYENA	SANDDUNES
MEATEATERS	SANDSTONE
PELSFISHINGOWL	SEALS

SHIPWRECKS SKELETONCOAST SOSSUSVLEI STONEAGE SURFING TWYFELFONTEIN WOW

Learn more about Lencho the Lion

Sawubona! Welkom! Nice to meet you! I'm Lencho the lion and I live in the Rainbow Nation, South Africa.

To learn a bit more about me and lions in general, please enjoy the Five Fun Facts on the next page.

There's also a word search, which I made myself! And there's a colouring sheet too – this shows Zeb, Oki, and me in South Africa's beautiful Cape Winelands.



Fun facts about Lencho and lions

- Lencho is a Transvaal lion, one of eight types of lion. You can tell that Lencho is a Transvaal lion because of his massive mane! The word "Transvaal" refers to a region of South Africa.
- All lions are carnivores, which means that they eat meat. They hunt herbivores (plant eaters), such as wildebeest, zebra, and buffalo. The lionesses do most of the hunting, as they are faster than the males.
- Lions are very social! The name for their group is a pride, and each pride contains lots of related lionesses, the lionesses' mates (males), and all the cubs.
- A lion pregnancy lasts for about four months. The mother gives birth to up to four cubs in a sheltered area, such as a cave or a thicket. When lion cubs are born, they are blind at first, but their eyes open after about a week!
- Most people are aware that lions roar, but they also cough, hiss, miaow, snarl, and even bark! They also communicate by rubbing and licking each other's heads and necks.



Lencho's word search!

Lencho has placed his words horizontally, vertically, and diagonally within the grid! You might find it helps to use a ruler, so you can read along each line. Some words read forwards, while others read backwards. Once you have found a word, you can draw a ring around it or highlight it using a pen. Good luck!

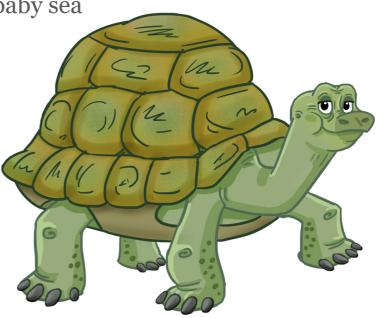
С	X	R	W	0	L	М	0	S	L	V	Е	Н	Ν	Р	Y			
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Ν	D	Α	С	0	Ι	Ν	Т	0	Ι	S	E	Ν	Α	Т	Α			
W	Р	Ν	Р	0	S	R	R	S	0	K	Ι	Η	R	Т	L	CAPETOWN	MADIKWE	PLETTENBERGBAY
0	K	U	Α	Η	D	Ν	0	Ν	Η	L	W	K	G	E	S	CROCODILERIVER	MOTHERCITY	ROBBENISLAND
Т	S	Ν	Е	L	Е	Ι	Μ	Р	0	0	R	Е	Α	Ν	Ι	GARDENROUTE HEADS	NELSONMANDELA OCTOPUS	STARGAZING TABLEMOUNTAIN
E	Х	Α	Y	D	Е	Α	L	G	0	U	0	Η	Ζ	В	Ν	KNYSNA	OSTRICH	TRACKING
Р	D	Ζ	R	S	Ν	Ν	Ν	Е	G	Р	V	R	Ι	E	Ε	KRUGER	OUDTSHOORN	TWOOCEANS
А	F	Α	E	D	Ν	Α	Ι	E	R	В	Μ	L	Ν	R	В	LENCHO LIMPOPORIVER	PAARL PANGOLIN	WINELANDS
С	G	Ζ	E	G	Р	Α	R	W	Y	Ι	S	Ι	G	G	В	LIONSHEAD	PHOENIX	
Μ	Ζ	L	Т	R	Α	С	K	Ι	Ν	G	V	F	L	В	0			
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Η	С	Ι	R	Т	S	0	Р	Η	0	E	Ν	Ι	Х	F	Y			

Learn more about Tomas the Tortoise

Komman sava, my young friends? How are you? I'm Tomas and I am a giant tortoise from the Seychelles.

To learn a bit more about me and other tortoises, you may enjoy reading the Five Fun Facts on the next page.

I have made a word search puzzle for you, and lastly there is a very special colouring sheet featuring Zeb, Oki, me, and baby sea turtles that are hurrying into the ocean.



Fun facts about Tomas and tortoisesses

- Tomas is an Aldabra Atoll giant tortoise! There are just two species of giant tortoise and the other one lives on the Galápagos Islands, which are in the Pacific Ocean, west of South America. Tomas's Atoll, or coral reef, lies around the Outer Islands of the Seychelles in the Indian Ocean.
- Giant tortoises have a large hard shell to protect their soft bodies. Their necks are very long so they can reach the juicy leaves on high tree branches! Their limbs are short and they have rather flat feet that serve them very well when walking on the sand.
- Giant tortoises do not live in groups. However, males and females meet to mate between February and May.
- The females lay as many as 25 eggs in a nest on the ground. Unfortunately the eggs are sometimes eaten by predators, but the babies that survive hatch after eight months and during the green season so there is plenty to eat.
- Giant tortoises live for up to 120 years and some are known to have lived for over 250 years!



Tomas's word search!

Tomas has placed his words horizontally, vertically, and diagonally within the grid! You might find it helps to use a ruler, so you can read along each line. Some words read forwards, while others read backwards. Once you have found a word, you can draw a ring around it or highlight it using a pen. Good luck!

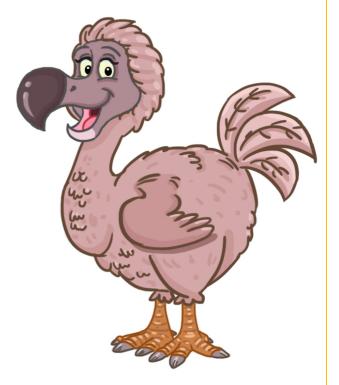
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U	R	0	Ν	Ι	0	X	С	A	R	Т	S	G	А	Ι	U			
Р	Y	Ζ	R	R	0	G	В	U	Х	S	Ι	N	L	D	Η			
G	F	F	Y	F	S	Т	Е	G	G	S	E	Ι	L	А	Е	BIRDISLAND BLACKPARROT	LADIGUE LOVENUTS	SNORKELLING SUNBIRD
В	L	Α	C	K	Р	A	R	R	0	Т	Н	K	Е	L	R	BLUEPIGEON	MAHE	TOMAS
S	Μ	L	Α	Р	Т	U	N	0	С	0	С	A	Е	S	U	CLOCKTOWER EGGS	MARKET OXCARTS	TREASUREHUNTS UNIONESTATE
Ν	Ν	Ι	L	S	А	R	Р	D	Т	Ν	J	Y	D	Α	S	FLYCATCHER	PRASLIN	VALLEEDEMAI
S	U	Ν	В	Ι	R	D	F	R	С	Т	N	A	Е	М	Α	FROGS GIANTTORTOISE	SANDCASTLES SEACOCONUTPALMS	VICTORIA
D	Ν	A	L	S	Ι	D	R	Ι	В	Α	N	K	М	0	Е	KAYAKING	SEATURTLES	
U	N	Ι	0	N	E	S	Т	А	Т	E	S	А	Α	Т	R			
В	L	U	E	Р	Ι	G	E	0	Ν	Μ	Y	Т	Ι	Ι	Т			
C	R	E	W	0	Т	K	C	0	L	С	A	F	L	G	N			
Т	F	L	Y	С	А	Т	C	Н	E	R	Y	Η	K	Е	Х			
S	E	L	Т	R	U	Т	A	E	S	S	Т	С	E	S	S			

Learn more about Daudi the Dodo

Bonzur, my little ones! Good day! My name is Daudi and I'm a dodo from Mauritius..

To learn a bit more about me and other dodos, please read the Five Fun Facts on the next page.

I've also made a puzzle for you, and finally there's a gorgeous colouring sheet of Zeb, Oki, and me at the Seven Coloured Earths!



Fun facts about Daudi and Dodo's

- Zeb and Oki were surprised to meet Daudi, because the last report of a dodo on Mauritius is from 1662! Dodos became extinct because they were hunted for food by Dutch sailors.
- Dodos lived only on Mauritius and their favourite areas were the woods and the coasts of the south and west.
- Dodos ate nuts, seeds, roots, bulbs, and fruit that had fallen from trees. They used gizzard stones to help them digest their food. The gizzard of an animal is like an extra stomach. As dodos did not have teeth, they would swallow their food whole and then swallow a stone to mash up the food in the gizzard. Finally, the food would pass into their main stomach.
- Dodos could run quite fast, and if they heard a call for help from a fellow dodo they would all come running together. They also had very small wings and were unable to fly.
- Today, Daudi's closest living relative is the Nicobar pigeon. This type of pigeon lives on the Nicobar Islands as well as in India and other places. It has a beautiful coat of emerald feathers, which shows all the colours of the rainbow when the sun shines on it. It also has a bright white tail!



Daudi's word search!

Daudi has placed her words horizontally, vertically, and diagonally within the grid! You might find it helps to use a ruler, so you can read along each line. Some words read forwards, while others read backwards. Once you have found a word, you can draw a ring around it or highlight it using a pen. Good luck!

R	Y	Т	G	S	Ζ	R	В	Ι	Ν	Н	Μ	R	F	S	Р		
Y	E	R	N	Ν	U	U	E	W	D	U	K	R	L	L	W		
Ν	Η	S	L	Α	L	В	0	E	Е	U	U	М	G	Ι	Ι		
Ν	Т	В	Т	В	В	Т	Μ	S	D	Ι	Α	Ν	E	А	Ν	BLUEPENNY HIKINGTRAII	S RUSADEER
E	A	N	U	Α	Α	Α	U	Α	Т	Α	Ι	D	0	R	D	BULBUL KESTREL CHINATOWN LEMORNEBR	SUBMARINE ABANT SWIMMING
Р	Е	L	0	Ν	U	М	R	В	R	Μ	S	D	J	Т	S	DAUDI PARAKEET	TENNIS
E	Η	S	Ι	R	L	R	Α	В	Μ	Ι	0	U	D	G	U	DIVECENTRE PICNICAREAS DODO PINKPIGEON	WATERFRONT WILDPIGS
U	Μ	Η	Q	Α	F	Т	Α	Ι	Е	D	Ν	Ι	R	Ν	R	FRUITBAT PORTLOUIS	WINDSURFING
L	С	U	Т	В	Т	R	W	Ν	K	Ν	V	Е	A	Ι	F	GOLF POSTALMUSE HEATH RESTAURANT	
В	J	S	K	W	Р	S	E	J	Т	E	R	Р	Т	K	Ι		
U	0	S	Ι	Ν	Ν	Е	Т	Т	C	S	S	0	K	Ι	Ν		
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Ν	0	E	G	Ι	Р	K	Ν	Ι	Р	W	Μ	U	R	Е	В		
Α	R	В	Р	0	R	Т	L	0	U	Ι	S	В	U	E	L		
G	0	L	F	F	R	Т	E	E	K	Α	R	А	Р	F	L		
R	G	F	D	Е	W	Ι	L	D	Р	Ι	G	S	D	K	Η		