

ISSUE 1- 2022

THE FISH EAGLE

Newsletter



BIRDWATCH ZAMBIA ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

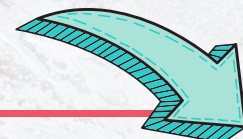
Dear Environment Ambassadors!!

2021 was challenging because the COVID pandemic prevented us from doing most of our planned activities. Despite that, we are proud to say we managed to engage pupils from different schools.

This term's edition highlights the importance of environmental education in schools, and our objective for 2022 is to **"Build bridges between education and biodiversity conservation."** Look out for **"Pupil's corner"** on page 6, and see what your friends shared from their experience in 2021. You can also participate by submitting your drawings and write-ups for publication in our next newsletter issue, check out **"Activity corner"** on page 9. The good news for 2022 is that we are introducing the **BWZ Junior birders club!** Check out page 2 for more information.

We hope 2022 will be kind and allow us to do as many activities as possible. Stay safe and happy 2022!!!

WHATS INSIDE



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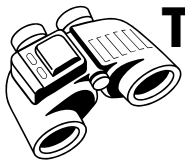


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INTRODUCING THE 2022 THEME

The theme for 2022: Action for bird and environmental conservation

2022 is going to be an interesting year with regards to environmental education. As we build bridges between education and biodiversity conservation, 2022 calls for more action on bird and environmental conservation. We will not only conduct class lessons but also do different conservation activities like tree planting, plastic picking, and also commemorate important conservation days.



The BirdWatch Zambia Junior Birders Club



Birdwatching, or birding, is the observing of birds, either as a recreational activity or as a form of citizen science. A birdwatcher may observe by using their naked eye, by using a visual enhancement device like binoculars or a telescope or listening to bird sounds

The BWZ junior birding club will engage different young birders (below 18years) around the country. The junior birders will participate in bird walks, and also receive our termly schools' newsletter. Young birders will also participate by sending their birding experience articles for publication in the newsletter.

To register as a member, send your details(full names, age, town, email address, and phone number) to;

WhatsApp- 0978718474

Or

Email: springalivezambia@gmail.com

**YOU ARE THE VOICE FOR BIRDS AND THE ENVIRONMENT
REGISTER NOW!!**



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HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021

Environmental education is a process that allows individuals to explore environmental issues, engage in problem-solving, and take action to improve the environment. Last year we engaged pupils in different activities. Despite the Covid pandemic, we managed to plant trees, conduct plastic pollution campaigns as well as conduct colouring and essay writing competitions. Below is what 2021 looked like in photos.



CONSERVING THE ENVIRONMENT

Environmental conservation is the practice of saving the environment from the loss of species, and the destruction of the ecosystem, primarily due to pollution and human activities. Conservation is vital in saving and helping both animals and trees as we are all dependent on one another for survival. Below are some of the ways to conserve the environment.

STOP DESTROYING BIRD HOMES

There are so many ways in which bird homes are destroyed and one of them is deforestation. Deforestation is the cutting down of trees or the clearing of forests. Throughout history, forests have been destroyed to make space for agriculture, animal grazing, to obtain wood for fuel, manufacturing, and construction. Charcoal production is one of the major contributors to deforestation in Zambia.



Conservation club members during a tree planting exercise at Mwayasunka secondary school- Chisamba IBA

Cutting down trees causes habitat loss for birds and other animal species. It destroys the food and shelter for living organisms which leads to biodiversity loss and also leaves the soil vulnerable to erosion making it unsuitable for both plant and animal life.

Deforestation is also one of the major causes of climate change. Climate change is the long-term shift in global or regional weather patterns, which in the long run leads to droughts, floods, wildfires, and many more.

Deforestation can be tackled by planting new trees to replace those that have been cut or planting trees in already existing forests to help maintain the forest cover. Awareness-raising and sensitization campaigns can also help reduce deforestation. This can also be done by encouraging eco-friendly practices, for example, making fuel from organic waste products.

This year we will be planting trees and raising awareness of people on the importance of planting trees. Get ready environmental ambassadors!



Conservation club members during a tree planting exercise at Steven Pende school- Chisamba IBA



Conservation club members during a tree planting exercise at Mwayasunka primary school- Chisamba IBA

Plant- Restore- Protect
Ecosystems

A WORLD IN OUR BACKYARD

In our daily lives, we depend on functional ecosystems to have all the good ecosystem services we need. There are many different ecosystems and one of them is a wetland.

A wetland is an area of land that is covered by water either seasonally or permanently. The ground in a wetland is saturated, or full of water, while the surrounding ground is covered with shallow water.

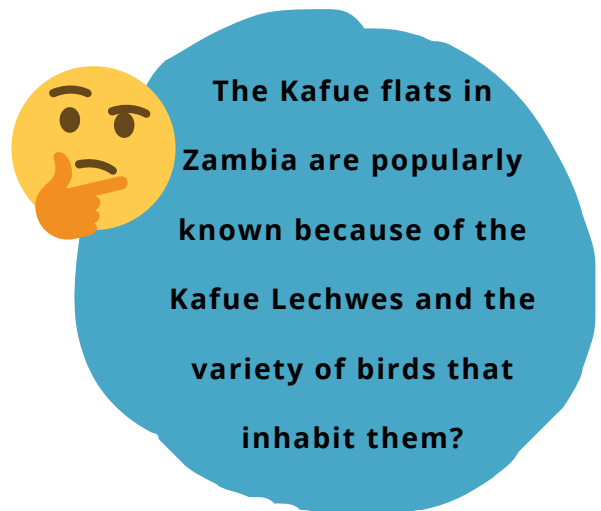


Wetlands are usually classified as swamps, floodplains, and Dambos and they both have soils that contain minerals that are important to plants in the ecosystem. Wetlands are home to a variety of plants, birds, and animals. A wetland system can also prevent soil erosion, purify waters, prevent floods, and restore underground water supplies, thereby improving ecosystem services.



Therefore, wetlands being a world in our backyards, we all need to understand how important wetlands are to the health of our environment and protect them. Wetlands provide food as well as water to human beings. They also help clean the atmosphere as they increase carbon sequestration and increase the levels of oxygen.

Did you know??



PUPIL'S CONNER



After interacting with learners in 2021, they had to share on their favorite birds and environmental conservation...

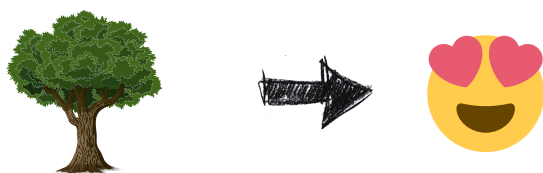
THREATS FACED BY BIRDS

By : Hope Lungu, 17 years- Amos Youth Centre

There are many threats that birds face such as deforestation, killings pollution, and fire. Hope Lungu of AEP had something to say about deforestation as it is one of the major threats faced by birds.

“Deforestation is the cutting down and burning of trees. Deforestation has many negative impacts on the environment. A good example is when charcoal burners and farmers cut down trees. When trees are cut, birds are left homeless because they have no place to build nests, therefore affecting the birds' ability to reproduce effectively.

Killing birds for food reduces the number of birds. This is also a threat faced by birds because it leads to a shortage of certain birds.



Burning of the forest is usually done by farmers. When farmers are planting their crops, they clear their fields by burning the fields. This leads to a shortage of food for birds because on the farm there are seeds and organisms that birds feed on.

Finally, if people can stop deforestation, birds can have a place to sleep. If people can stop killing birds, we can have a huge number of different kinds of birds. If people can stop burning forests and fields, and start planting trees to maintain the ecosystem, we can have enough homes and food for birds.”



STOP KILLING BIRDS!!!!

"Birds are one of the most beautiful creations on the planet. These colorful creatures sing very beautiful songs and also play a very important role in the environment."

Help them, don't kill them



THE AFRICAN FISH EAGLE

By: Racheal Tembo, 17 years- Amos Youth Centre

In our 2021 schools engagement, learners had an opportunity to learn about the different flagship bird species, and most of them shared their favorites. Here is what Racheal Tembo of AEP had to say about her favorite bird.

“Of all the birds on earth, my favorite is the eagle. The fish eagle is one of the large birds in the world.

The fish eagle is my favourite bird because of its unique and special features. The very sharp sight of an eagle inspires me to always keep moving and see the positive in every situation. The focus that an eagle has when eyeing its prey and it making sure to achieve its goal of providing for itself at any cost just

The fish eagle inspires me to keep moving no matter how much I go through, no matter how many negativities I get from people or the hardships I go through, there is always a reason to keep moving. That is why it inspires me to always keep moving because behind every storm is a silver lining.”



Did you know??



**The bird on the
Zambian flag and
coat of arms is the
African Fish Eagle,
and is symbol of
hope and freedom.**

What is your favorite bird??

Check out "activity corner" on page 9, tell us about your favorite bird and why you like it!! It can feature in the next newsletter edition.

Remember

When you see...

1. People trying to kill a bird
2. People abusing a bird
3. A bird failing to fly

Tell any adult near you to contact

BWZ on; **0211 239 420**

Or **bwz.office@gmail.com**

Arts-based environmental education (AEE) brings art education and environmental education together in one undertaking. It refers to a specific kind of environmental education that starts from an artistic approach and is different from other types of outdoor or environmental education which offer room for aesthetic experiences,

After fruitful interactions with different pupils, some of them had something special to share. Do not just admire, send us your paintings too!!



Picture by: Kayuni Blessings(Grade 12, 17 years)-Amos Youth Centre



Picture by: Marko Kanyanga (Grade: 12 Age: 17)-Amos Youth Centre

Are you an artist??

Check out "activity corner" on page 9, and draw something too!! It can be your favorite bird, or anything relating to environmental education so that your work can feature in our next school's newsletter edition!

ACTIVITY CONNER

TERM ONE TASK

Hello Environmental ambassadors! Every term we publish a schools newsletter which is strictly for the learners and by the learners. Are you a painting artist or a good writer? Pick one question and do a write-up of not more than one page and stand a chance to feature in our future editions of the Fish Eagle newsletter !!

Instructions

- i. The write-up should not be more than one page
- ii. Drawings should be either a Zambian bird, a tree, or something creative concerning environmental conservation.
- iii. Write-ups and drawings to be done and submitted to the email below before the end of term 1.



For the Writers...

1. In trying to stop plastic pollution, we use the 4 Rs (Refuse-Reduce-Reuse-Recycle). How did you participate in implementing the 4 Rs in term one?
2. What's the importance of planting trees?
3. What's the name of the bird on the Zambian K1 coin? What do you know about it?
4. Why should we protect birds?
5. How can we protect birds?

For the artists...

1. Draw/paint the white-backed vulture?
2. Do a drawing/painting illustrating how you can restore a wetland
3. Do a drawing/painting illustrating tree planting activity

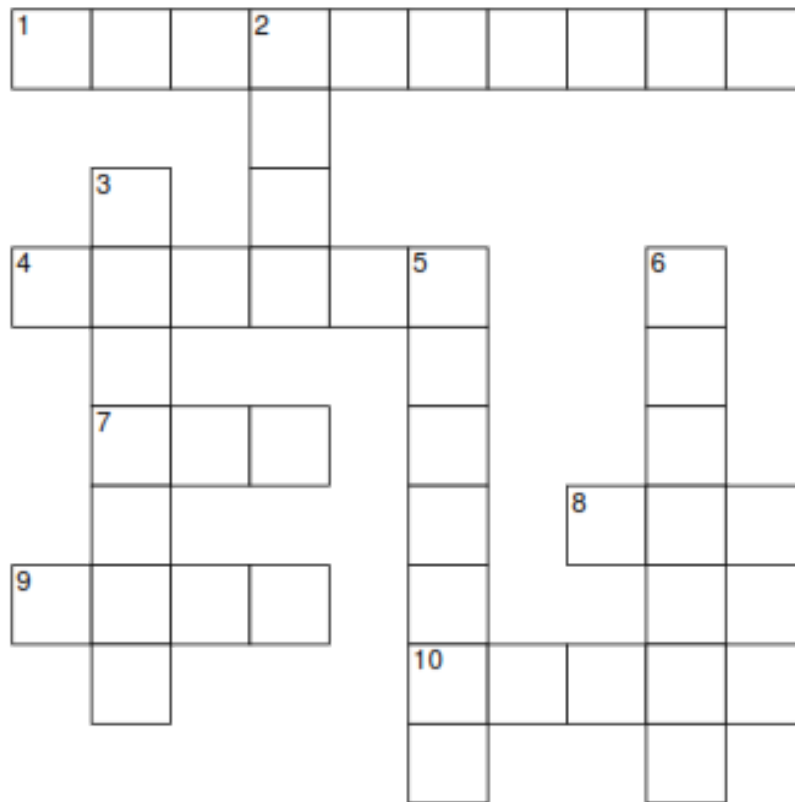


All submissions should be sent by the club patron/matron to BirdWatch Zambia, through the email address; springalivezambia@gmail.com. Details should include School, Pupil's name, grade, and age.

Note: Only submissions before the end of term one will stand a chance to feature in the next edition of the newsletter.

ALL THE BEST!!

Crossword puzzle



Across

1. This bird uses its beak to make a hole to live in
4. This bird lays eggs in the crow's nest
7. This is the only mammal that can fly
8. A flightless bird
9. Animal that is killed and eaten by other animals
10. This is a wading bird

Down

2. This bird has webbed feet
3. This bird sucks nectar from plants
5. This bird lays the biggest eggs
6. This is the only bird that can fly backwards

Word bank

Bat, Crane, Cuckoo, Duck, Emu, Humming, Ostrich, Prey, Sunbird,
Woodpecker

Happy term one!!