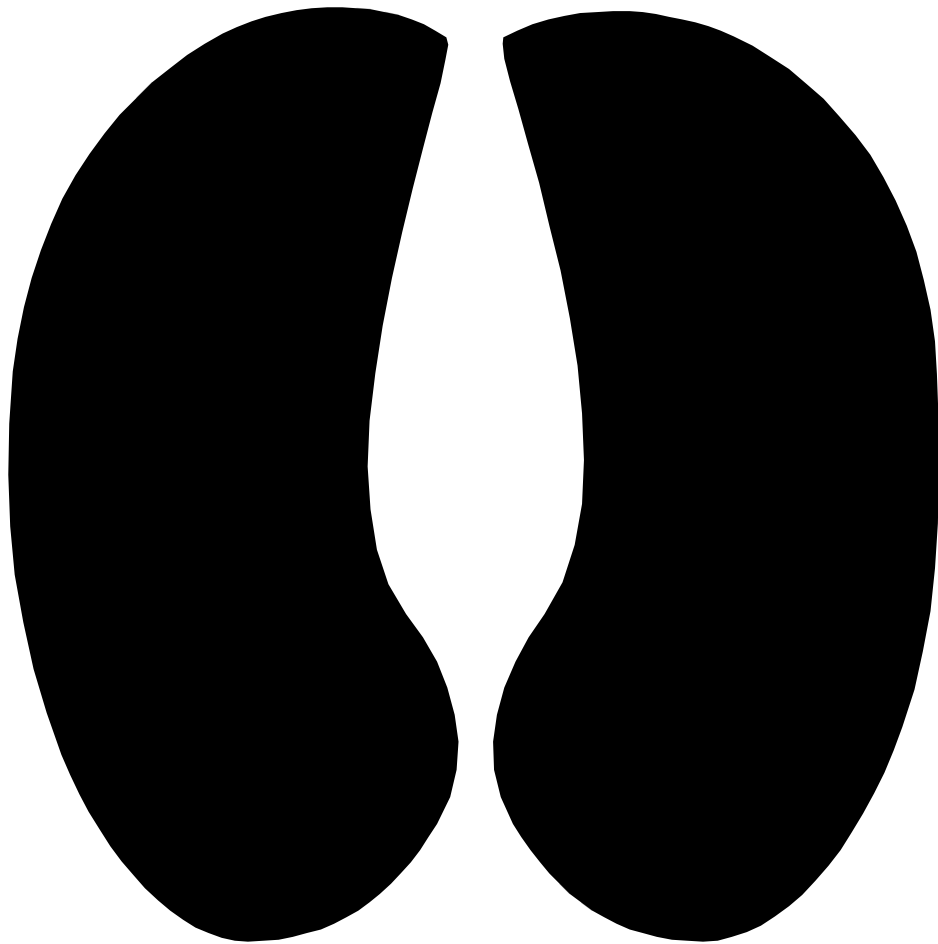


crafts & activities



camel

ngamia

The following crafts and activities are for you (the leader) to pick and choose from to suit the parameters of your group. All of the crafts have a difficulty rating ascribed to them, and the activities have been divided into two age groups to help with your planning.

CRAFTS – all ages

Finger Weaving – Jump Rope (difficulty – medium to hard)

Skipping, or jumping rope, is a common activity played by Kenyan children. However, due to poverty, many Kenyans don't go to the store to buy their skipping rope, instead they make their own.

Materials:

- Weaving loops (available at any craft store), need approx 100 loops per child
- Duct tape
- NOTE: this craft will take more than 1 day to complete, and younger children may need a lot of assistance

Directions:

1. Instruct children to sit in a circle and watch as you demonstrate finger weaving, then work through the following steps with them.
2. Select a loop and wrap it around your pinky finger. Twist in one half turn and loop around your ring finger. Twist in another half turn, and loop around middle finger. Twist in a final half turn, and wrap around index finger.
3. Repeat step 2 with the second weaving loop.
4. Starting at your pinky, stretch the bottom loop over the top loop.
5. Repeat step 2 with third weaving loops.
6. Starting at your pinky, stretch the bottom loop over the top loop.
7. Repeat steps 5 and 6 until the jump rope has reached the desired length.
8. Once the desired length is reached, fold the last 4" up on both sides of the ends, doubling their thickness. Wrap securely with other weaving loops or duct tape, making the handles.

Ball Catchers (difficulty – easy)

Due to poverty, many children in Kenya play with homemade toys. These ball catchers are an easy craft that helps show children that not every toy needs to be "brand new" to be fun.

Materials:

- 2 plastic milk jugs or laundry detergent bottles per child (washed out thoroughly)
- Sharp scissors
- Coloured electrical tape
- Stickers
- 1 bouncy ball per child

Directions:

1. Adults should cut the bottom off of each bottle, and then cut a “U” shape under the handle. NB: don't cut into the handle, as this is how you hold the ball catcher.
2. Invite children to decorate their ball catcher with coloured electrical tape and stickers.
3. Give each child a bouncy ball.
4. Encourage children to play with one another.

(adapted from www.kaboose.com)

Safari Finger Puppets (difficulty – average)

This craft allows children to bring the Kenyan safari home with them!

Materials:

- Felt scraps
- Craft scissors
- White glue
- Googly eyes
- Cotton balls

Directions:

1. Invite the children to think about some of the Kenyan animals they've learned about.
2. For each puppet, children should cut a felt rectangle (approx 1 ¾ x 3")
3. Roll rectangle into a long cylinder and attach with glue.
4. Invite children to decorate their animal with eyes, cotton balls and markers.
5. Encourage children to put on a finger-puppet play.

Pebble Animals (difficulty – easy)

Another great craft to keep the safari animals of Kenya fresh in the minds of children, long after VBS is done.

Materials:

- A large number of smooth flat stones and pebbles
- Acrylic paints, variety of colours
- Paint brushes

Directions:

1. Instruct children to reflect on some of the Kenyan animals they've been introduced to this week.
2. Invite children to select a stone/pebble, and paint it to look like their desired animal. NOTE: encourage children to look at the stones and see if any have a shape that looks like their animal choice.
3. Allow to dry. (adapted from www.familyfun.go.com)

Yarn Vase (difficulty - easy to average)

Many women in Kenya make crafts to sell as an income, and many Guardians of Hope groups sell crafts and handiwork to help them sustain their ministry. This craft will get your children thinking creatively, and learning how to make something ordinary into something beautiful.

Materials:

- 1 empty water bottle per child
- Yarn in a variety of colours and textures
- White glue
- Craft scissors

Directions:

1. Provide each child with a water bottle.
2. Instruct children to cover 1" of the bottle with glue, and then select some yarn, attaching its end to the bottom of the bottle.
3. Instruct children to begin wrapping the bottle in yarn. When a child reaches the end of their piece of yarn, or wishes to switch colours, instruct them to glue the end to the bottle. NB: the children will have to continue to add glue to the bottle, approx 1" at a time.
4. Repeat steps 2-3 until the bottle is covered in yarn.

African Drum (difficulty - easy to average)

Most Kenyan music is accentuated by drums. This craft gets kids in the mood to praise God, the Kenyan way!

Materials:

- Coffee cans (1 per child), duct taped at opening to prevent cutting fingers
- Coloured paper
- Stickers
- Markers
- Craft glue
- Cotton fabric squares (to cover mouth of coffee can)
- Large elastics

Directions:

1. Provide each child with a coffee can.
2. Instruct children to decorate their can –using paper, markers, stickers, etc.
3. Once cans are decorated, instruct children to cover the top of their can with a fabric square and to secure with an elastic.
4. Enjoy making music together!

Squeeze Ball (difficulty - easy)

Another great way to show kids how toys can be made from everyday items.

Materials:

- 1 balloon per child
- Cornstarch (lots) or flour (lots)
- Funnels

Directions:

1. Provide each child with a balloon.
2. Instruct children to blow up their balloons to stretch them out (don't tie the ends).
3. Put a funnel inside the opening of the balloon, and pour in cornstarch or flour (could have 3-4 kids doing this at a time, helping one another).
4. Once there is enough cornstarch or flour in the balloon to make it feel tight, tie off the end of the balloon.
5. The more the children play with their squeeze ball the softer it becomes.

(adapted from www.amazingmoms.com)

African Sun Suncatcher (difficulty - easy)

An easy craft to bring the sun and warmth of Kenya home!

Materials:

- Foil pie plates (1 per child)
- Foil candy wrappers or plant foil, multicoloured
- White glue
- String

Directions:

1. Provide each child with a pie plate.
2. Instruct children to cut triangles around the edge of the plate, folding out the points to make the sun shape (you may want to do this for younger children).
3. Invite children to decorate triangles with coloured foil pieces, attaching with glue.
4. Poke a hole in one triangle, and thread with a string to hang.

(adapted from www.activityvillage.co.uk)

activities – age specific

The following activity pages are to be reproduced and distributed to your VBS participants. Please note that each of these activities has a suggested age range, indicating the level of difficulty.

Safari Search - 7+ years

A	R	B	E	Z	E	B	R	C	C	H	A	T	U	R	H
A	G	N	G	E	L	E	P	H	A	N	T	N	A	N	T
R	H	I	S	N	O	S	W	A	I	N	U	B	M	W	S
I	M	B	A	N	M	O	C	H	U	I	N	K	I	E	P
Y	C	K	I	M	A	H	O	B	M	E	T	G	A	I	U
P	H	P	M	O	N	K	E	Y	S	N	A	K	K	E	N
S	I	M	B	A	P	U	E	U	P	Y	T	H	O	N	D
O	M	D	P	U	N	D	V	N	G	R	I	R	Y	I	A
R	P	R	N	Y	O	O	I	K	A	S	H	W	N	E	M
E	A	A	D	U	D	M	U	R	A	C	N	D	G	E	I
C	N	P	T	N	E	R	M	B	I	E	W	K	O	S	L
O	Z	O	B	E	A	T	I	R	I	G	I	R	A	F	I
N	E	E	F	F	E	N	T	D	O	V	N	U	D	P	A
I	E	L	I	Z	E	S	B	G	R	R	A	F	F	E	Z
H	T	K	W	I	O	R	H	I	N	O	C	N	O	I	L
R	K	I	B	O	W	A	R	T	H	O	G	F	I	S	L

The following English and Swahili animal names can be found forwards, backwards and diagonally in the above puzzle. Good luck!

Words

CHIMPANZEE SOKWE ELEPHANT TEMBO NDOVU GIRAFFE TWIGA LEOPARD CHUI
LION SIMBA MONKEY KIMA OSTRICH MBUNI PYTHON CHATU RHINOCEROS KIFARU
SNAKE NYOKA WARTHOG NGIRI ZEBRA PUNDA-MILIA

Safari Jumble - 9+ years

The following jumbled letters spell Safari animal names - unscramble the letters to solve the puzzle!

OBOANB

HTEHCEA

HMAZECIPNE

LPATEHNE

FGAEFIR

PHPIOPTOUAMS

LOADEPR

OILN

YKOMNE

SRCOTIH

PTONYH

CRSRINHOER

AZBRE

Habari! Hello! - ages 9+

Find the following Kenyan place names in the puzzle to reveal a secret message straight from Africa!

M W O I K O H C I K O L K E E
E O I L C O M M E M T O E R L
K O M E N O Y A Y A Q S R E O
V T A B Y G U C H L N Y I T R
E Y A A A T C I D I Y V C U E
N M L G M S Q D F N A K H B T
Y E B C H M A A M D C O O U Y
I X P U X U E G O I R R M N R
I S E B R G W A J I R A H E K
C V I U O B A M F T R N R S J
H U K O L G I R B S A R A R O
Z A J A L G Z I I L W U W A G
N D M X R O C O B S E R D G Q
O U P W C K T O M X S N O Y R
I B O R I A N O B W L A L E W

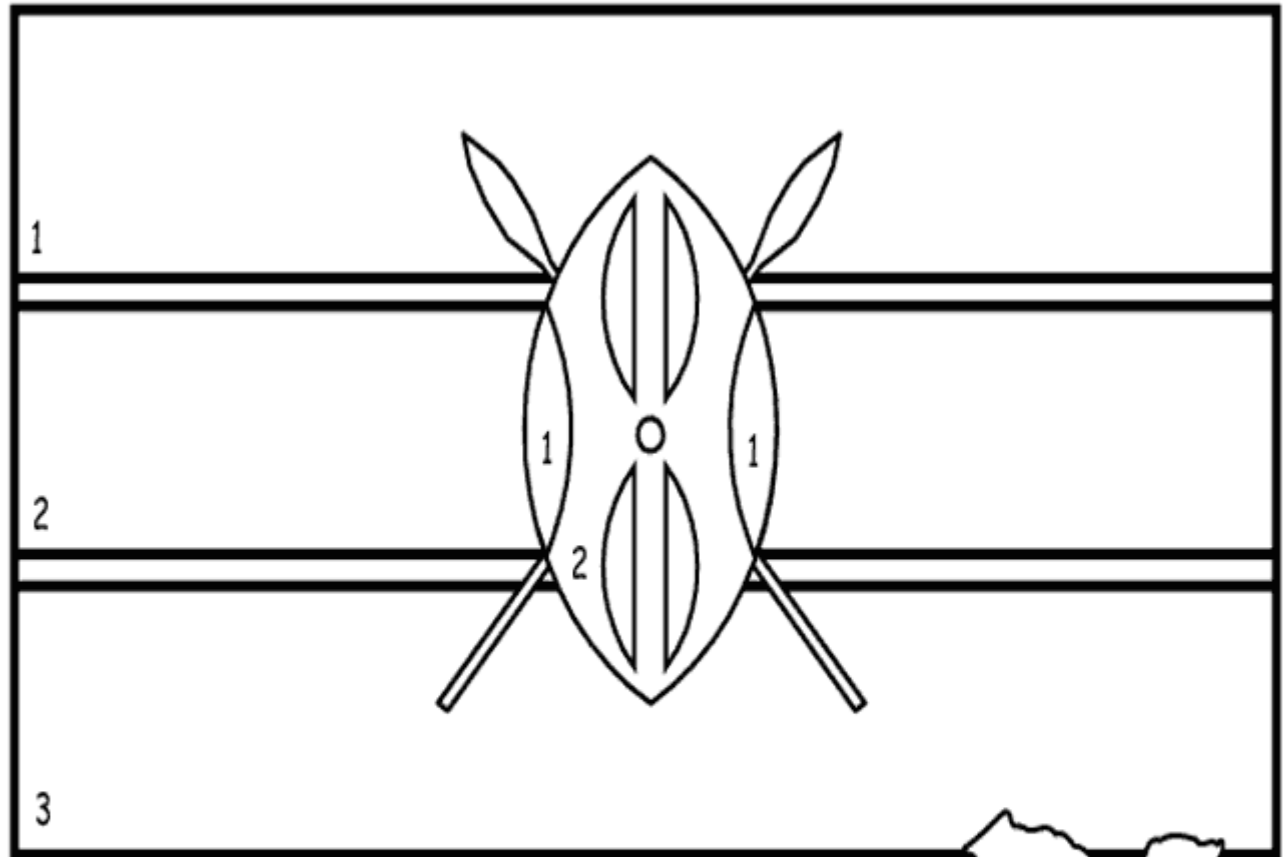
BUTERE
ELORET
EMBU
GARISSA
GARSEN
ISIOLO
KERICHO
LAMU
LODWAR
LOKICHOKIO

MAGADI
MALINDI
MOMBASA
MOYALE
NAIROBI
NAKURU
NAROK
RAMU
VOI
WAJIR

Kenyan Flag - all ages

Colour the following flag as a take home reminder of your trip through Kenya!

KENYA flag & map



To color the flag of Kenya, use Crayola® Crayons, Colored Pencils or Markers. Color the shapes numbered 1 black, 2 red, and 3 green.

Did you know...?

Kenya is located in eastern Africa. On the national flag there is a large shield with spears. Their agricultural products are coffee, tea, wheat, corn, and fruit.



Welcome to My Neighbourhood! - all ages

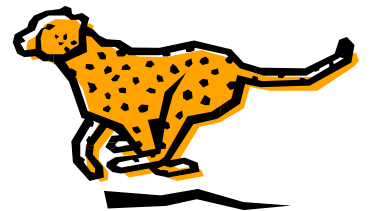
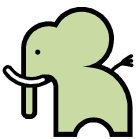
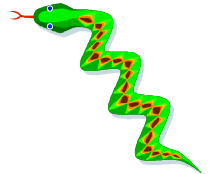
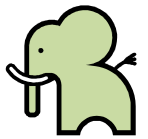
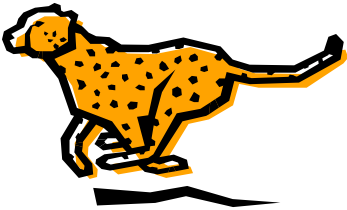
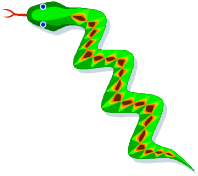
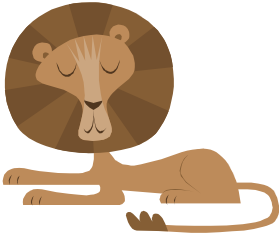
Have fun learning all about Africa by colouring in this map. Be sure to find and label Kenya!



Map © www.abcteach.com

Safari Match-Up - ages 3+

The gates at the Wildlife Reserve have broken, and all the animals have lost their pairs. Draw a line to the matching pairs.



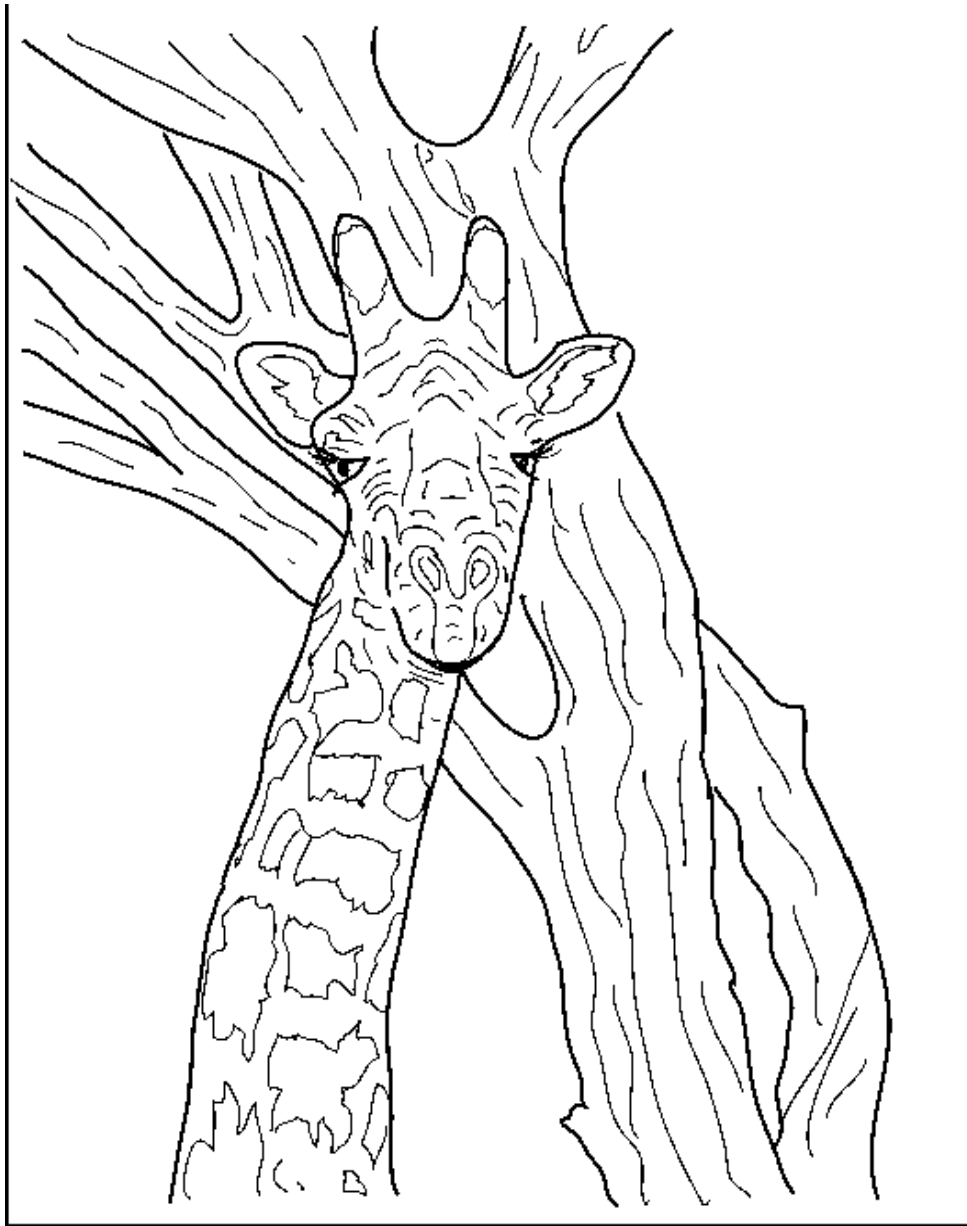
Colouring Fun! - all ages

Copy the following colouring pages for children to colour. Help the children say the Swahili names for these Kenyan animal.

OPTIONAL - PUZZLE

After the colouring pages are completed, glue onto hard Bristol board and help children to cut into pieces forming take-home safari animal puzzles.

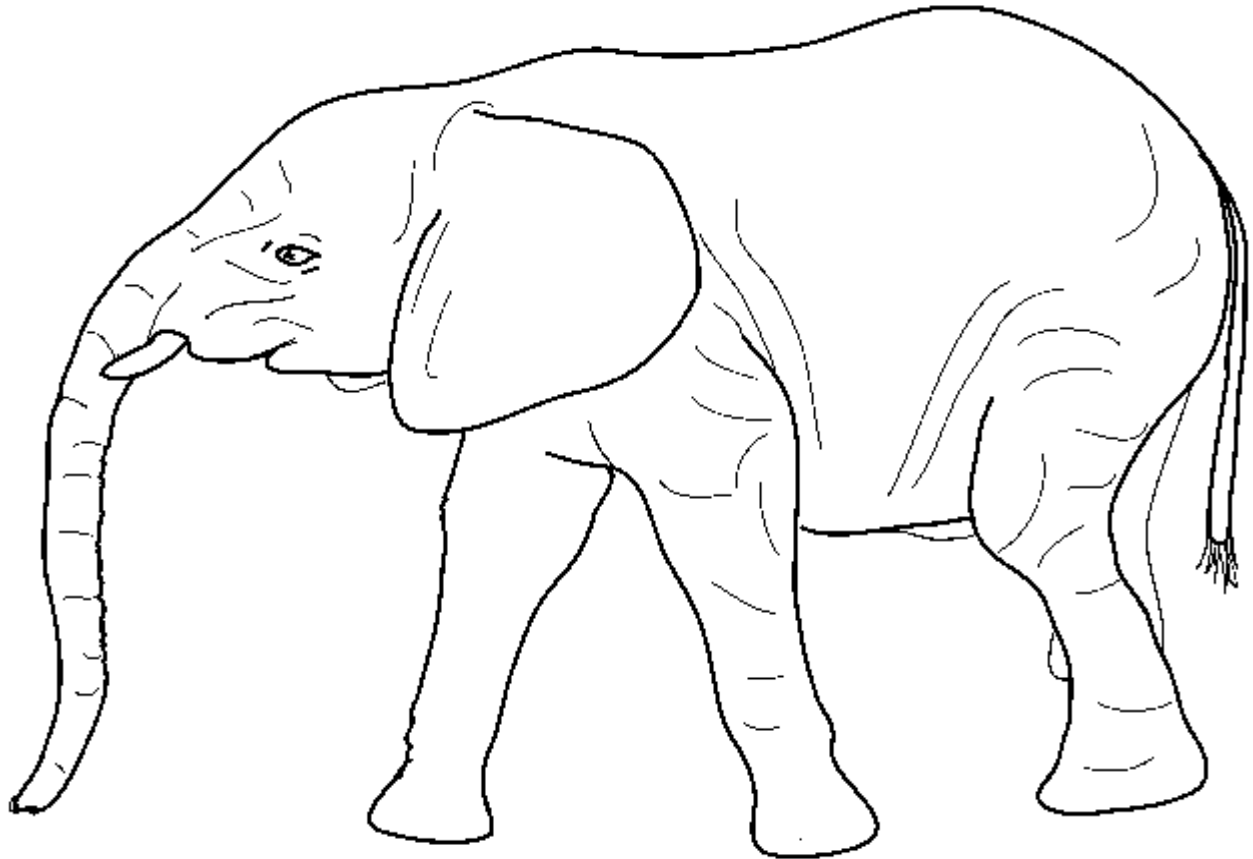
TWIGA



GIRAFFE

Picture © www.meandmephot.com

TEMBO or NDOVU



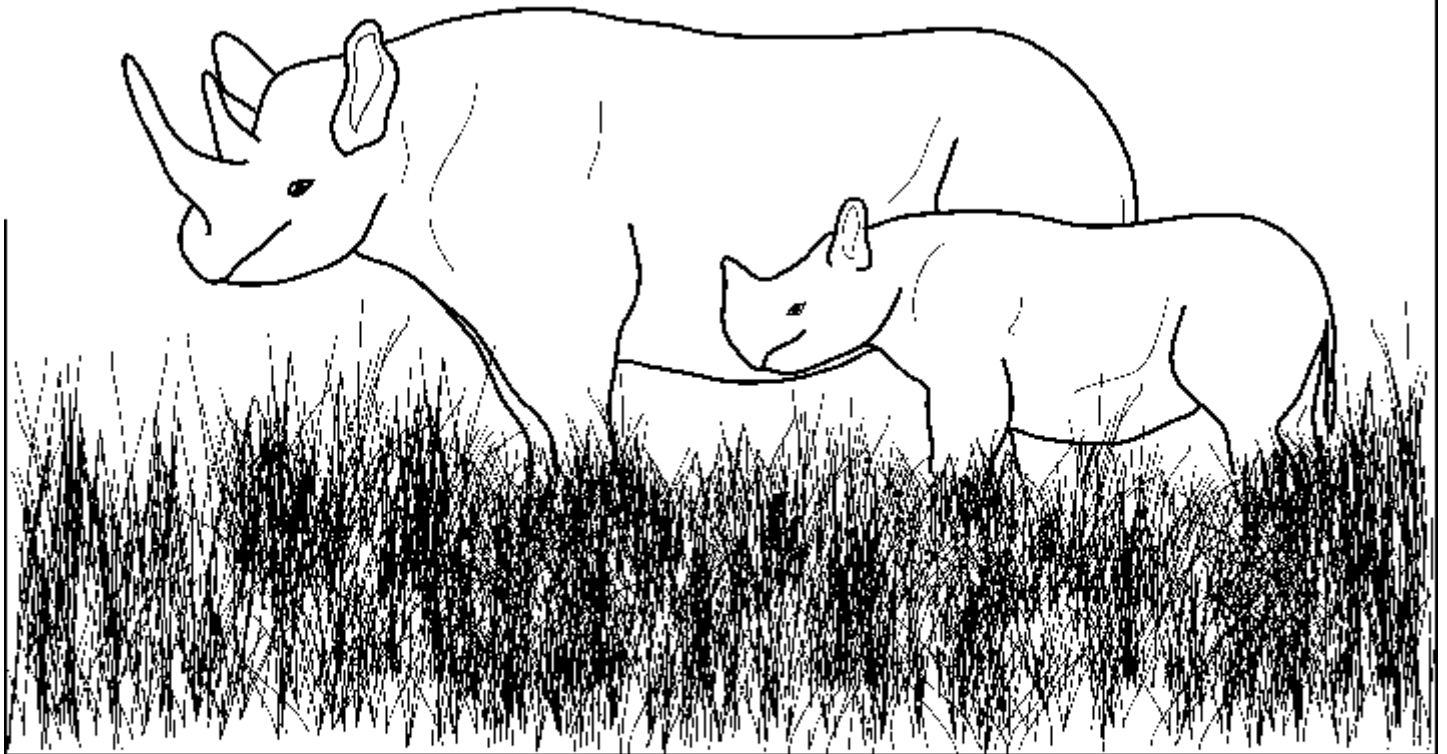
YOUNG ELEPHANT

Picture © www.meandmephot.com

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www.cbmin.org

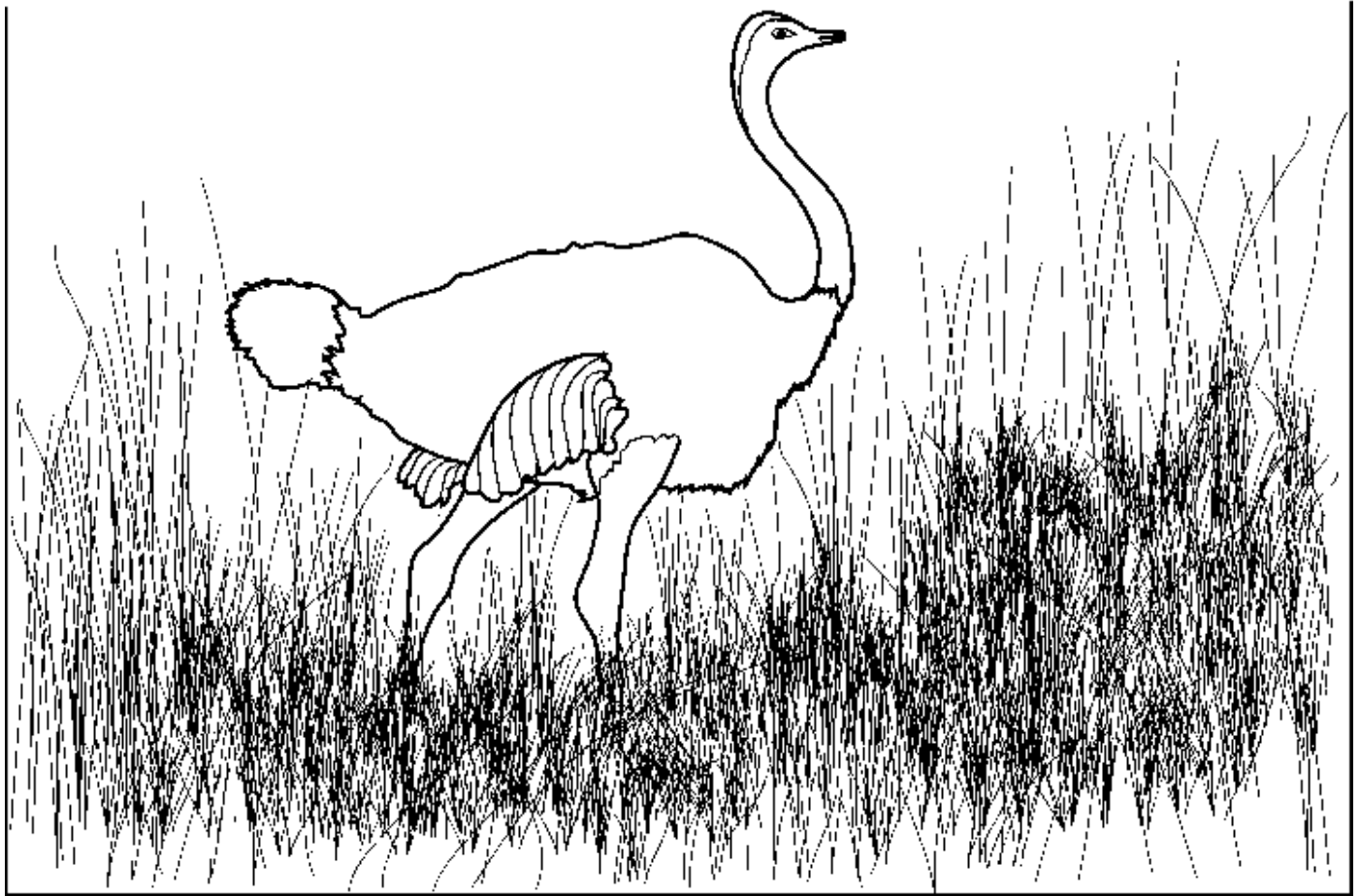
KIBOKO



MOTHER RHINO & YOUNG

Picture © www.meandmphoto.com

MBUNI



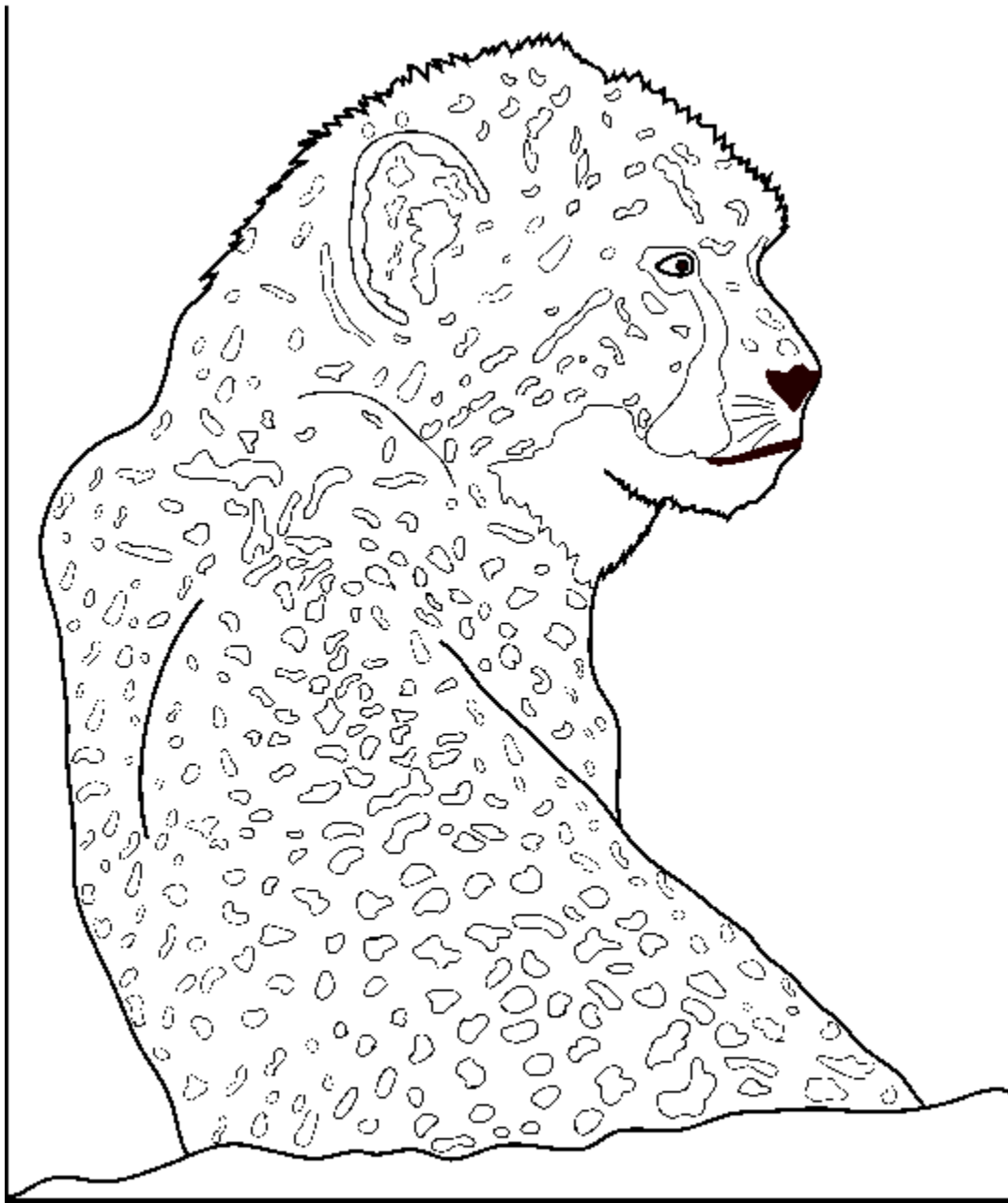
OSTRICH

Picture © www.meandmphoto.com

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Page 16

DUMA



CHEETAH CUB

Picture © www.meandmephot.com

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Page 17

SIMBA



MALE LION

Picture © www.meandmephot.com

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