



## Coaching for Conservation comes to Khwai Village



Natural Selection and Coaching for Conservation recently hosted the children of Khwai Village on a three day immersion into wildlife, its value, its challenges and importance to our planet and lives. Our Sable Alley guides and the Coaching for Conservation team took the children under their wings and guided them through fun but educational games and activities. Using fascinating animal traits as inspiration, the games taught the children about the extraordinary natural world that's right at their fingertips, but might sometimes feel a world away.

Young faces lit up as they were shown Khwai Private Reserve from the back of a game drive vehicle and experienced wildlife through the eyes of a safari guide. Not only did some of the children gain a new found respect for animals and their own connection with nature, but some were inspired to become guides one day who can, in turn, inspire others!

### Desert Lion Protection – Early Warning System for Communities

The desert lions of Namibia have survived some of the most challenging obstacles faced by African lions – scarcity of water, inconsistent availability of prey, extreme heat and cold, and livestock farmers who don't appreciate their taste for livestock. It's no surprise that their numbers dwindled down to a mere 20 known individuals in 1998. While their numbers have increased with the hard work and intervention of researchers, government and concerned community members, the numbers are declining again. Why? There are several variables at play, but roughly 89% of lion deaths are due to retaliatory killing by livestock farmers who are dealing with their own obstacles in this unforgiving environment. Natural Selection contribute funds to this project that aims to warn herders and village residents when lions are nearby, by communicating the position of lions to warning towers and to an early response unit poised to intervene. With hopes of abating the conflict between herder and lion, we hope to see the desert lion thrive again.



**Moreomaoto Environmental Club**



Since January this year, Meno a Kwena guides and Elephants for Africa have been bringing youngsters from the Moreomaoto Village Primary School together in an environmental club. Twenty-one children are permanent members of the club and join together to discuss nature and how to treat their environment. In this lesson, the children learn about pollution and its impact on ourselves and the world.

**Brought to You by Your Local Elephants**

Natural Selection has partnered with Ecoexist to address human-elephant conflict along the pan handle of the Okavango Delta of Botswana where pedestrians regularly come into contact with elephants. Community members gathered to discuss the introduction of an "Ele Shuttle" system that will provide safe travel of school children and vulnerable members of the community through elephant thoroughfares. This service, compliments of the local elephants, aims to bring harmony to villages and elephants.



**Communal Herding for Lions**

Natural Selection Conservation Trust is funding the important work by CLAWS in the northern outskirts of the Okavango Delta. Here they are helping reintroduce traditional herding practices to reduce the vulnerability of livestock to predation and the vulnerability of lions to retaliatory killings. Already, 75% of herds in Eretshe are part of a communal herd.



Lions are on the decline, with an estimated 20,000 - 25,000 individuals left across Africa.

**KEEP Environmental Education**

540 learners already hosted in 2019 from six different underprivileged schools in Namibia.

**Khwai Playschool**

Khwai Private Reserve worked hard at the start of 2019 to open a new playschool in Khwai Village. KPR continues its support by covering costs of 2 teachers and meals for the 27 students.

**Makgadikgadi Conservation Initiative**

114 km of fenceline surveyed for breaks, animal crossings and burrows  
 439 km travelled to 68 cattle posts and 43 agricultural plots, where locations and boreholes were mapped and interviews conducted.

**Etosha Heights Anti-Poaching up the Anti**

Camera towers and ranger team members were added at the start of 2019 to safeguard the area's rhinos.

**NATURAL SELECTION CONSERVATION TRUST**

If you would like to donate and support these and other projects, please send your donation to:  
**Natural Selection Conservation Trust**  
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