

Biodiversity WebQuest, UP with SCIENCE, 17 April 2010

1. The silhouette of which animal is shown in the first zero of the “2010 International Year of Biodiversity” logo?
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2. The World Wildlife Foundation (WWF) offers tips on what you can do to conserve biodiversity on their web site. Give two that appeal to you. www.panda.org/about_our_earth/biodiversity/
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3. On 7 June 2004 President Thabo Mbeki signed into law the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act. Complete the following statement as worded in this act:

“To provide for the management and of South Africa’s biodiversity within the framework of the National Management Act, 1998; the protection of and that warrant national protection, the sustainable use of biological resources, the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from bioprospecting resources; the establishment and functions of a South African National Institute and matters connected therewith.”

4. SANBI, the South African National Biodiversity Institute’s Biodiversity Advisor website offers access to information on South Africa's biodiversity and lists threatened ecosystems on their website. Name two critically endangered ecosystems:

<http://biodiversityadvisor.sanbi.org/index.asp>

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5. Use the Biodiversity explorer
<http://www.biodiversityexplorer.org/index.htm> to name four snake families native to southern Africa.
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6. Download the April 2009 Easy Science supplement from the SAASTA website (South African Agency for the Advancement of Science and Technology) <http://www.saasta.ac.za/>
Use the document to answer the following questions:

6.1 What is the centre of origin of tomatoes?

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6.2 What is bioprospecting?

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6.3 Give one successful example from South Africa.

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6.4 How much of the world's land area is being used for agriculture?

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7. According to the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) and their status of species in South Africa; 10% of South Africa's birds and frogs and 20% of our mammals are threatened. <http://soer.deat.gov.za/themes.aspx?m=416>

Name one fresh water species that is threatened

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8. What is the slogan for 2010 International Year of Biodiversity?
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