# READING: THULA THULA WILDLIFE RESERVE

## Cultural awareness

Safaris in South Africa

### THULA THULA WILDLIFE RESERVE

**ABOUT THULA THULA**

Thula Thula is a private wildlife reserve and hotel. Thula Thula means 'peace' in Zulu, the language of a famous South African tribe. Thula Thula is in Kwazulu Natal province in South Africa. This is where the Zulu tribe comes from.

**WILDLIFE**

The area is home to hundreds of species of animals, including rhinoceros, leopards, crocodiles and giraffes.

**RESCUED ANIMALS**

In 1999, the owner of Thula Thula, Lawrence Anthony, rescued a herd of seven elephants and brought them to his wildlife reserve. Since then, the family has grown to 25 elephants! The story of his experiences with the elephants is the subject of his book, *The Elephant Whisperer*.

The owners of Thula Thula adopted Thabo, a baby rhino, in 2009 when he was just a few days old. He now lives on the wildlife reserve.

**ACCOMMODATION**

Guests stay in luxury tents with beds and showers. There are some outdoor showers too if you don't mind monkeys watching you from the trees!

**MEALS**

A lot of guests say the food is the best thing at Thula Thula! Don't forget to try a traditional African 'braai' (barbecue).

**ACTIVITIES**

Local guides, who have a lot of knowledge about the area, take groups of guests on safaris. You can also go on organized walks and learn about unusual plants that only grow in South Africa.

**WHEN TO VISIT**

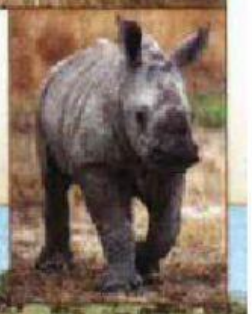
Thula Thula is open all year. In winter (April–August) the temperature is usually warm in the day and cool at night. In summer (September–March) the days are hot and the nights are warm.

**Word check**

wildlife reserve rescue herd adopt

**Fact box**

When people visit South Africa, most of them hope to see some wild animals. The most popular ones are the elephant, the rhinoceros, the lion, the buffalo and the leopard.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

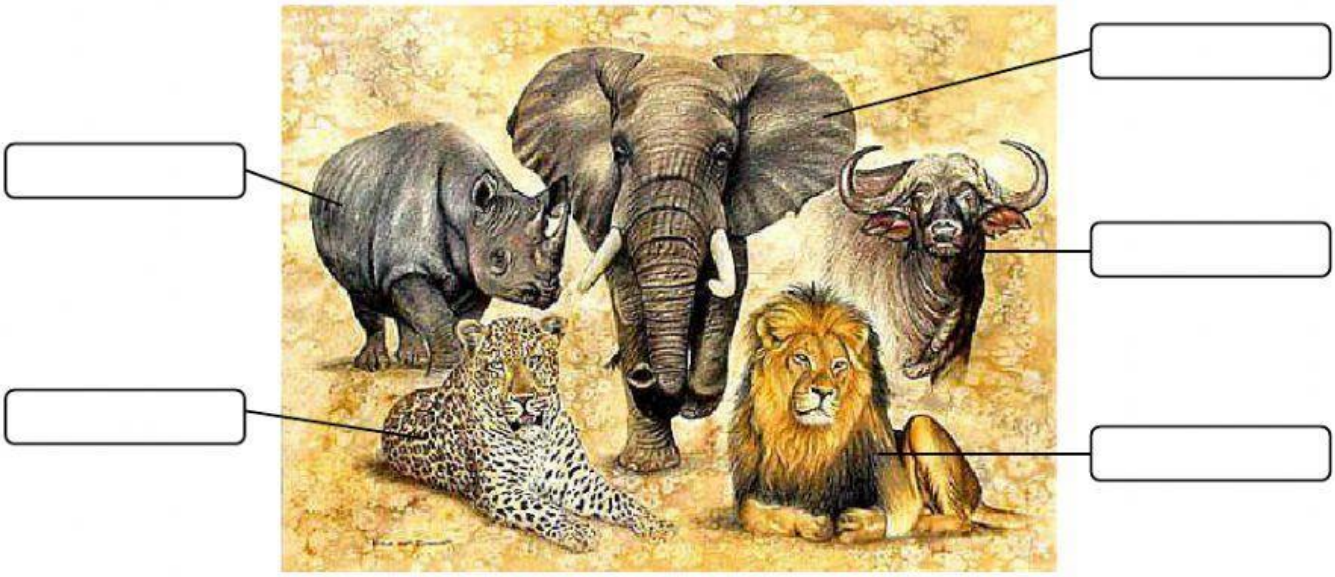
## Part A – Match the meaning with the word. LS 3.1.3

| | |
|---|---|
| wildlife reserve | To take an animal that has been left in a place and keep it as your pet |
| rescue | An area of land managed to conserve wildlife habitat |
| adopt | To help someone or something out of a dangerous situation |
| luxury | Different from what is usual or expected |
| unusual | Very expensive and of the highest quality |
| herd | A large group of animals of the same type that live together |

## Part B – Read the text again and choose the correct answer. LS 3.1.2

1. 'Thula Thula' is _____.
2. Lawrence Anthony wrote a book about _____.
3. A lot of guests _____.
4. Guests can observe wild animals _____.
5. The hottest time of the year at Thula Thula is _____.
6. Besides wild animals, visitors can also learn about _____ at Thula Thula.

## Part C – Name the Africa's Big Five.



LIVEWORKSHEETS