

# Eco-Travellers on Safari



**Science – Plants and animals in the local environment**

**Citizenship – Animals and us**

- Kenya has huge National Parks set up to protect all the animals in East Africa.
- The most famous wildlife reserve in Kenya is the Masai Mara.

It's a popular destination for people who want to go on a safari holiday to see lions, leopards, giraffes and zebras. There are more than 20 prides of lions in the Masai Mara. Every summer, they move to follow the herds of wildebeest and zebra migrating north from the Serengeti. Lots of tourists arrive to witness the millions of animals on the move!



## Activity

### Your Eco Mission

Plan a new National Park for Kenya. You'll need areas for the animals, for the local Masai people, and for tourists. Colour in the hexagons on the grid on the next page to show the different habitats. Using the grid on the other side of this worksheet, start with the following:

- Desert x 15 hexagons
- Grassland x 60 hexagons
- Forest x 15 hexagons

### Now add some animals!

- A rhinoceros (R) will prefer to be hidden in the forest
- Mark some zebra (Z) in the grassy areas, along with gazelle (TG), wildebeest, (W) and elephants (E)
- Place some impala, (I) or herds of giraffe (G) near the trees

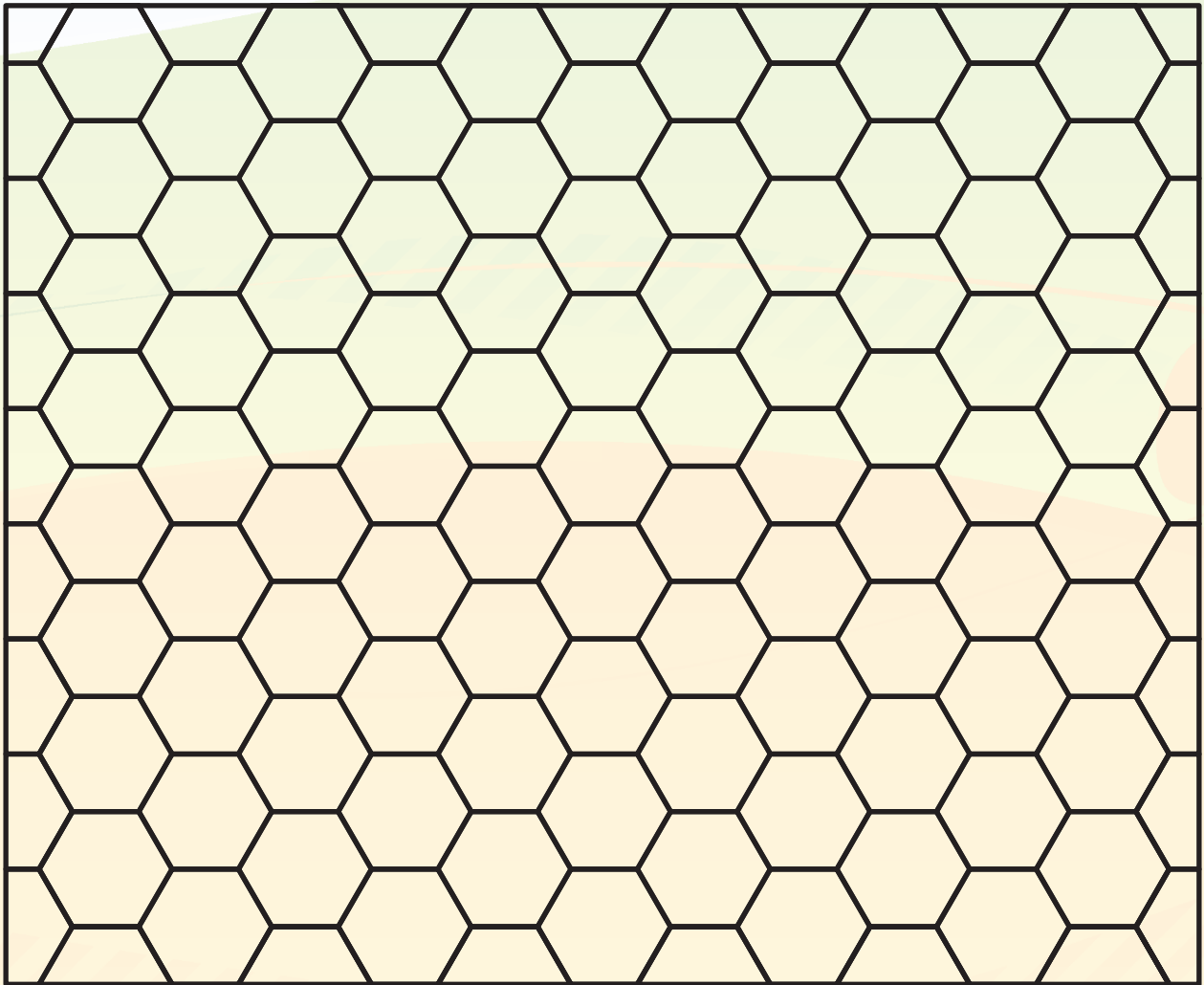
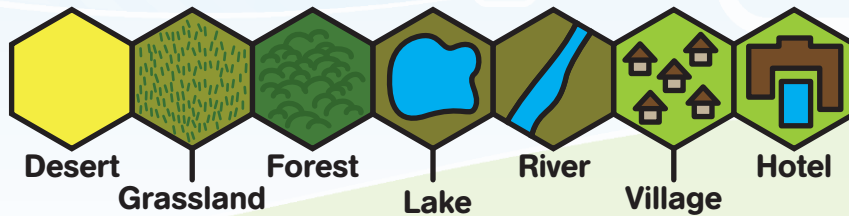
### Now add some carnivores to prey on the herbivores:

- Lions (LI) will be close to the zebra, giraffe and wildebeest
- Leopards (LE) prefer to live in the forest
- Hyenas (HY) hunt out on the open grasslands

### Tip:

Think carefully about where you put your villages. Remember, some wild animals can be very dangerous!

## Activity



**Well done!**

You've built up an ecosystem with a food web, so that all the animals have enough to eat.

### What happens with climate change?

Ask your teacher for a second copy of this worksheet and do the exercise again. This time, put in more desert and less forest. How will this affect all your animals?

### Ecotourism protects the environment

When visiting a wildlife reserve to see the rare and wonderful animals, we must remember not to cause any harm to the environment. While you can get close to the animals in a 4x4 vehicle, lots more people are now taking balloon trips across the Masai Mara. They view all the different herds and take pictures from above without disturbing anything. Add a hot-air balloon to your map!