

Nairobi



5962

1976?

**A
N
I
M
A
L

O
R
P
H
A
N
A
G
E**



**NAIROBI
NATIONAL
PARK**

UNGULATES

These are the hoofed animals and are divided into two main groups; those with an even number of toes are called Artiodactyla and those with an uneven number of toes are called Perissodactyla.

Even-toed ungulates include pigs, hippos, camels, giraffes, deer, wild cattle, antelopes, goats and sheep.

Odd-toed ungulates include wild horses, zebras, tapirs and rhinoceroses.

All ungulates are herbivorous.

Zebra—Kiswahili—Punda milia



Zebras are found only in Africa inhabiting the open plains in great herds and associating happily with other plains game.

The largest and most beautiful is the Grevy's Zebra from Northern Kenya and Ethiopia. This animal has very narrow close-set black or dark brown stripes on a white ground, a dense mane and large, rounded, heavily fringed ears.

Burchell's Zebra has the widest distribution from South West Africa through to the Sudan. This is a smaller, chunkier animal with fewer and much broader stripes, short narrow ears and a short mane.

Grant's Zebra is almost pure black and white with occasional faint shadow stripes between the dark stripes mainly on the hind-quarters.

Zebras are nervous creatures and almost impossible to domesticate. They live purely by grazing and when in need of water will migrate in great numbers. Foals are usually born in Kenya in February-March.

Rhinoceros—Kiswahili—Kifaru



These are the largest of the odd-toed mammals and one of the three largest land animals, elephants coming first with hippos and rhinos fighting for second place.

Two types are common to Africa usually referred to as the Black Rhino and the White Rhino, although in fact both are coloured grey.

The Black Rhino is between 5 and 6 ft. at the shoulder, can weigh up to 3,000 lbs and is distinguished by its prehensile upper lip which it uses for plucking leafy branches. It has very poor eyesight and is an aggressive animal; if it scents danger it will charge recklessly at a speed of over 20 miles an hour. Black rhinos live solitary or in couples, do not migrate far and prefer bush and forest country.

The White Rhino stands over 6 ft. at the shoulder, can weigh as much as 6,000 lbs, and has a broad square muzzle. Again it has poor eyesight but is a much less aggressive animal and does not often charge. White Rhinos are gregarious, living in small herds usually in long grass country as they are essentially grazers.

Buffalo—Kiswahili—Nyati

The African Buffalo is a massive animal attaining a shoulder height of 5 feet and a weight of up to 2,000 lbs. The heavy horns with a spread of up to 56 inches meet on the forehead to form a large 'boss' of bone. Colour is predominantly black, they have very keen scent, good eyesight and hearing. This animal is probably the most dangerous of any of the African big game animals for it makes determined charges and has even been known to circle round and stalk a hunter who thinks it is ahead of him. Buffaloes live in herds mainly in bush or forest country, are essentially grazers and are usually found near water of some sort. To my knowledge they have never been domesticated.

BIRDS

Flamingo

Easily recognisable by their pink and white plumage, long slender legs and neck and box-like bill which slopes downwards in the middle. The Lesser and Greater Flamingos are both found in East Africa, the former being less than 3 ft. and the latter almost 5 ft. tall.

Flamingos live and nest in shallow salt or brackish water in colonies of thousands. Two of the best places to see them in Kenya are Lake Nakuru and Lake Magadi.

The most remarkable thing about a flamingo is its bill, the tongue and beak have small filaments that act as strainers for minute food such as algae, molluscs and crustaceans which are drawn into the mouth by the pumping action of the tongue.

Flamingos nest close together and scoop up mud to make a mound about 18 inches high with a shallow depression at the top in which is laid a single chalk-white egg. Incubation period is 30 days, the young are white at birth, can swim within days and learn to fly at about 2 months old.

Crowned Crane—Kiswahili—Korongo

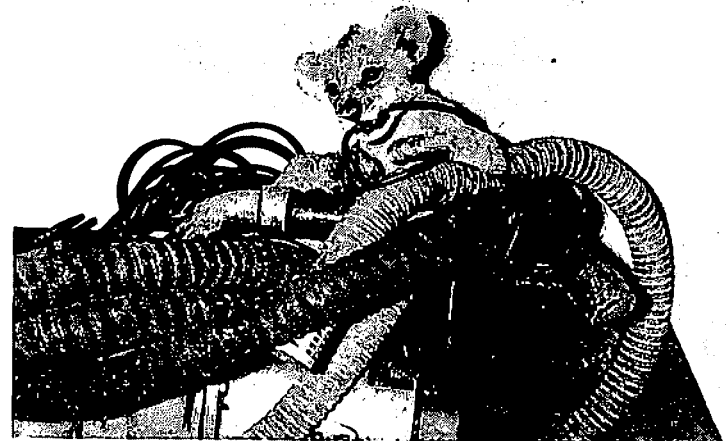
Found in most parts of Africa there is no mistaking this bird with its grey plumage, red and white face and golden crest. Cranes travel in pairs or small flocks and can generally be found near water.

Marabou Stork

This bald-headed, large-beaked, carrion eater is found throughout tropical Africa. It has a long pink pouch of bare skin hanging from its neck and fluffy feathers growing under its tail which were once fashionable for 'feather boa' neckpieces. The ones you see wandering around the Orphanage are not inmates but come for easy pickings.



SOME OF OUR ORPHANS



Engineer



Mary



Chippy