

THE REAL YELLOWWOOD TREE

South
Africa's
National
Tree

Also known as
Podocarpus latifolius

It is a protected
species that has
laws to keep
it safe.

Many birds,
animals and
insects live and
find food in
these trees.

This species
has been growing
in South Africa for over
100 million years.

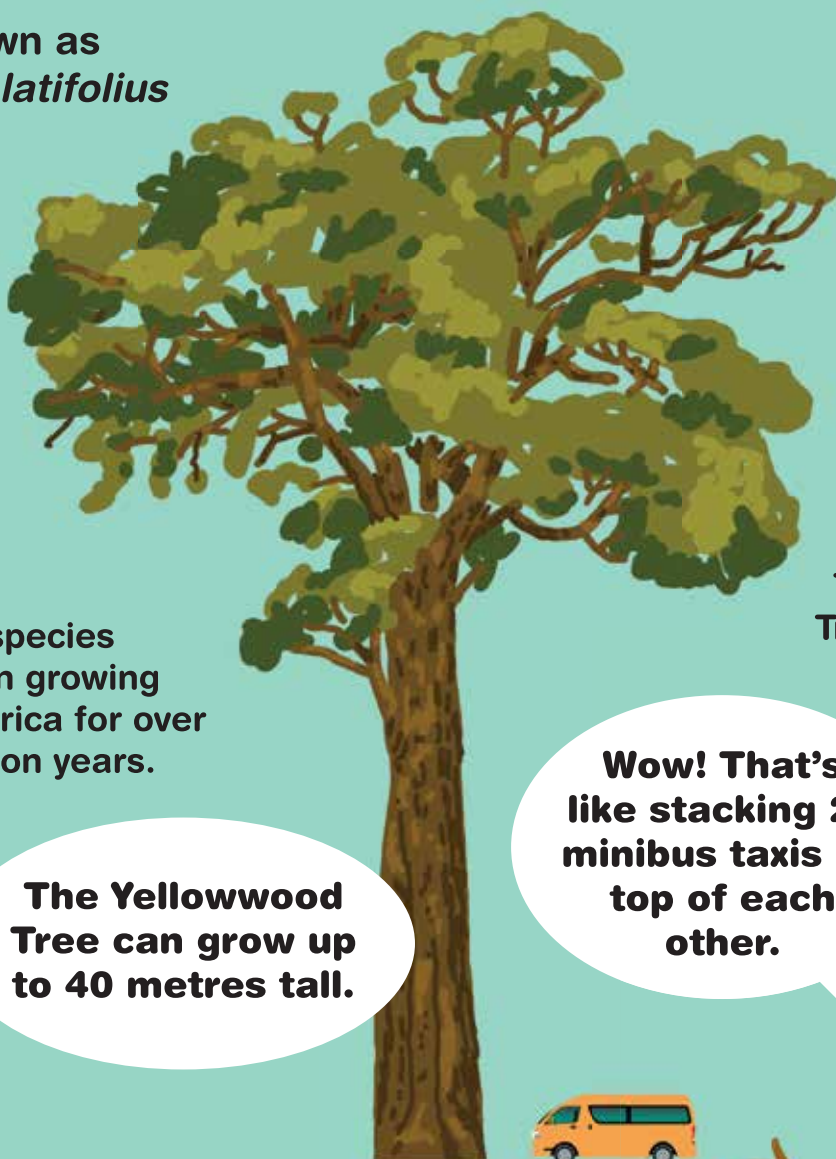
It has
gone extinct
in some parts
of South
Africa.

These trees
are evergreen
and keep their
beautiful green
leaves all
year round.

The Yellowwood
Tree is indigenous
to South Africa.

The Yellowwood
Tree can grow up
to 40 metres tall.

Wow! That's
like stacking 20
minibus taxis on
top of each
other.



**Why do countries
have national
symbols?**

Countries have national
symbols to show what makes
them unique. You might see
them during sports games
or big celebrations to show
pride in the country!



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THE POWER OF TREES

PROTECTING US FROM CLIMATE CHANGE



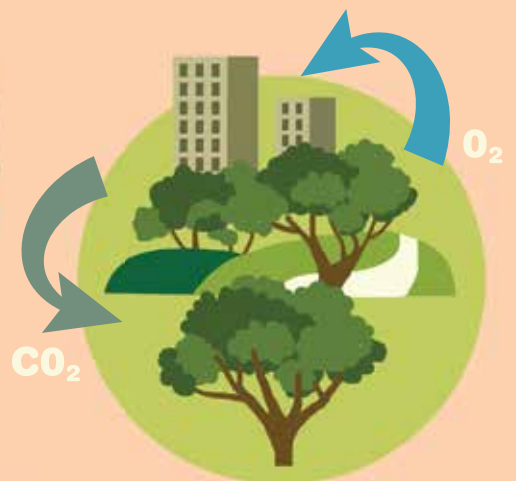
What is air pollution?

Air pollution happens when harmful gases, like carbon dioxide (CO₂), get released into the air.



What is climate change?

Climate change is when our planet gets warmer because gases like CO₂ trap the sun's heat in the atmosphere. This is bad for the environment.



How do trees help?

Trees absorb CO₂ and release oxygen. This helps cool down the earth.



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**We should
always protect our
forests by using trees
sustainably!**



**Wood is used
to make things that
people need, such as
furniture. This can
be sold to make
money.**

THE ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF TREES

**There
are many
ways to make
money from
trees.**



**Some people
use certain plants to
stay healthy. These
plants can be
harvested and sold
as medicine.**



**People can
make timber poles
and sell them for
building things like
houses, fences and
telephone lines.**



**People can collect
and sell forest products
like extra firewood,
handpicked fruits
or handcrafted
wooden items.**



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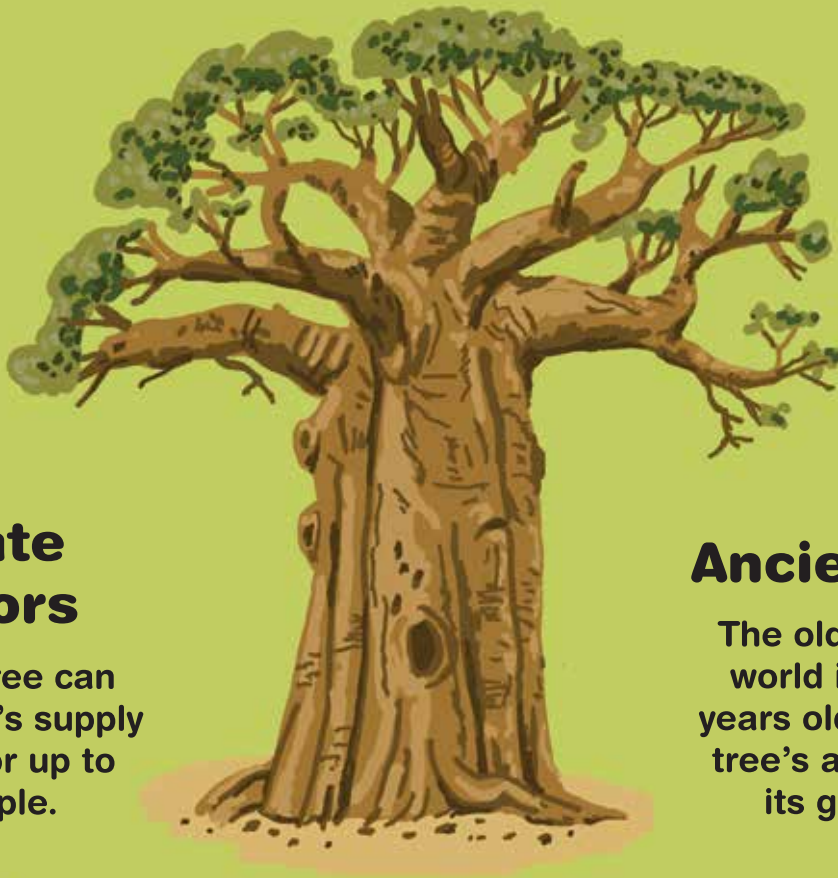
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DID YOU KNOW?

FUN FACTS ABOUT FORESTS AND TREES

SA's National Tree

The Real
Yellowwood
Tree is the
National Tree
of South Africa.



A world of forests

There are
over 3 trillion
trees on earth.

Climate Warriors

One large tree can
provide a day's supply
of oxygen for up to
four people.

Ancient Giants

The oldest tree in the
world is nearly 5000
years old. You can tell a
tree's age by counting
its growth rings.



Nature's Calendar

Some trees' leaves change with
the season. Is it winter, spring, summer
or autumn? Just look at the trees!



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TREE OF THE YEAR 2024

THE SILVER TREE

The silver tree can only be found growing naturally on the Slopes of Table Mountain in Cape Town, South Africa. Its leaves are a beautiful silver colour that really stands out.

FACTS:

- Silver trees are from the Protea family.
- They can grow up to 10 metres tall.

Attracts
insects



Loves
the sun



Doesn't
need much
water



Evergreen



Grows
quickly



Flowers
in spring



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ALL ABOUT DFFE's FORESTRY MANAGEMENT BRANCH

Who are we?

The forestry management branch is responsible for the monitoring of forests and facilitating research to advance forest science, economic development and technical services.



What do we do?

The Forestry Management Branch aims to develop and facilitate the implementation of policies and targeted programmes to ensure the sustainable use, development, and management of forests.

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Why we are here

Its core functions include ensuring sustainable forest management in the regions, ensuring effective development of arboriculture, commercial and urban forestry.

THE BRANCH CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING THREE SUB-PROGRAMMES, NAMELY:

State Forest Management and Post Settlement Support

Oversees the sustainable management of State Forests: administer state forests land, settlement of land claims and ensure the implementation of the National Forest Act (NFA) and the National Veld and Forest Fire Act (NVFFA) of 1998.

Forestry Development

Promotes forestry economic development, sector growth, transformation, and implementation of pro poor forestry programmes.

Forestry Policy Management

Formulates forestry policies, strategies, and frameworks to ensure effective development of the forestry sector.



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USING OUR FORESTS SUSTAINABLY

Our forests are under threat from people who are careless with our heritage. Never cut down a tree.



The National Arbor Month campaign is aimed at sensitising South Africans about the need to conserve, protect and plant trees for environmental and human related ideals. The idea is to highlight the value and importance of trees and forests to South Africans in general.

Green plants are a vital defence against climate change.



Trees give us nutritious foods, medicine, fresh air, clean water and places for recreation.

Forestry is estimated to contribute about 150 000 jobs in rural areas.



Trees absorb carbon dioxide and produce oxygen for us to breathe.



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NATIONAL ARBOUR MONTH

September

is Arbour Month in South Africa. It's when we raise awareness about the importance of trees, and encourage South Africans to protect indigenous forests and prevent veld fires.

Protect indigenous forests

- Prevent veld and forest fires

- Choose water-saving indigenous trees



Add fruit trees to your garden

- Use water-wise planting methods

- Plant a tree to combat climate change



What can I do to help protect trees?

There are many ways you can make a difference!



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How To PROTECT FORESTS AND PREVENT FIRES



If we all do our part, we can protect our forests for us all to enjoy!



Report fires immediately to the fire brigade or police.



Be careful with flammable materials.



Tell others about the importance of protecting our natural areas.



Don't light fires in the open during hot summer months.



Never cut down a tree in a natural forest.



Don't take any animals or plants without permission.



Never drive or walk into an area that is on fire.

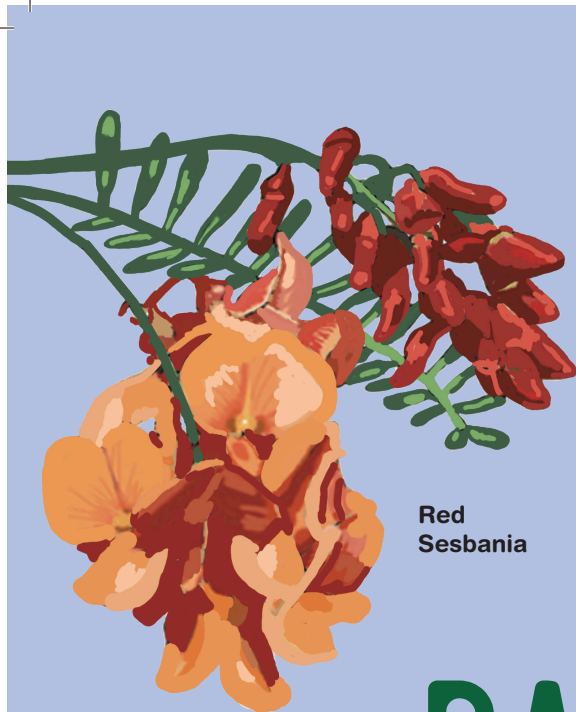


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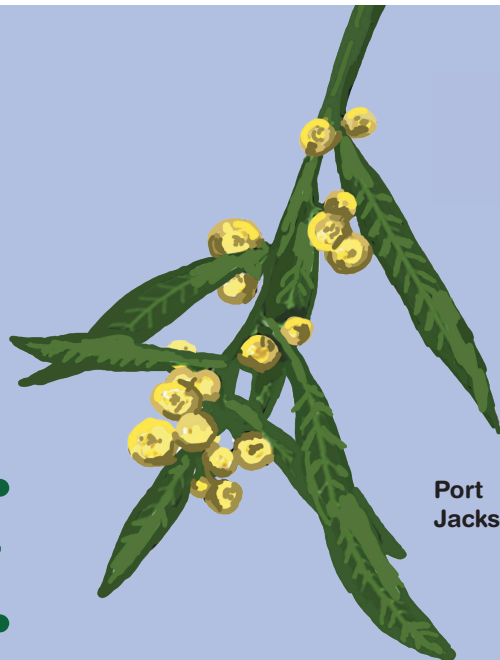
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Red
Sesbania



Port
Jackson

THE DANGERS OF INVASIVE SPECIES

Invasive species are plants, trees or animals from other places that spread quickly in new areas where they don't naturally belong.

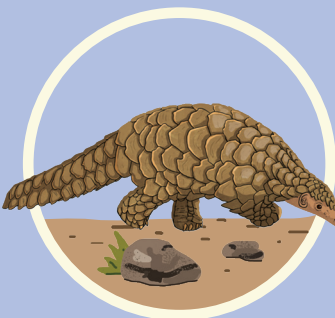
Why are invasive species bad for the environment?



**Increase
fire risks**



**Use
more water**



**Destroy
natural habitats**



**Make farming
more difficult**



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