

Kids in South Africa discover an awesome way to help wildlife: through a camera lens. Take a look!

Wild Hot Shots

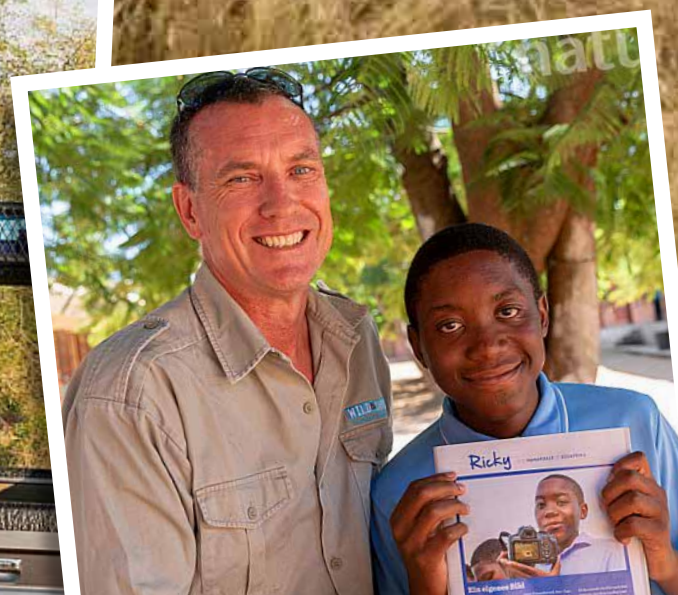
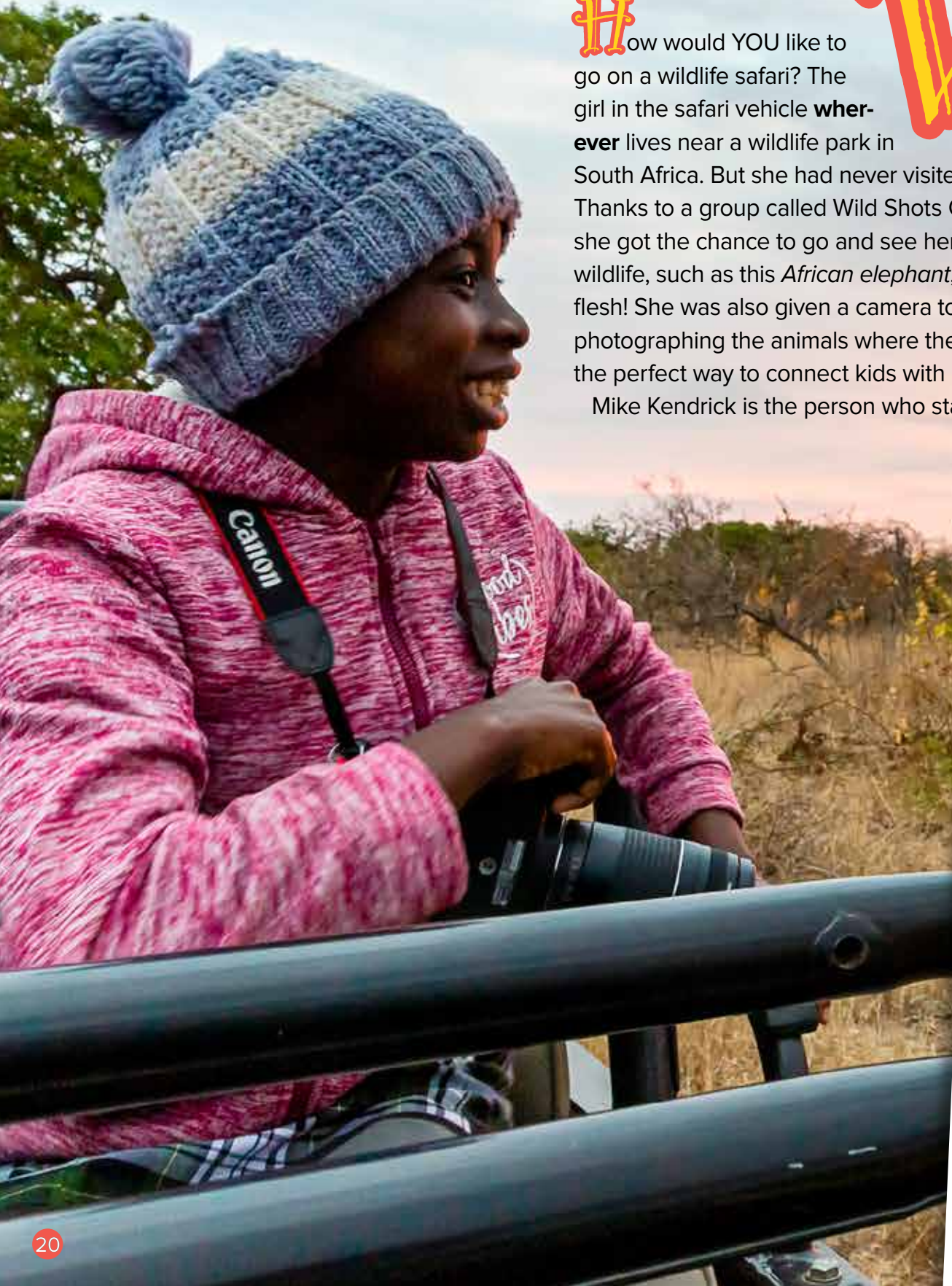


BY ELLEN LAMBETH

How would YOU like to go on a wildlife safari? The girl in the safari vehicle **wherever** lives near a wildlife park in South Africa. But she had never visited it before. Thanks to a group called Wild Shots Outreach, she got the chance to go and see her local wildlife, such as this *African elephant*, in the flesh! She was also given a camera to practice photographing the animals where they live. It's the perfect way to connect kids with nature!

Mike Kendrick is the person who started Wild

Shots Outreach. Here he is (at **wherever**) with a group of students, each with a camera and ready for their very first wildlife safari drive. And here he is again at **wherever** with Ricky Tibane, holding a kids' magazine in which he's featured. Turn the page for more about Ricky and to see his wildlife photo.



Meet just a few of the Wild Shots Outreach students sharing their wild shots.

RICKY TIBANE
Wildebeest

Check out this herd of *wildebeest*, seen in silhouette against low lighting. Ricky snapped this photo just as one kicked up some dust with its hooves. It's the photo that won a spot in another kids' magazine—and now in *Ranger Rick*!



WISANI NGWENYA
Cape Buffalo

This isn't your everyday cow! A Cape buffalo has huge, curved horns with sharp tips. You don't want to get in one's way! Wisani's photos have appeared in newspapers. And he went on to study filmmaking. He says, "I want to share my passion for wildlife and wild places with my community." And that's exactly what he's doing!



NOTHANDO MKHOMBO
African Elephant

This was Nothando's very first time on a safari drive, when they suddenly approached a herd of elephants. With her keen eye for detail, she decided to zoom in for this super-cool closeup. This wasn't her only Wild Shots adventure. She went on to help other kids succeed in the Outreach program.



CELEBRATE NYATHI
White Rhinoceros

Celebrate had never before seen wildlife like this mama rhino and calf. She took the photo during a Wild Shots Outreach safari drive. Celebrate was both excited and sad about the experience. Because there are way fewer rhinos now than before, she worried that this could be her first AND last sighting.



Reaching Out, Going Places, Making Strides...



VID?

Here's **Karabo Magakane** as a young student in the Wild Shots Outreach program. Like Nothando on the previous page, Karabo really wanted to zoom in on her subject. That's how she got the eye-to-eye elephant closeup **wherever**.

But she didn't stop there. She stuck with the program, helping new students along the way. She even became the assistant program leader, as seen **wherever** in her official "Wild Shots" T-shirt.

Karabo was also chosen as a 2022 Girls Who Click Ambassador. This honor allows her to continue her training with professional female conservation photographers. One day she may become a professional wildlife photographer herself.



Aim...Focus...CLICK!



Wouldn't you love to grab a camera and jump into the cruiser **wherever**? Just imagine rumbling through the savanna, on the lookout for big cats, colorful birds, grazing zebras, and more. Then—snap!—success.

Rifomo Mathebula, standing at far right, has done all that and much more. He's gone from student to assistant to

program leader of Wild Shots Outreach. His photos have appeared in his country's newspapers. His goal is to "connect young people with our natural heritage." And all that is most likely why he won the International Young Environmentalist of the Year for 2022! "We're the future of Africa's conservation," he explains.

Way to Go, Wild Shots! Ranger Rick salutes all these bright, young rising stars in the field of conservation photography. They're focusing on their local wildlife—and teaching the world. 🦊