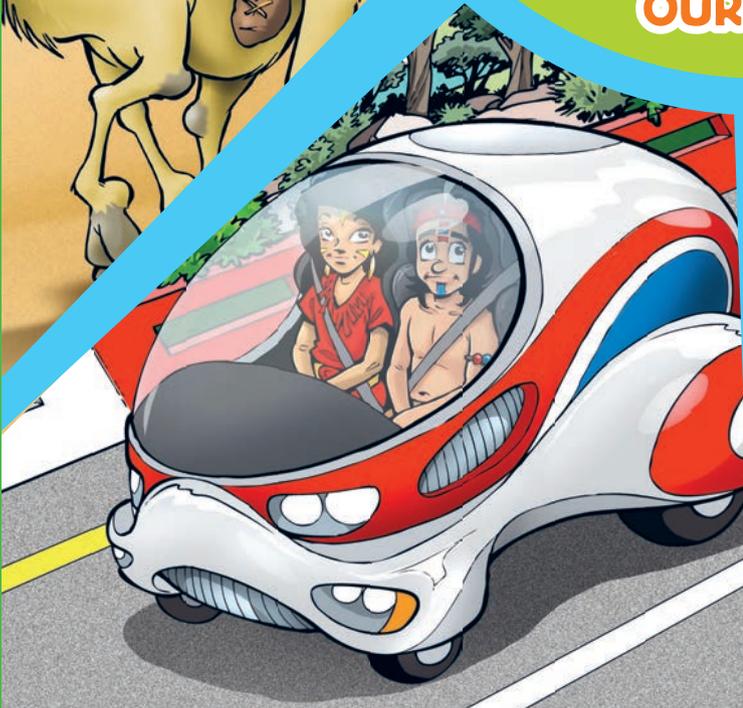
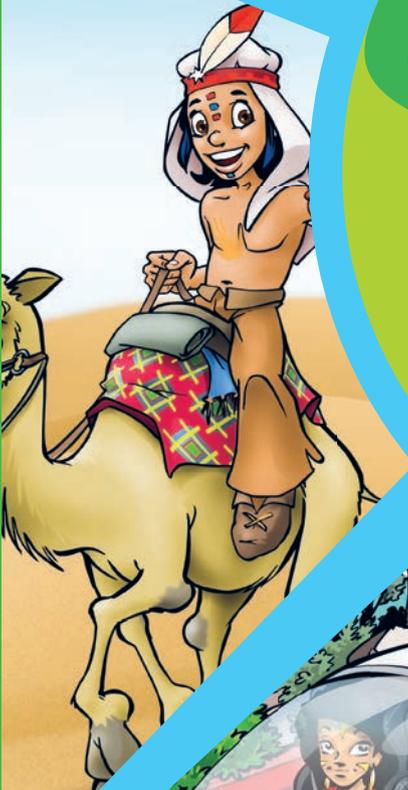




THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT

IF WE LEARN SOME
LESSONS FROM
OUR PAST



There are many **wild places** on Earth where it seems impossible for people to survive, but many do. Did you know the **Inuit and their sled dogs** can survive long, freezing Arctic winters? In Brazil, the Matis live high among the treetops, and the **Tubu women and children** of the Sahara thrive in the desert's soaring heat. These people make our **planet richer** and have lived for centuries according to lessons passed down through generations. **What can we learn from them?** >>>

GETTING ABOUT <<<



HUNTING AND GATHERING

Another way that we are hurting the planet is by consuming (that means buying or taking) way more than we actually need. Whether clothing, food or toys – the planet is bursting with landfills full of stuff that we throw away without a care. Indigenous people of the planet know that if they cut down a tree they will use every branch.

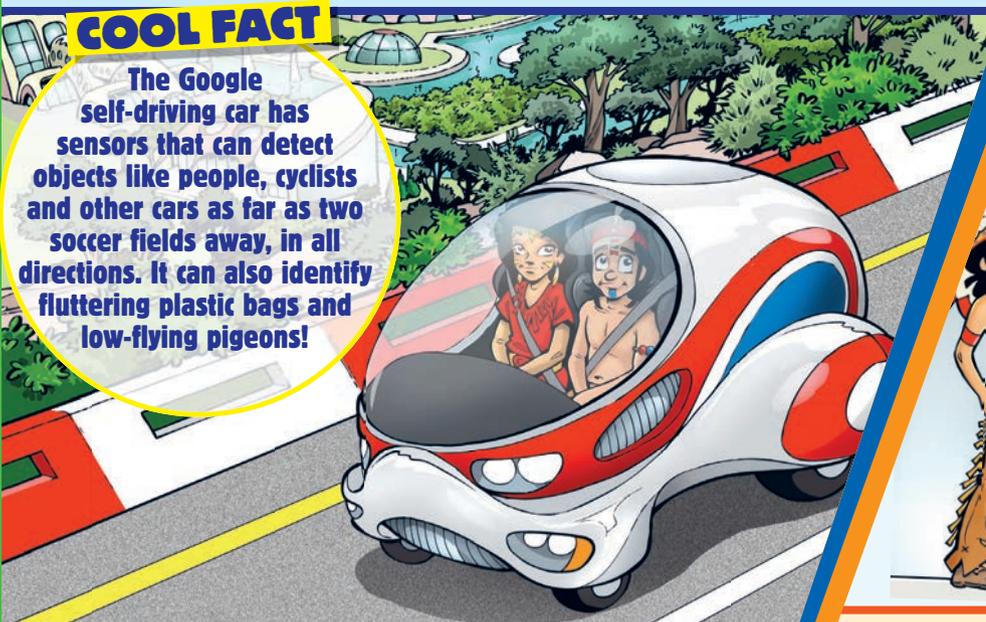
Although transport has become faster and easier, it hasn't been great for the environment. Exhaust fumes from cars and buses contain poisonous gases and the electricity for our modern trains needs a lot of coal to be burnt. What's more, when large tanker ships crash or sink, they pollute the ocean, killing fish and other marine life and covering our beaches with horrible, black oil. Because of this, clever people around the world are working towards creating different ways to get around. On page 12 we talk more about the electric cars that South African-born Elon Musk is developing, so check it out!

Self-driving cars are on their way and they may be the norm by the time you get your driver's licence (if you still need one in the future!). Google and some of the big car manufacturers have been working on prototypes of vehicles that drive themselves. Google wants to create something that will help everyone get around safely and easily, whether they are blind, very old or disabled.

Meet this awesome vehicle at waymo.com

COOL FACT

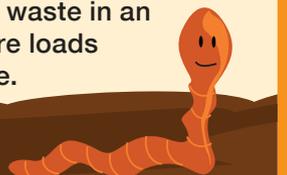
The Google self-driving car has sensors that can detect objects like people, cyclists and other cars as far as two soccer fields away, in all directions. It can also identify fluttering plastic bags and low-flying pigeons!



THE HUMBLE EARTHWORM

Vermiculture (say: verm-ee-cul-chir) means using earthworms to break down matter which is then used for organic farming and vegetable gardening. It's nature's way of recycling organic waste in an environmentally friendly way. There are loads of amazing earthworm farms available.

Simply google "worm farm za" to find a company near you!



WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

Organise lift clubs to and from school with your friends, ride your bike more often (remember to wear a helmet and stick to the rules of the road!) and join Spur's beach clean-ups to help protect our marine life!

FINDING SHELTER

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

Read up on these awesome ways to build houses and tell everyone you know! The more we get the word out, the more people will start to think differently about construction.



www.youtube.com/watch?v=2NNUQf4f3PA

If they hunt an animal, each part of that animal will be taken and put to good use. They understand something that many urban humans seem to have forgotten: the planet's resources will not last forever.

Imagine living in a tree house! The Korowai tribe of Papua in Indonesia's dense jungles live in houses built high above the ground. These treetop homes protect them from swarms of mosquitoes on the jungle floor, as well as any unfriendly neighbours or crawling, creeping and prowling predators.

Did you know there are many planet-friendly alternatives to brick? Many pioneers are exploring new ways to build homes. Lots of them are here in South Africa...

UMNYAMA IKHAYA is a cool company in the Western Cape making eco living pods that are awesome to look at and totally "off the grid", meaning they use gas and solar power instead of electricity. They also have a solar pump, waterless toilets and rainwater harvesting systems.

Check them out at www.umnyamaikhaya.co.za

THE ECO-BEAM SANDBAG SYSTEM uses bags full of sand as bricks, wedged between a wooden framework and then covered by plasterboard. It's the perfect cheap and secure way to build houses. The buildings look like any other when they are finished, except they are kinder to the planet and cost-effective too.

Find out more at www.ecosteps.co.za/sandbag-building

COOL FACT

South Africans create about 108 million tons of waste a year and 98 million tons of that is sent to landfills. Reducing this starts at home. You can begin by using "waste" items to create our cool crafts on page 26!

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

Pack a "litterless lunch". Seal your school snacks in reusable containers instead of cling film or wax paper. Pass on the toys you don't play with to those less fortunate and tell everyone what you are doing. The more people involved, the bigger difference you can make.

