

The Conservation Education Society's monthly newsletter.

Photo of the sea turtle 'egg' and spoon race at the Diani Sea Turtle Festival.



The Diani Sea Turtle Festival in 2021

In June, in partnership with the Marine Education Centre, we held our second Diani Sea Turtle Festival, hosted at Safari Alliance in Diani! The event took many months to prepare, but our hard work paid off on the 13th June, with the festival receiving 200 students, plus teachers. Each student received a free aluminum water bottle and was able to fill them up from the free water stations around the festival, all of which was donated by Aquelle. In addition, we had many people attend, from tourists, residents and community groups. There was much to do, from sand sculpture, arts and crafts competitions, to scavenger hunts, games, school performances and even a sea turtle 'egg' and spoon race. In addition, we had special guests join us, these being, Hon. Safina Kwekwe Tsungu, CBS Principal Secretary State Department for Tourism, and Paul Wambi (Kenya Wildlife Services), helping us give out the prizes at the award ceremony at the end of the day.

After over a year of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were thrilled to be able to offer this opportunity to the schools and communities in our area after having to cancel last year's festival. Making it an extra special day for us all, especially after the success of the first festival in 2019. Due to COVID-19 we ensured that masks were provided to anyone who needed one, that there were several sanitizing stations and all events were outdoors. Both ourselves and the Marine Education Centre are fully committed to growing the festival each year, currently being the only conservation awareness festival in Kwale county, and with many communities in Kwale heavily reliant on natural resources, we feel it is a vital event for the county.

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We would like to say a special thank you to our sponsors, the volunteers and anyone who attended, it was a great success and we look forward to hosting the third festival in 2022! To read the report, click on the link: <https://buff.ly/3dR7HFy>.



Photo top left: Some of the volunteers posing with one of the scavenger hunt activities. **Photo bottom left:** One of the many school performances. **Photo top right:** The artist, Polycap, posing with the main art piece. **Photo bottom right:** Main sponsors of the festival.

What We Have Been Up To in May & June!

In May and June, the Conservation Education Society has been working on several programmes, many in partnership with some amazing organisations. Here is what we have been up to;

- In early May, we received new products for the Marine Education Centre gift shop from a local organisation called Simply SOSO Design! They have reusable makeup remover pads, kitchen cloths and sponges, all made out of sustainable materials. Visit the Marine Education Centre to purchase today and take another step towards sustainable living.
- In late May, we visited our partner, The Kwale Recycling Centre (formerly known as Kwale Plastic Plus Collectors), depot site, where all recyclable trash is stored, after being collected from their bins in Diani. It is a time-consuming process, with a team at the ready to sort, clean and separate all trash that is collected. It was an educative visit, we were also able to collect items needed for the Diani Sea Turtle Festival main art piece.



Photos from top to bottom: Photos of the Soso Design products, which can be found in the Marine Education Centre's gift shop. Photo of the piles of trash collected by the Kwale Recycling Centre which will be recycled at a later date.

What We Have Been Up To in May & June Continued...

- June was a very busy month, with most of our efforts being directed to the Diani Sea Turtle Festival which was held on the 13th June. We are very happy to report that the day was a great success! Over 200 students attended the event, along with community groups, conservation organisations and Kwale residents! To review the report, go to <https://buff.ly/3dR7HFy>.
- In mid-June, Kelly Martin, Conservation Education Society's CEO, was gazetted as a KWS Honorary Warden. She attended the Kenya Wildlife Service inauguration meeting in Malindi. The Conservation Education Society looks forward to working closely with KWS on conservation education along the coast.



Photos above: Some of the newly appointed KWS honorary wardens at the inauguration meeting.

MARINE CLUB CORNER

Welcome back to the Marine Club Corner! Our special section for the members of the Marine Club!

Hello there! Join us in celebrating 6 months of the

Marine Club! It's been wonderful so far, and we look forward to many more!

In May, we explored the ocean food webs and provided information to marine clubbers on how different species rely on each other for survival.

We asked the Marine Clubbers to do their own research and draw out their own food webs and our star Layla had this to share (see pictures on right)!

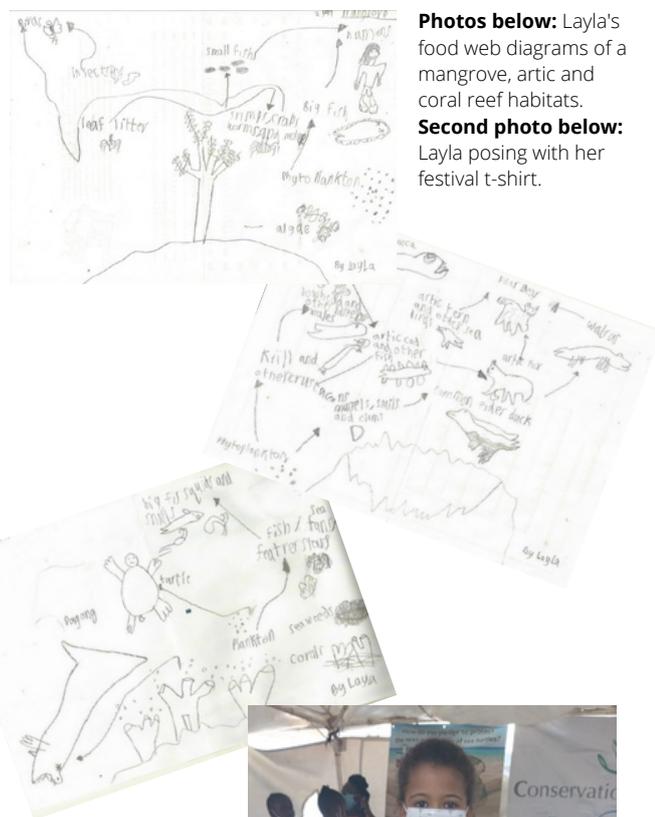
In celebration of World Sea Turtle Day, last month's topic was dedicated to these beautiful animals. Our team had some words to share about sea turtles, check it out here:

<https://youtu.be/fpYbRTJOybY>. Here is Layla's #SeaTurtlePledge: <https://youtu.be/BPaf1V6VY-0>.

Lastly, we were happy to see that Layla joined us at the Diani Sea Turtle Festival, as Layla is our most dedicated Marine Clubber, we gave her a free festival t-shirt (see photo on right)!

Don't miss out on all the fun, join the Marine Club today!

Simply click on this link <https://ceskenya.org/product-category/sponsorships/> and follow the prompts or alternatively contact us on campaigns@ces-kenya.org and we'll sort you out!



Photos below: Layla's food web diagrams of a mangrove, arctic and coral reef habitats. **Second photo below:** Layla posing with her festival t-shirt.



In partnership with



A special thank you to the following businesses, without them, our work would not be possible.



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Our Conservation Partners



The Marine Education Centre Opening Times

Monday	2pm - 5pm
Tuesday	2pm - 5pm
Wednesday	2pm - 5pm
Thursday	2pm - 5pm
Friday	2pm - 5pm
Saturday	2pm - 5pm
Sunday	2pm - 5pm



Remember

If you see a turtle nesting or an injured turtle, please contact Diani Turtle Watch on +254 758 961 322



Conservation Education Society

**The Sands at Nomad Hotel
Conservation Education Society/
Marine Education Centre
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