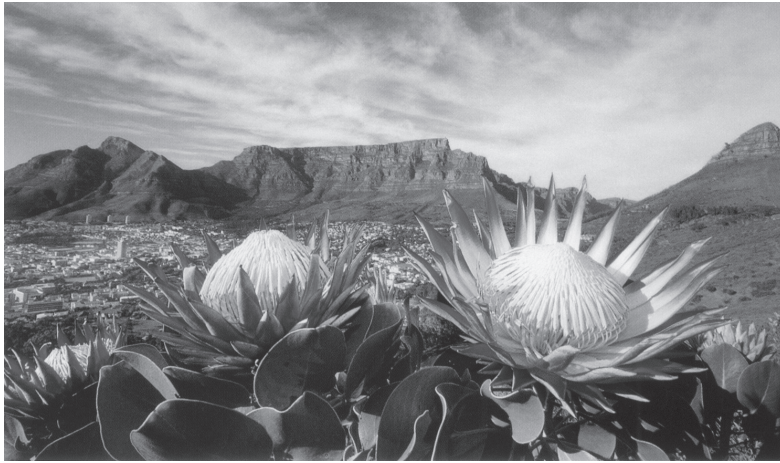


# SCIENCE EDUCATION

## facilitator's notes

### Floral Kingdom and Plants

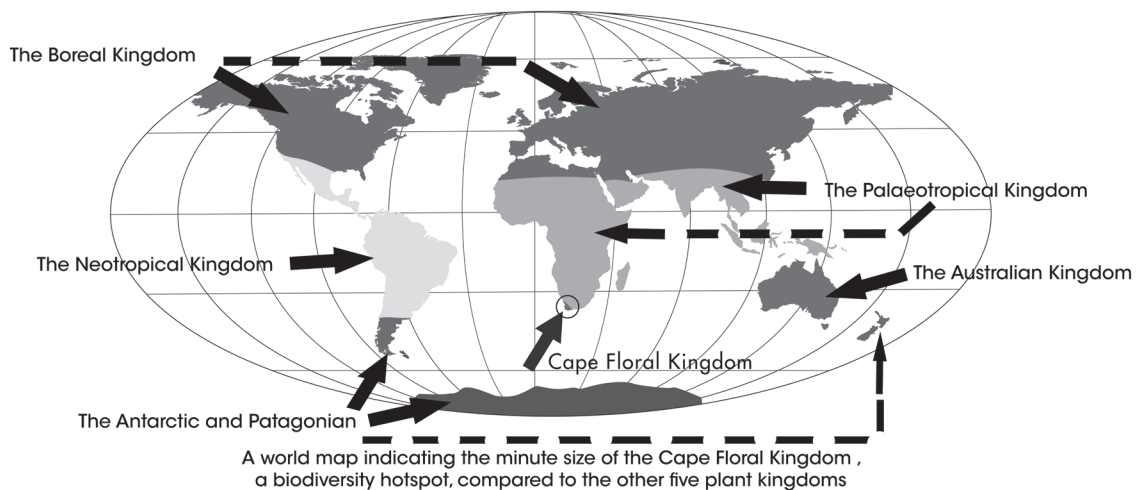


#### Purpose

In this worksheet, learners identify and locate the most important component in the Cape Floral Kingdom. In the process, learners research what the local government initiatives are to eradicate alien vegetation.

**Floral Kingdoms. What is it? Where does biodiversity arise from?**

#### WORLD FLORAL KINGDOMS



#### Background

The botanical world is divided into six different regions called Floral Kingdoms. These floral kingdoms cover the world's landmass. It consists of a concentration and a diversity of flora.

The main type of flora / vegetation on Table Mountain is the "fynbos". There are 270,000 types of plants on earth. Biodiversity is a collective term meaning the total variety of life on earth. It includes the genetic diversity within species, the variety among species and the range of ecosystems within which life exists and interacts. We also get biodiversity hotspots which is an area of rich biodiversity that faces serious threats to its existence.

A US focus group called Conservation International has produced a map of hotspots on the basis of their plant diversity and the impacts upon them. To be classified as a "hotspot" the area should harbour at least 1,500 plants and they must also have lost more than 70% of original natural vegetation to qualify as a hotspot. Below is a sample of hotspots.



# SCIENCE EDUCATION

## facilitator's notes

### IDENTIFIED HOTSPOTS

AREA	Original hotpot area(sq.km)	Hotspot area (sq.km)	Protected area (sq.km)	Total plant species	Total terrestrial vertebrate species	Total Vertebrates Under threat	Extinct Species since 1500
Cape Floristic Province	74,000	18,000	14,060	8,200	562	15	2
Guinean Forests Of West Africa	1,265,000	126,500	20,324	9,000	132	70	0
Central Chile	300,000	90,000	9,167	3,109	335	8	0
Madagascar – Indian Ocean Islands	594,150	59,038	11,548	12,000	987	123	46

### Preparation

1. Allow the learners sufficient time to identify the types of vegetation on Table Mountain.
2. Let learners research where the Cape Floral Kingdom stretches to and from.

### Procedure

1. Summarise information in preparing a handout for class including floral kingdoms, biodiversity, its hotspots, alien and invasive vegetation and how we can control this type of vegetation.

