



The display in Kirstenbosch

Reconnecting with NATURE

Working together to conserve wildlife and wild places

A new nature display for the South African National Botanical Gardens

Many years ago, Suquamish Chief Seattle wrote that 'The earth does not belong to man, man belongs to the earth. All things are connected.' And in those simple yet profound words, he brought back into consciousness the subliminal truth that we are all part of an interconnected and ever-changing collective whole within the earth's web of life.

This common thread that weaves its way through the dynamic fabric of life is resolute yet fragile and proffers the unspoken truth that if we harm the living world around us, ultimately we harm ourselves too. This can often seem an abstract concept, yet the collective impacts from our changing climate, our contaminated food and water, the earth's diminished wild places and disappearing wildlife will undoubtedly open our eyes to one of the greatest of life's truths – and that is that all our lives are intimately dependent on the healthy functioning of the earth's natural systems. Generations to come will experience an echo of all that we create, manifest and strive for today.

When we immerse ourselves in nature, be it a walk along a mountain path or on a windswept beach, we are invigorated by the experience and our spirits resonate with the earth energies around us, moving us forward in a positive and meaningful way, and reaffirming that we all need nature for both our spiritual and physical well-being.

The 'Reconnecting with Nature' signage display, created by Belinda Ashton of the Nature Connection and with support from the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust, Managed by BoE Private Clients, explores our relationship with nature and the growing imperative to live more consciously within our increasingly fragmented world.

The display features in each of the nine South African National Botanical Gardens, encouraging visitors to spend quiet reflective time reading the boards and assimilating a message of connection to our wider living world.

Like winds and sunsets, wild things were taken for granted until progress began to do away with them. Now we face the question whether a still higher 'standard of living' is worth its cost in things natural, wild and free. Aldo Leopold

- Kirstenbosch**
- Karoo Desert**
- Harold Porter**
- Hantam**
- Walter Sisulu**
- Pretoria**
- Free State**
- KwaZulu Natal**
- Lowveld**

With support from the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust, Managed by BoE Private Clients

INSPIRING A CONNECTION WITH WILDLIFE AND WILD PLACES

