

VERNON CRESSWELL

Natural Teamwork Lessons from Nature

From Bushveld to Boardroom

LEARN FROM OTHERS

I am always fascinated to see how we can learn from others – if we just pay a bit of attention...

On a recent game drive in the Sabi Sands I came across a tawny eagle perched high up in a knob thorn tree. It was early morning and he looked beautiful in the sun's rays. As I approached the tawny to get a decent picture, I failed to notice a white backed vulture in a different tree to my left. I was so fixated in the tawny and getting the picture that I only noticed it when it suddenly flapped its wings right next to me and flew away. To be honest, I got a good fright!

It was then that I put the puzzle together.... Seeing a tawny AND a vulture at the same time, and perched in trees in very close proximity to each other, I immediately realized that there was more to this sighting than just 2 beautiful birds. I put my binoculars down and scanned the area. There, about 15 metres to my left, was an adult cheetah who had just killed a waterbuck.



A cheetah on a waterbuck kill – eating silently while being watched by a tawny eagle and many white-backed vultures!

I have no doubt that I would have probably not seen the cheetah had it not been for the tawny. Tawny eagles often sit close to a kill. Then there was the vulture – an animal that often feeds on carcasses. Both together at the same time and in close proximity – there *had* to be a kill.

It was the tawny and vulture that found the kill for me. Their mere presence led me to conclude that it was worth searching for more.....



White backed vultures are often the first vultures to be on a kill. As soon as the cheetah moved off they moved in!

In our everyday interactions with those around us we often fail to notice our surroundings. We often fail to pick up the signs and interpret the signals. By looking a bit harder and by assessing a situation, I believe we would be led to "sightings" that we never knew existed. We can learn from others and be led to different conclusions and thereby make better decisions – all because we were prepared to learn from others.

Watch for the signs...

BOOK VERNON CRESSWELL TODAY!

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EXCITING BOOK

NATURAL TEAMWORK

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Learning lessons from nature



Vernon is the author of a truly remarkable book entitled "Natural Teamwork" which contains many wonderful examples of teamwork in nature – supported with beautiful colour pictures to illustrate each example. The book is an ideal corporate gift or handout at his talk or workshop

BUY NOW

Only R199



We sometimes assess a situation based on the information at our disposal – which is natural. However, better decisions are usually made when we look beyond the obvious and interpret what is going on around us. There are always "signs" that lead us to different conclusions – if we allow ourselves to be led!

DID YOU KNOW?

A giraffe's heart weighs about 12kg and beats an average of 65 times a minute. The walls of the heart are 8cm thick and need to be very strong to pump blood to the brain against gravity.

A giraffe's blood pressure is 2.5 times that of humans. The top part of the neck contains special arteries that control blood pressure to make sure the brain always has the correct quantity of blood when the giraffe lifts or lowers its head. These neck arteries have special "valves" that help control blood flow. That is why they don't faint when drinking!



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