

WATERLOOF PRIMARY SCHOOL

Natural Science & Technology Grade 6 Term 2 2020

MEMO for THE IMPORTANCE OF WETLANDS p96

1. The water flows very slowly through a wetland.
2. Wetlands provide habitats for a huge range of animal life – birds like weavers, ducks, waders etc, frogs, fish, as well as plants- reeds (like Phragmites) and water grasses. Wetlands support biodiversity.
3. Wetlands provide water for plants and animals.
4. Wetlands clean water, they act like filters and remove all the large debris (insoluble material). They improve the quality of water.
5. The bacteria on the roots and in the soil remove pollutants (soluble material) by changing them into harmless substances.
6. Wetlands act like giant sponges and absorb and store water.
7. Wetlands prevent flooding – they control the flow of the water during heavy rains.
8. In dry seasons wetlands help to keep rivers and streams flowing, providing water for downstream users.