*13th October 2019, 20 excited kids gathered around their computers to attend the first Webinar on the Wild Detectives: Wild Cats! Program launched by Mango Education and Zoo Outreach Organisation. A three month course that initiates the child into the exciting world of Discovery, Detection and Deduction. From map reading to poetry to interacting with experts in the field the kids have been busy. Here are a few examples from our very own Wild Rookie Detectives!

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Tiger tiger do not cry  
I have come to make you smile  
Nobodys there to take a try  
But, I will make you safe in time

You have seen life in the wild  
Go so oh hay wire  
Don’t fret, don’t panic  
Don’t worry in despair,  
Seeing your family helpless,  
I know its not fair.

The vast grasslands and thick forests  
That once were yours  
Are now fragmented and destroyed  
It’ll take a while to revive your home,  
But, I promise to give back what you rightfully Own!

-- Tvaritha B Ramapriya, 11 years, Bengaluru
Tigers are majestic and magnificent,
Without them, life on earth
cannot be independent
They maintain the food chain,
But we give them a lot of pain.
Shouldn’t we be thankful to them,
But instead we hunt them for our greed.
Are we to be blamed for their loss,
Or is there any other cause.
Let it roam freely,
So that the world becomes lively!

-- Samriddhi Kamatchi M, 16 years,
Coimbatore

Tiger Oh Tiger,
I know that you are in danger!
Because of our doing
And I’m so sorry.

Langurs, Gaur and Sambar you!
They are your favourite meal.
Grassland, wetlands and
tropical rainforest,
Is where you are seen.

-- Aarav Jain, 10 years,
Coimbatore

I’ll plant more trees,
For you to play.
Your favourite game
And that’s hide and seek!!
Cat
Striped, Nocturnal
Enchanting, Thrilling, Stalking
Master of disguise
Tiger!!
-- Esha Dinesh,
10 years, Bengaluru

Oh Dear Stripy tiger,
How are you today?
You decreased by thousands
Just from Aril to may.
Its us humans, we are to blame
You're few in number because of us,
We are killing you for claws
Your teeth, skin and furry fur.
I feel very sorry
Though many others are not
I wish this would end
And we have you not lost.
-- Hamsini Padmanabhan, 12 years, Hyderabad

TIGER
majestic, powerful.
they're almost destroyed
how will we stop? now?
-- Shivesh K Vickneswaran,
11 years, Coimbatore
Tiger
Oh so ferocious,
But unfortunately for them and us,
We only thought to shun.
For at that time,
it probably seemed fun,
To hate them more than Atilla the hun.

I highly disrespect this
and don’t want to say they are extinct.
And they I shall miss.
Now, that ain’t the main reason
It’s the permanent summer season,
It’s taking a toll,
Both us and the tigers are struggling,
To go on a stroll,
Rats now only stay in their holes,
So now, we know the problem,
What are we waiting for,
Let’s solve it!

-- Anokh Kasibhat,
10 years, Bengaluru

Tigers
Majestic, Fierce
Trying to live
Help save it
Before it disappears

-- Smrithi Vijaykumar,
11 years, Bengaluru

Deep and dark are the woods
Where have you been O my tiger
Come and make this forest Joyful and Bright
For I will be waiting for you

-- Dhanya Saishree M,
14 years, Coimbatore
Tigers are in danger
Even though that sounds weird
The species is getting over
And forests are getting cleared

Humans want big cities
And homes just as pretty
So they take the tiger’s habitat,
Somebody save the big cat!

All around there are poachers
Hunting the tigers
Just so they could get richer
But what about the tiger?

-- Jahanvi Kartik, 12 years,
 Hasimara, West Bengal

This animal is a very
endangered cat
It is nothing to keep
under one’s hat
(not to keep a secret).

It’s population is
rapidly on a decrease
It’s going down
really fast piece by piece.

Now it’s your turn
You save them
Stop tiger endangerment
And be their gem
That’s all i have for you
In my poem.

-- Jayant Kartik, 10 years,
 Hasimara, West Bengal

Hundred years ago,
they were about a lakh
How i wish I could
turn the clock back.
Carnivore
Fierce, solitary
Hunt kill animal
Meat eater in jungle!
Save!

-- Dhanwanth Saai N,
12 years, Coimbatore

Fast, Majestic
Space to live
Need our help immediately
HELP!

-- PP Sharadha,
12 years, Trichy

The majestic Indian cat king
Walks with a proud swagger,
And a swing
He used to roam around proudly,
Though now still majestic,
He appears cowardly.
His skin was for the highest bid.
That’s why the tiger ran away and hid
Please give this mighty animal
A chance at life and survival.

-- Shreya Venkatesh,
14 years, Chennai

Burning Stripes
Wild
Powerful Elegant
Hunted by part
Stop this utter madness
Immediately!

-- Meera Sanjiv,
12 years, Chennai