

KIDS' CORNER

Five beautiful warm neutrals have been used to create this hugely appealing safari-themed room for little dreamers and adventurers

Created and styled by Vanessa Nouwens. Photography by Wendy Fenwick.



PAINT Walls: Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen in Resene Colins Wicket. **Battens:** Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen in Resene Truffle. **Floor:** Resene Walk-on in Resene Half Fossil. **Drawers:** Resene Lustacryl in Resene Stack, Resene Half Fossil, Resene Twine, Resene Triple Truffle. **Stool:** Resene Triple Truffle. **CREDITS** Hideout king single **bed**, \$1099, Expedition **canopy**, \$349, Soleil euro **pillowcase**, \$54.95, Luca Lion **throw**, \$54.95, Nomu **pouf**, \$159, Bakir **rug**, \$549, Rogue **bird of paradise**, from \$99, Meeko **basket**, \$129, Luca Lion **mat**, \$74.95, Elephant **hanging**, \$54.95, from Freedom. Home Republic stonewash silver double **duvet cover**, \$149.99, and **pillowcase**, \$44.99 for 2, from Adairs. Ila Y Ela lion **hanging**, \$199, poster **hanger**, \$19, from Little Whimsy. Wooden **hamburger**, \$9, Dalia round **cushion** (floor), \$8, Bondi **cushion** (floor), \$12, **Another Book About Bears**, \$12, **shelves** (painted by us), \$9 each, from Kmart. Lily & George Arthur **lion**, \$39.99, Tinge **alarm clock**, \$39.99, from Shut The Front Door. Gaussian **vessels**, \$119 two-tier, \$149 three-tier, from Citta. Ply 3D **animal** and **vehicle**, \$5 each, from Warehouse Stationery. Living & Co potted **succulent**, \$12, from The Warehouse. Zoo World **colouring book**, \$16.95, from Henry & Co. Other items stylist's own.

Who says neutral colours are too dull for a child's room? This safari scheme is a fantastic example of using a palette not typically seen in kids' spaces and layering it with textured furnishings to create a fun and inviting room.

We took five key colours – a beautiful warm ochre green for the walls, a silken beige grey on the floor, soft tawny yellow and a couple of richer greys, one with a tinge of truffle brown – and repeated them through the room, including on some of the furniture, for a cohesive feel.

To give interest to the walls, we painted six 10mm x 40mm wooden battens in Resene Truffle and placed them in pairs, 4cm apart (we attached them to the studs using countersunk batten screws, then filled the holes with filler and gave them another coat of paint).

To begin our safari theme, we chose this fabulous bed and canopy which immediately conjures up visions of sleeping under canvas, listening to the sounds of animals at the water hole. Low to the ground, this king single bed also makes a great play area. Simply unroll the flaps to create a tent, cubby house, cave etc.

A nice big rug is essential on an uncarpeted floor, with floor cushions and a pouf adding extra comfort. The pendant, basket and pouf in natural fibres blend with the colour scheme and fit our out-in-the-wild vibe, as do a few pots of luxuriant greenery (we chose faux plants as a mess-free option for young children). Cute animal toys and a few lion-themed touches finish it all off and set the scene for plenty of safari adventures.



DISPLAY WALL

We created an eye-catching display area by painting three shapes onto the wall opposite the bed, using colours taken from the room (we also repeated those hues on a secondhand chest of drawers).

The 60cm square (Resene Half Fossil) is 1.6m off the floor; the 60cm-diameter circle (Resene Twine) is 1.2m off the floor; and the 60cm x 30cm semi-circle (Resene Triple Truffle) is 80cm off the floor. We then painted the same Kmart shelf in matching colours and screwed them onto their respective shapes.

As a final touch, some fun wall hangings – a rattan elephant and raffia lion – supply further rich texture and of course tie in with the safari theme.



RESENE COLINS WICKET

RESENE TRIPLE TRUFFLE

RESENE HALF FOSSIL

Resene

the paint the professionals use

All the colours seen here are from the Resene Total Colour System. Paints and colours are available from Resene ColorShops and resellers nationwide. resene.co.nz/colorshops or 0800 RESENE (737 363).