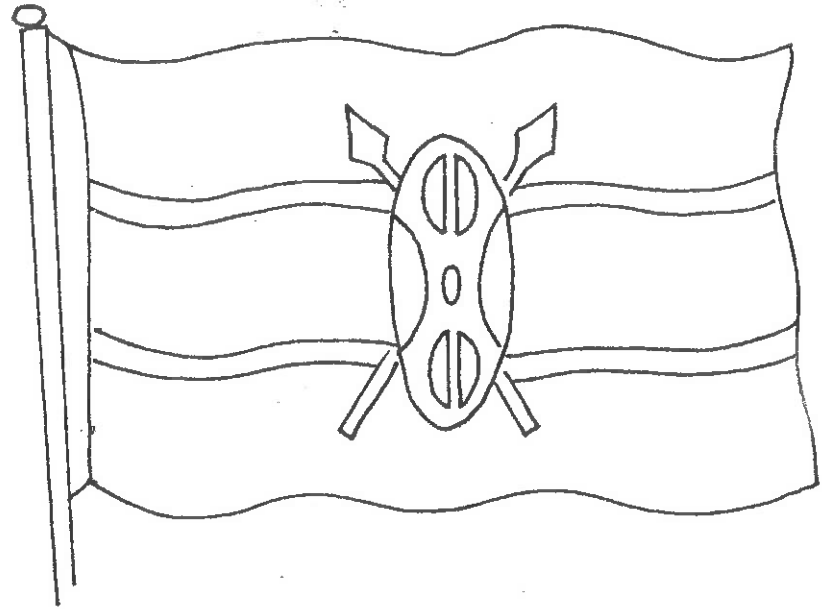


Kenya

Kenya is a land of wild animals. It is on the continent of Africa. On the map, you can find it south of Ethiopia and north of Tanzania.

The capital city of Kenya is Nairobi. Mombasa is another city in Kenya. The people who live in Kenya are called Kenyans. The people in Kenya speak Swahili and English. The flag of Kenya has black, brown, green, and white stripes. There is a shield with spears in the middle of it. Kenya has its own kind of money called shillings.



Kenya does not have big factories. The things that are made in small factories are kept in Kenya. They do not sell goods to other countries. Tourism is their biggest industry. Farmers grow coffee, corn, tea, grains, cotton, and sisal. Gold, limestone, salt, sapphires, and garnets are mined in Kenya.

Kenya does export one product. It is called sisal. Sisal is used to weave string and rope.

There are more than forty tribes in Kenya. Several tribes live in the desert areas. These people raise animals and are nomads. They travel from place to place to find grass for the animals. There are doctors in Kenya who drive vans all over to take care of these people if they get sick. The vans are called mobile clinics.

Most of the people live in the highest plateaus and mountains where they farm the land. The British used to own large plantations in Kenya. They do not live there anymore. The Kenyans have divided the large plantations into small farms. They do not believe in growing more than they need to eat.

Every day, planeloads of tourists come to Nairobi. The visitors are driven in jeeps to wild animal parks. There they can ride through the park and take pictures. They see lions, elephants, giraffes, and all the other animals that used to roam free. The animals have been put in the parks to protect them from hunters. The elephants especially were in danger. The hunters wanted to sell the ivory tusks of the elephants. More visitors come to Kenya than any other African country.

BONUS: The tusks of elephants are made of ivory. On a separate sheet of paper, write a report about ivory.

Kenya

Capital City: Nairobi

Main Languages: Swahili, English and tribal languages

Currency: Kenyan Shilling

Area: 224,081 sq. mi. (580,367 sq. km.)

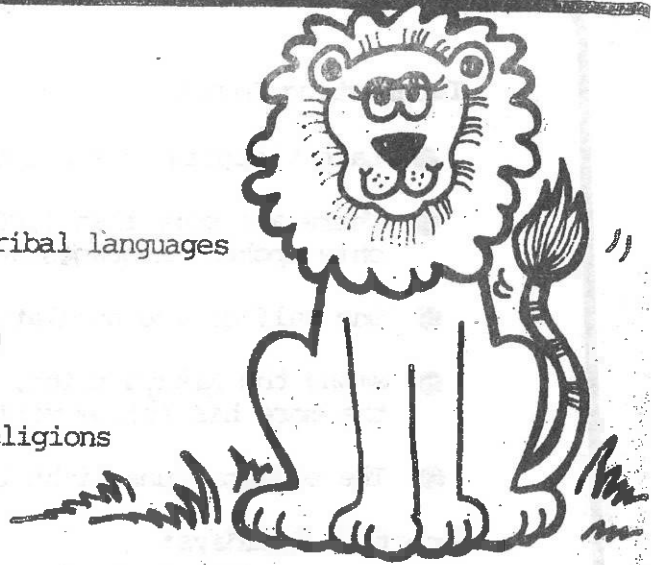
Population: 23,000,000

Main Religions: Christian and tribal religions

Government: Republic

People: Kenyans

Flag: The black stripe on the Kenyan flag stands for the majority of the people, the red for independence and the green for agriculture. The thin white stripes represent the non-African minorities. A traditional African shield is pictured in the center.



The people of Kenya consist of many different African tribes as well as Arabs, Europeans and Indians. The Kikuyus are the largest tribe of Kenya. Legend has it that a great tribal god, Ngai (Divider of the Universe,) created the sacred Mount Kenya and gave its fertile highlands to the Kikuyus. Kenya was named for Mount Kenya. Today, most of the people live in this prosperous region or near the shores of Lake Victoria or the Indian Ocean.

In 1887, Europeans first came to the area of Kenya. At that time, the land was ruled by the Sultan of Zanzibar. Great Britain established communities in Zanzibar and on the coasts of Kenya. Their claimed area also included Uganda.

Kenya was the stage for several wars of liberation including the Mau Mau Rebellion. In 1963, Kenya became independent and Jomo Kenyatta was declared the first prime minister. With his leadership, Kenya proved to be one of the strongest African nations.

Farming and ranching are Kenya's main occupations. It is not unusual for a young warrior to defend his family's cattle from the attack of a lion. The dry plains of southwest Kenya is home to many wild animals. Much of the wildlife is protected in several large national parks.

Many of the people of the plains region still live in small villages with mud huts and no modern conveniences. However, the capital city of Nairobi is a modern metropolis with tall buildings and up-to-date services.

Interesting Facts:

- Lake Victoria is the third largest lake in the world at 26,828 sq. mi.
- There are more than 1,000 different languages in Africa. Many are only spoken languages and have no written form.
- One half of the population of Kenya is less than 16 years old.
- Among the Kikuyu tribe, the more ornaments a man wears on his ears, the more his fellow villagers will respect him.
- The equator runs right through the middle of Kenya.

Important Holidays:

- December 12th is Kenya's Independence Day or "Jamhuri Day." This festive day commemorates the proclamation making Kenya a republic in 1963.
- The largest agricultural and technological fair in Africa is held in October in the capital city of Nairobi. It is an honor for farmers to be chosen to display prize potatoes, carrots and cattle.
- June 1st is "Madaraka Day" or Self-Rule Day. It is observed as a national holiday.

Famous People:

- In 1963, President Jomo Kenyatta led the country to independence from British rule. His slogan was "Harambee," swahili for "Let all pull together."
- Daniel arap Moi became the second president of Kenya in 1978.

Some Things To Do:

- Teach your students these Swahili phrases; "Jambo" (Hello,) "Kwaheri" (Goodbye) and "Asante" (Thank you.)
- Introduce your students to several tropical fruits such as papaya, pineapple and guava.
- As an art project, have students make their own African shields and decorate them in various ways.