

AMAZING AFRICAN ANIMALS Printable resources

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Display the image above. Of all the animals in the world, these amazing African animals are some of the most loved and the best known. This image includes a lion, leopard, rhino, elephant and buffalo – which are sometimes referred to as the 'Big Five'. Talk with children about the 'Big Five' and see if they can identify them in the image. Ask children why they think they are known as the 'Big Five'. Is it due to their power and strength or because they are the biggest, tallest, fastest animals in the world?

Talk about endangered animals and what we can do to help. Talk about the African national parks and wildlife reserves such as the Serengeti and the Masai Mara and other centres where endangered animals can live safely. You might like to discuss how Africa is a continent made up of lots of different countries.

Books

- Elmer by David McKee
- Five minutes' peace by Jill Murphy
- Giraffes can't dance by Giles Andreae
- The magic goat by Meshack Asare

Well-known songs and chants

- I went to the animal fair
- One elephant went out to play

Vocabulary

Africa, African, continent, countries, Ghana, Ghanaian, Sotho, Kenya, Mozambique, 'Big Five', Serengeti, animals, national park, game reserve, elephant, hippopotamus, giraffe, buffalo, lion, leopard, hyena, wildebeest, jackal, rhinoceros, zebra, ostrich, gorilla, snake, monkey, cheetah, vulture, hut, village, rural, tile roofs, watering hole, mask, ancestors.







Look around your home to see if you can find anything that is connected to Africa.

It may be a toy animal, an atlas with a map of Africa or something else.

Take a photograph to share with your friends.





In East Africa, Wiley the Wildebeest and his family were looking for a new home for the summer. They walked all day and all night to find the perfect place to live. As they walked, Wiley heard a howling noise in the distance. He was curious and went to investigate what it could be. He ventured across the river and up the hill, where he saw two scary-looking jackals with sharp teeth and sharp claws and covered in dirt and dust. These hungry jackals were scavenging for their next meal. They noticed Wiley straight away, and started tiptoeing towards him. Wiley ran away as fast as he could! But, when he made it back, his family had gone!

Wiley was all alone and it was raining hard. He was wet and miserable. He spotted a small cave and decided to go there to hide from the jackals. As he got closer, he saw a hippo about his size blocking the door. "Please let me in," said Wiley. "I want to hide from those jackals." "Of course!" said the hippo, and she moved to let Wiley in. "Hello, I'm Hanifah" said the hippo, "I'm hiding from the jackals too. Let's stay here tonight – then will you help me get back to the watering hole tomorrow?" The two spent the night together, comforted by the familiar sound of the croaking crickets, and took turns at sleeping and keeping watch.

As the sun rose, the light spread across the land of the Serengeti showing them the wonders of their home. The birds were singing the loveliest songs and the bees were buzzing in the whispers of the wind. They discovered a dirt road and followed it. Suddenly a loud "ROARRR" broke the silence! Out popped a cute lion cub, who said, "Hello, I am Luki. Are you off on an adventure? Can I join you?" Wiley and Hanifah gladly welcomed the lion cub.

All of a sudden, they noticed that the jackals had returned, with what seemed like an army of others. Luki stood in front of Wiley and Hanifah, ready to fight them bravely. Luki let out a deafening roar, which seemed to come from a much bigger lion. The jackals were terrified and scurried away. Wiley, Hanifah and brave Luki gave a sigh of relief and continued on their way.

The African heat beat down on the three friends and they were starting to lose hope. But then they saw a giant giraffe grazing on a tree. They called out to her and she brought her long neck down to their level so that they could get on. From the giraffe's neck they could see the entire Serengeti – even the watering hole. Then, Wiley gave a burst of excitement: "Look over there! My family are at your watering hole, Hanifah. We've found them!"

They thanked the giraffe and ran all the way to the watering hole. Wiley's family were so happy to see him and told him how worried they had been. Hanifah jumped into the water and gave her mum a big hug. The wildebeest, the hippo and the lion cub became the best of friends.

Ava Joseph





Mangwane mpulele ke nelwa ke pula, Mangwane mpulele ke nelwa ke pula, Mangwane mpulele ke nelwa ke pula, Mangwane mpulele ke nelwa ke pula.

Le fa dile pedi le fa dile tharonka nyala mosadi, Le fa dile pedi le fa dile tharonka nyala mosadi, Le fa dile pedi le fa dile tharonka nyala mosadi, Le fa dile pedi le fa dile tharonka nyala mosadi. Mpulele, mpulele, mpulele ke nelwa ke pula, Mpulele, mpulele, mpulele ke nelwa ke pula, Mpulele, mpulele, mpulele ke nelwa ke pula, Mpulele, mpulele, mpulele ke nelwa ke pula.

Translation

Aunty, open the door, the rain is pouring down on me. Whether you have two [cows], whether you have three [cows], that's enough to get married. Open the door, the rain is pouring down on me.







Come to the Serengeti, Who's out in the grasslands today? Come to the Serengeti, Where all the animals play!

Can you see over there, A lion in the sun? When it gets colder We'll all have some fun!

Come to the Serengeti, Who's out in the grasslands today? Come to the Serengeti, Where all the animals play!

Can you see over there, An elephant in the sun? When they spray us with water We'll all have some fun!

Come to the Serengeti, Who's out in the grasslands today? Come to the Serengeti, Where all the animals play!

Can you see over there, A monkey in the sun? When they swing in the trees We'll all have some fun!

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Come to the Serengeti, Who's out in the grasslands today? Come to the Serengeti, Where all the animals play! They play!













Mud huts in rural Kenya



Brick house in Mozambique



Houses with red tile roofs, Ghana

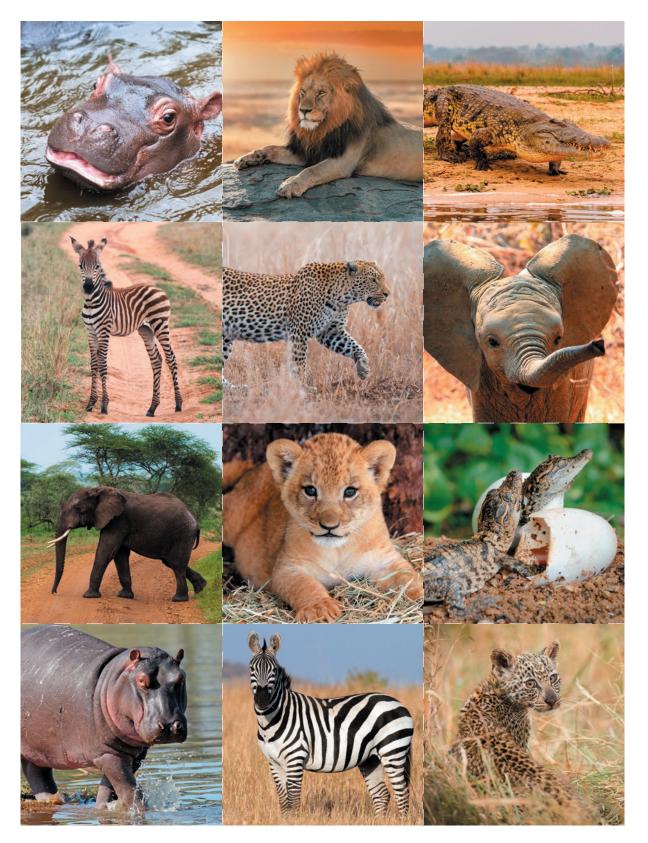












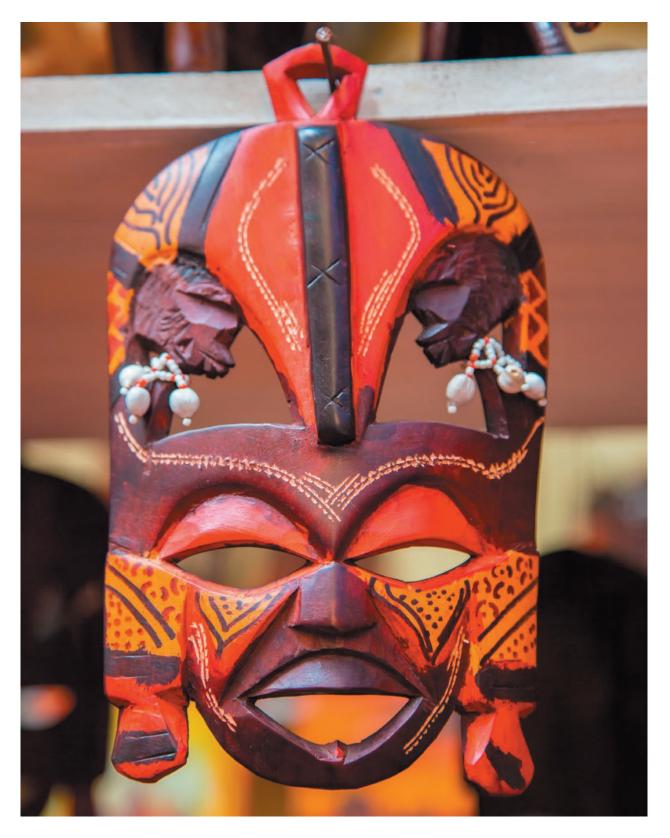






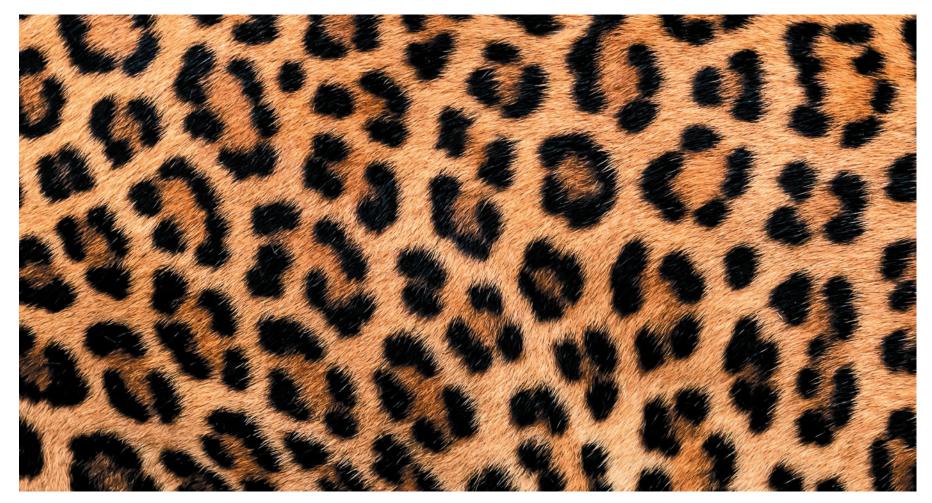
























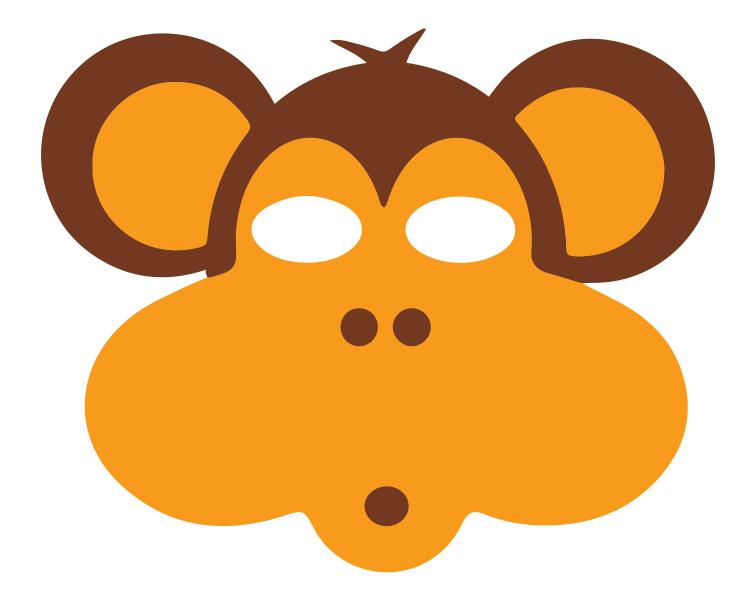


































Credits

Story

Searching in the Serengeti by Ava Joseph © 2021 HarperCollinsPublishers Ltd

Songs

Mangwane mpulele: traditional Botswanan, arranged by Otto Gumaelius © 2021 HarperCollinsPublishers Ltd

Come to the Serengeti by Ava Joseph © 2021 HarperCollinsPublishers Ltd

Images

Amazing African animals image: Susan Schmitz/Shutterstock

Home learning animals: Kolpakova Daria/Shutterstock

Dwellings in African countries: mud huts – Dr Darren Davis/Shutterstock; simple house – Sopotnicki/Shutterstock; residential area – Nataly Reinch/Shutterstock

Come to the Serengeti song instruments: Frog – nang nang/Shutterstock.com; others – Studio Light and Shade/Shutterstock.com

African animals and their babies: lion cub – JetKat/Shutterstock; lion – Suntichai Boottasen/Shutterstock; baby elephant – Paula French/Shutterstock; elephant – Lubomir Chudoba/Shutterstock; baby leopard – Stu Porter/ Shutterstock; leopard – Stu Porter/Shutterstock; baby hippo – Nazzu/ Shutterstock; hippo – MartinMaritz/Shutterstock; baby zebra – Joanna Rigby-Jones/Shutterstock; zebra – Mogens Trolle/Shutterstock; baby crocodiles – dioch/Shutterstock; crocodile – Anton_Ivanov/Shutterstock

Traditional Samburu women in Kenya: hecke61/Shutterstock

Mask on sale in Kenya: njbfoto/Shutterstock

Animal fur: leopard – TigerStocks/Shutterstock; zebra – Vita Serendipity/ Shutterstock; cheetah – Koilee/Shutterstock; giraffe – bonga1965/Shutterstock

Animal faces: jennylipets/Shutterstock

