

A Barefoot Lesson Idea

Design a Kanga, a Wrap with Meaning!

A BAREFOOT ART, WORLD CULTURES, LITERACY AND MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE LESSON FOR AGES 6 – 9

Kangas are beautiful versatile pieces of cloth that you can wrap around yourself in whatever way you want; try using as a towel, a sheet or even a curtain. At the bottom of every kanga is a proverb to remember and bring a little wisdom to your busy life!

WHAT TO FIND

- A piece of cloth like a towel, sheet or curtain
- A potato
- A stamp pad
- A knife or stamp-carving tools

WHAT TO DO

1. Share some simple Swahili proverbs with the children and explain what they mean.
2. Look at how kangas are decorated with flowers, shapes and colors.
3. Plan how you want to decorate your kanga and choose your proverb. Remind the children that they are going to print their cloth and the simplest patterns will work best.
4. Design a simple print shape on a tile or a potato.
5. Stretch out your piece of cloth and leave space for the banner with the proverb across the bottom of your kanga.
6. Ink up your print and off you go!

Some Swahili proverbs

Atakae hacholi – A person who needs something doesn't get tired

Chanda chema huvikwa pete – A favorite finger gets the ring

Dunia duara – The earth is round (What goes round, comes round)

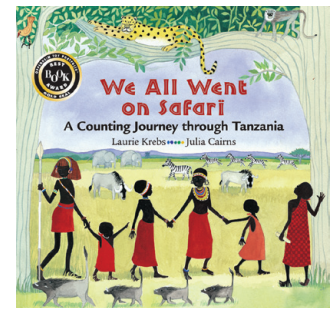
Haraka haraka haina baraka – More haste, less speed

Kawia ufike – Better late than never

Zawadi ni tunda la moyo – A gift is a fruit from the heart



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We All Went on Safari

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