

# Life in Africa

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**GRADE LEVEL:** 4-6

**SUBJECT AREA:** Geography

**OBJECTIVES:** Students will understand the differences in regions, geographic locations, flora and fauna.

## Procedure:

When you are studying Africa, there are special, geographical features of the continent, such as the Congo River. Africa has distinctive geographical features just as the places where you and your students live.

- First, take a specific area in Africa, such as the Sub-Sahara. Have students research and list the distinctive features of that area, such as rivers, lakes, deserts, etc. Then find specific plants and animals that are native to that region.
- Next, ask the students to describe distinctive areas in their region. Are there special bodies of water? Is there a special park? Are there any region specific plants or animals? Have your class make a list of what they consider distinctive about your region.
- Now the class has two completely different regions in the world. Make a chart that compares the two regions. What similarities do they see? What are the differences? Do the geographic areas have an impact on lifestyles?
- Students will create a mural by:
  1. Taking the distinctive areas from Africa, depicting the land, flora and fauna
  2. Selecting the region from their home area and include the land, flora and fauna
  3. Making a comparison mural showing the differences in land, flora, and fauna



## SUGGESTED READINGS:

### Africa

Yvonne Ayo. Photographed by Ray Moller and Geoff Dann. New York: Knopf, 1995

- Learn about the geography of this vast continent and its people. Did you know that this huge continent is a land of deserts, savannas, mountains, waterfalls, and forests?



### Africa

Colm Regan. Austin, Texas: Raintree Steck-Vaughn, 1997

- Study the countries of Africa and learn their geography, their history, resources, environment, and about the people.

### The Sahara and Its People

Simon Scoones. New York: Thomson Learning, 1993

- This book will show you what it's like to live in the Sahara desert. Read about the natural environment, how people trade across the desert, how they try to grow crops, and more.

## WEB LINKS:

### **Africa: Country-Specific Pages**

Locate separate pages for almost every African country here. The site leads to maps and other important information.

[http://www.sas.upenn.edu/African\\_Studies/Home\\_Page/Country.html](http://www.sas.upenn.edu/African_Studies/Home_Page/Country.html)

### **Wonders of Wildlife**

Africa's animals and habitats are treasures appreciated all over the world. This site focuses on three: the mountain gorilla, the African Rhino, and the elephants of Amboseli.

<http://www.awf.org/animals/index.html>

