



Activities at Home

Project: ‘Celebrations’

Dear Parents,

The activity for week: 7 beginning: 18th October

Is: ‘Celebrating Traditional Cultures’

The activity we will be covering involves:

- **Discussing the African continent, looking at it on a map and exploring the many different people and animals that you can find across it**
- **Learning that while many people in Africa live lives similar to our own, some people choose to live more traditionally**
- **Exploring the Maasai tribe and creating some of our own Maasai masks.**

Our activity includes:

- **Sharing our own knowledge of Africa and locating it on a map and a globe before watching a short video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSYHMYmyVfo>) and discussing it together. Did anything in the video surprise anyone? Can someone remember a fact from the video that they didn't know before?**
- **Exploring Kenya. We will discuss how lots of people in Kenya live just like we do, but some people who live there choose to live more traditionally. One group of people who choose to live traditionally are the Maasai tribe.**
- **Looking at some Maasai traditions and aspects of Maasai culture**
- **Looking at the masks created by the Maasai, learning about why they are an important element of Maasai culture and having a try at making our own!**

Additional activities to be made available to the children during free-flow:

As October is Black History Month, opportunities for children to explore the diverse African culture will be made available throughout this time. This will include:

- The use of both fiction and non-fiction books that allow children to explore different aspects of black culture and black history
- Craft activities including making Kwanzaa bead necklaces out of pasta, using traditional colours of black, red and green
- Making collar necklaces
- Making Khamisa Hands
- Exploring African wildlife through small world activities

You might wish to help your child to explore this topic at home or when you are out and about. Please feel free to approach the teachers for further explanations.

Our suggested activities are:

- Explore Caribbean culture by making Johnny cakes. My favourite way to explore different cultures and get a feel for them is by exploring their food! Johnny cakes are deep fried, so should be given in moderation and as a treat! The recipe is also simple enough for children to join in with making the batter. Make a batter from 3 cups of all-purpose flour, 2 tablespoons granulated sugar, 1 tablespoon baking powder, 1 teaspoon salt, 2 ½ tablespoons unsalted butter and water, and deep fry in vegetable oil.
- Share the story *Handa's Surprise*. This is a wonderful way to explore wildlife, fruits that grow in parts of Africa, traditional tribal dress and how some people in Africa dress
- African culture does not mean safari! Think about exploring North African culture with your child, for example exploring Egypt. Children LOVE learning about pyramids and mummies-maybe you could build pyramids out of Lego, or turn their toys into mummies by wrapping them in bandages!