

Geography Awareness Week  
November 12- 18, 2006  
Africa 3D: **Diversity, Demographics, Discovery**

***Musical Monday***

“One must talk little, listen much.”

-African proverb from Mauritania

Activity:

Play African music found on <http://worldmusic.nationalgeographic.com/>

While listening to African music, students will make a khamsa (ham-sa) by tracing their hand, cutting out pattern and decorating it.

**Words of the Day :**

Geography – is interdisciplinary and generic, applicable to anything distributed over Earth’s space

Khamsa (ham-sa)- a symbol of good luck in Morocco and most of Northern Africa

Djembe (jem-bay)- African drum used in ceremonies, communication and storytelling

<http://worldmusic.nationalgeographic.com/>

***Travel Tuesday***

“The day on which one starts out is not the day of preparation.”

-African proverb from Nigeria

Activity:

Using the National Geographic poster discuss the 54 countries on the continent of Africa. Divide into groups of four or five and bring the map to life following instructions on the poster.

**Words of the Day:**

Diaspora – refers to any people forced or induced to leave their traditional homeland

Spatial distributions – (“who” ”what” ”when” “where”)

-anything that can be mapped has spatial distribution

[www.prb.org](http://www.prb.org)

***Wonderful Wednesday*** (GIS Day)

“If you offend, ask for pardon. If offended, forgive”

-African proverb from Ethiopia

Activity:

Invite a city or county planner, or meteorologist to come and discuss the use of Geographic Information Systems and how this technology allows us to create, manage, publish, and disseminate knowledge for today’s society.

<http://www.gisday.com/>

**Words of the Day:**

location - where a person, place or thing can be found on earth

absolute location – defined by precise points using the coordinates of latitude and longitude

relative location – indicates a position in reference to something else

[www.gisday.com](http://www.gisday.com)

### ***Tasty Thursday***

“There is no one-way friendship.”

-African proverb from Kenya

Activity: Discuss the pictures and text on poster regarding food. Have students find the various countries mentioned. Ask parents to help make the fruit salad in the “What’s Cooking” section of the poster, or have an African fruit tasting party.

#### **Words of the Day:**

**Shambas**- cultivated fields in Africa used for food production

**Diversity** - differing from one another. The concept of **diversity** encompasses acceptance and respect, and understanding that each individual is unique.

<http://www.africhef.com>

### ***Finale Friday***

“Knowledge is better than riches”

-African proverb from Cameroon

Activity: Find all the countries where the week’s proverbs and other activities originated. Choose one proverb that has the greatest meaning for you and design a poster to be hung up in the class.

#### **Words of the Day:**

**culture** – a highly integrated, total way of life for a group of people

**artifact** - everything people make and use is an “artifact” of their culture

<http://www.africancrafts.com/educs.php>