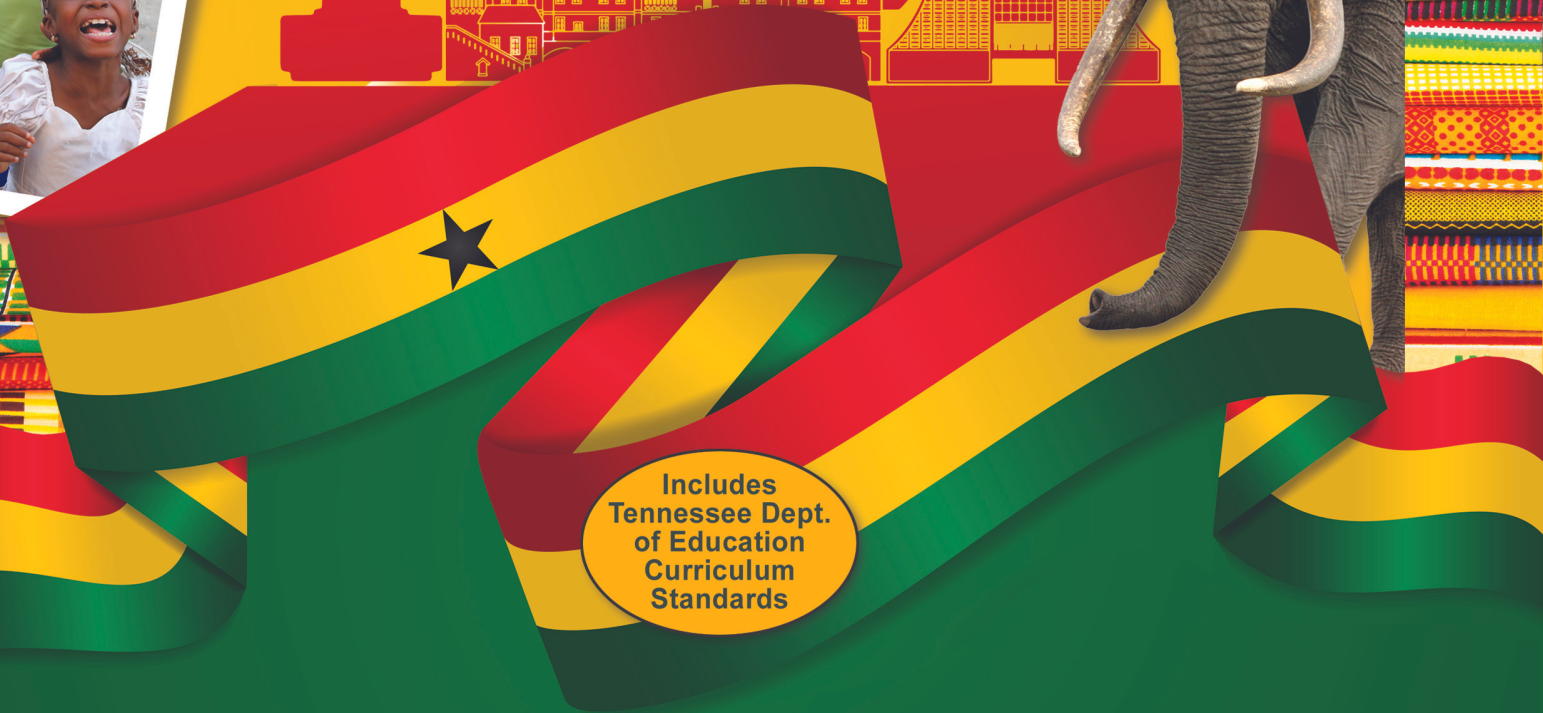




GHANA

2022 MEMPHIS IN MAY
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL



Includes
Tennessee Dept.
of Education
Curriculum
Standards

2022 CURRICULUM GUIDE



GHANA

2022 MEMPHIS IN MAY
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL



Once known as the “Gold Coast,” today Ghana is hailed as the golden country of West Africa. It is located in West Africa and uniquely positioned on the globe. The Greenwich Meridian at zero degrees longitude passes through the city of Tema, and the equator cuts just a few degrees south of Ghana. Therefore, if you step on the intersection of the Longitude and the Latitude, and in whichever direction you move, Ghana is the first landmass you would step on. That is why it is often said that, Ghana is closer to the center of the Earth than any other country. Truly one of Africa's great success stories, Ghana is reaping the benefits of a stable democracy, a strong economy and a rapidly exploding tourism industry fueled by forts and castles, beautiful landscapes, many teeming with exotic wildlife, national parks, unique art and music communities, and exciting experiences among many indigenous cultural groups. Ghana is also suffused with the most incredible energy.

When you visit the Republic of Ghana, you might come face to face with caracals (wild cats) and cusimanses, bongos (deer) and bushbacks. Learn from and celebrate with such ethnic groups as the Fante, the Ashanti, the Mole-Dagbon or the Ewe. Shop the markets of Kejetia in Kumasi or Makola in Accra. Take time to visit the Wechiau Hippo Sanctuary, the Tafi Atome Monkey Sanctuary, or even stop by Paga and feed the crocodiles. Visit the Larabanga Mosque which dates to 1421, the Nzulezu village on stilts, the Colonial lighthouse of Jamestown, or the National Theatre in Accra.



You can stand in the middle of Independence Square, constructed in 1961 by the first President of Ghana, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah. It holds the Independence Arc, one of the national monuments of Ghana. Dine on authentic dishes like jollof, tuo zaafi, fufu, banku. kenke, red-red and waakye. Explore incredible adventures from hiking mountains to abseiling, paragliding, kayaking to hiking among beautiful waterfalls. Ghana comes to life at night, whether it's at a hangout at Osu in Accra, or the Bantama night street in Kumasi, or the London Bridge in Cape Coast or the Harbour area in Takoradi. The music, the people and the food will keep you alive for the night. Adventurers and nature lovers can experience the canopy walk at the Kakum national park, or shed a tear at Elmina Castle's “Door of No Return.”

Though Ghana is no larger than the state of Oregon, each region of Ghana offers its own beauty, its own cultural practices, its own wildlife, its own vibrancy and touch of hospitality. It became the first country in sub-Sahara Africa to drop colonialism and gain independence. Today it is a striving country of tourism,

industry and growth.
Welcome to Ghana.

Akwaaba!

Memphis
in May
International Festival





Acknowledgements

This International Paper Curriculum Guide is developed each year by the Memphis in May International Festival to provide a comprehensive educational review of its annual honored country. It is provided to elementary, middle and high school teachers as a teaching tool, offering activities and lesson plans to help students explore that country's history, culture, geography, politics and lifestyle. It also addresses teaching standards as directed by the Tennessee Department of Education. Memphis in May thanks those who have helped to make this guide a reality, including Shelby County Schools Administration.

Special Thanks

Very special thanks to the Embassy of the Republic of Ghana in Washington, DC, for their help with this curriculum guide and the plans for the 2022 Memphis in May International Festival.

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This Memphis in May International Festival Curriculum Guide, in its entirety, paying tribute to the 2022 honored country of Ghana is available in PDF format for downloading and printing at www.memphisinmay.org.



The mission of Memphis in May International Festival includes a strong commitment to student education. Since its origin in 1977, the festival has developed dozens of comprehensive Curriculum Guides honoring and exploring countries around the globe, and offering practical lesson plans, activities and worksheets addressing many teaching standards. Each year, Memphis in May is proud to distribute thousands of Curriculum Guides to all Shelby County and private schools in Memphis.

The 2022 Memphis in May International Festival International Paper Curriculum Guide honoring the country of Ghana, and the Memphis in May Education Program are made possible by many generous supporters. They are made available free of charge to students and teachers throughout Shelby County and the greater Memphis area.



Table of Contents

Memphis in May International Festival, working hand-in-hand with Shelby County Schools, is proud to present this International Paper Curriculum Guide and to make it available to all Shelby County and private schools in Memphis.

How to Use This Guide - This guide is divided into four grade units to offer teachers educational tools for students. Each grade unit is designated by one of these icons, which represent Adinkra symbols, used in fabrics, pottery and furniture by people of the Ashanti Kingdom. Sections offer practical applications of teaching standards, including Foreign Language, Math, History, Science, Social Studies, Art, and others. They incorporate various activities, worksheets, puzzles, research assignments and resources. Many can be adapted for other grades.



Universe

Introductory Pages - These pages include important information about the 2022 Curriculum Guide and an overview of the Republic of Ghana, with helpful information and activities for all grades, including history, fun facts, famous Ghanaians, and the always popular “Ultimate Quiz.”

**Pages
1-16**



Adaptability

Kindergarten - 2nd Grade Unit - We may start off knowing little about Ghana, but will finish this unit knowing all about fascinating places, lots of languages, fun games, the country’s Coat of Arms, unique crafts like Kente fabric... and we’ll top it all off with a taste of chocolate!

**Pages
17-28**



Cleanliness

3rd - 5th Grade Unit - Get ready to spend a week in Ghana with your classmates. For our trip, we’ll learn about their money, their markets, their landmarks, and their abundant wildlife. Plus, on our trip we’ll be introduced to a Ghanaian hero and learn a bit about posubans.

**Pages
29-42**



Except for God

6th - 8th Grade Unit - We have something for almost every teaching standard! This unit will teach us about Ghana’s trade and economy, we’ll read and write a Ghanaian folktale, survey a map, learn about and involve ourselves in Ghanaian art, learn some sports history, and more.

**Pages
43-56**



Strength

9th - 12th Grade Unit - This unit compares Ghana and the United States, particularly the similarities and differences of government, weather & geography, people, today’s current affairs, and music. We’ll also face the toughest topic of this guide... the dark history of slavery.

**Pages
57-67**

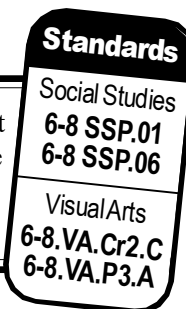


Peace

Information Pages - Important information about the 2022 Memphis in May Education Program, including contests and opportunities for students, details of the festival’s salute to the country of Ghana, book and website resources, and answers to this guide’s puzzles and activities.

**Pages
68-72**

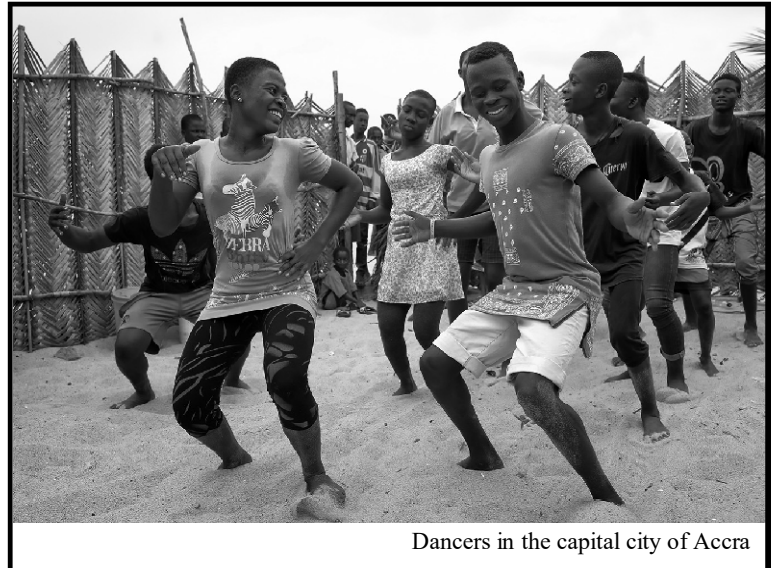
INCLUDES CORRESPONDING ACADEMIC STANDARDS ... To assist teachers, activities in this guide are labeled with Academic Standards numbers developed by the Tennessee Department of Education. Teachers should still check guidelines at <https://www.tn.gov/education/instruction/academic-standards.html> to assure each corresponds with their curriculum.



An Overview of Ghana

The modern day country of Ghana, which means “Warrior King,” is not a centuries-old country, like many of the African continent. However, its impact on the entire African continent is vast. It exists in an area that was once the former Gold Coast, so named due to the existence of gold which was used by royalty of the West African region. Independence Day for this country, still decades away from its centennial, is March 6. Ghana gained its sovereignty in 1957, led by nationalist and Pan-African leader Kwame Nkrumah, who proclaimed at the eve of independence on the “Polo Grounds, “Our independence is meaningless unless it is linked up with the total liberation of the African continent.” His leadership and the example established by the independence of Ghana led more than 30 other African countries to declare independence within the next decade.

Shortly after independence the government propelled an industrialization drive which led to significant economic growth in the 1960s and early 1970s. Ghana experienced a spate of instability with its governance under various military rules which invariably led to an economic downturn in the 1970s. By the 1990s, Ghana’s state of affairs was stabilizing which led to



Dancers in the capital city of Accra

successful economic recovery, stability and political reform for much of Africa. The capital city of Accra developed into a prosperous trading hub which serves as the nation’s commercial and educational center today. Kumasi, the “Garden City of West Africa,” is the second largest city of Ghana, and is the seat of the King of the Asante people.

Much like the U.S., Ghana is a democracy, though some refer to it as a constitutional democracy, a parliamentary democracy, or a presidential republic. The 1992 constitution provides for multiple political parties, with a president as the head of state for the country, and a vice president. The president is elected by the people for a four-year term, with a limitation to serve for two terms. Ghana used to be divided into 10 regions, including Western, Central, Greater Accra, Eastern, Volta, Ashanti, Brong Ahafo, Northern, Upper West, and Upper East. Recently, five new regions named Bono East, Savannah, Oti, Western North, and north East Regions have been created. Each region is divided into districts and each has its own local government. The judicial system is based chiefly on the English model, but Ghanaian customary law is recognized. The administration of justice is handled by various courts divided into two groups: the superior courts, consisting of the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeal, and the High Court; and lower courts, consisting of the circuit courts, the district courts, and others, like juvenile courts. Justice can also to some extent be administered by traditional rulers (chiefs).

Ghana has one of the best educational systems in West Africa, which consists of six years of primary education, beginning at age six, three years of secondary and three years of senior secondary education (much like high school in the U.S.). University education in Ghana is available at such public institutions as the University of Ghana, the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi, the University of Cape Coast, the University for Development Studies at Tamale, and others. Accra is also home to the National Film and Television Institute. There are also technical and vocational institutions across the country.

The southern border of Ghana consists of a coastline along the Gulf of Guinea and the Atlantic Ocean. Its neighboring country to the west is Côte d’Ivoire, to the east is Togo, and to the north and northwest is Burkina



An Overview of Ghana *(continued)*

Faso. Unlike the U.S. that has four seasons, Ghana has two seasons, the wet (April to October) and the dry (November to March). The north east trade winds from the Sahara desert influences the dry season while the South West Monsoon winds from the Atlantic also influence the wet season. They help form different ecological zones where vegetation is primarily determined by precipitation. The coastal savannah in the southeastern plain around Accra consists of scrub and tall grasses, as well as Africa's distinctive baobab tree which is resistant to both drought and wildfire. The forest zone occupies much of the southern third of the country, receiving more than 45 inches of annual rainfall, yielding tropical semi-deciduous forests to the north and more evergreen forests to the southwest. Trees of varying heights form a closed canopy. A third zone of dense rainforests once covered over 30,000 square miles, however farming and timber exploitation have reduced it to less than 8,000 square miles. The northern savannah zone covers the top region of the country and has two primary seasons, a dry season with hot days, cool nights and clear skies, and a wet season which produce terrains of lower trees and grasslands.

Just as weather and precipitation dictate plant life, that vegetation helps to dictate wildlife. Ghana presents a menagerie of wild animals. And while human settlement and hunting reduced the populations of many species, the government and people have helped preserve many endangered species through commitments to animal conservation and national preserves like Mole National Park and Kakum National Park. Mammals include elephants, lions, leopards, buffalo, wild hogs, various antelope, chimpanzees and many types of monkeys. Reptiles include pythons, cobras, puff adders and green mambas. Ghana's lakes, lagoons and rivers, including the Volta River and the huge, man-made Lake Volta are populated by crocodiles, otters, hippopotamuses and endangered manatees. Off the southern coast into the Atlantic, marine life can be as small as the sardine or as large as the humpback whale.

While the U.S. became a melting pot of people from around the globe, Ghana became a melting pot of many diverse and culturally rich ethnic people. Practically all of the present peoples are believed to have migrated into the borders of modern-day Ghana within the last 700 to 1,000 years. With them they brought their diverse languages, with over 75 distinct languages spoken throughout the country. Of the languages indigenous to Ghana, Akan is most widely spoken. Of these, English, which was inherited during Ghana's colonial era, is the official language. Ghana is home to populations of the Akan people (which includes the Anyi, Asante [Ashanti], Baule, Fante, and Guang), Mole-Dagbani, Ewe, Ga-Adangme, Gurma and many others. Despite the diversity, Ghana has not experienced ethnic dissensions since independence.

This diversity also fuels Ghana's economy. The coastal zone is a region of fishermen, where one can see hundreds of brightly painted fishing boats, called pirogues, tied along the shores. Agriculture is extensive throughout the country. One of the most lucrative crops is cacao, used to make chocolate, which represents about one-third of the nation's exports. In some areas, agriculture is based on crop rotation where land is farmed for two or three years before being abandoned for several years to allow nutrients to regenerate. Major crops include cereals like rice and millet, yams and other vegetables, and the introduction of irrigation in the 1960s and mechanized cultivation in the 1980s greatly increased production. Many farmers also raise livestock. Other major exports include timber and minerals. Although Ghana has a wide range of minerals, only a few, like gold, diamonds, manganese, and bauxite, are major exports. Gold mining, with an unbroken history dating from the 15th century, is the oldest of these extraction industries. In 1970 oil was discovered offshore and in 2002 the discovery of oil reserves off the coast brought great potential for exploitation. Agriculture, forestry, and fishing employ more than half of Ghana's population, and provide the bulk of national income. Ghana's principal exports of cocoa, gold, and sawn wood are primarily destined to Europe, the U.S. and Canada.

In the late 1960s only about one-third of Ghana's population lived in major cities, however migration from rural areas into urban areas resulted in about half of Ghana's population residing in urban centers by the

(continued on next page)



An Overview of Ghana *(continued)*

turn of the century. The capital territory of Accra-Tema grew to a population of more than a million people. Other major economic and educational centers include Kumasi and Tamale.

In the mid-1900s Ghana recorded over 100 different cultural groups. Throughout Ghana, cultural heritage is closely linked with various religions and the institution of tribal chieftaincy, often manifested in community festivals occasioned by such events as harvest, marriage, birth and death. While the bonds of the extended family play an important factor in the social norms of Ghanaians, they are much less pronounced among urban populations within Ghana's major cities. Cultural differences between the urban and rural populations can also be seen in preferences of attire and cuisine. City dwellers appear more Westernized, whereas indigenous attire, often incorporating kente cloth and jewelry, is seen in rural regions. Ghana is also one of a few countries in Africa which still possesses a rich indigenous cuisine. Fufu is one of the staple foods often made with local crops like cassava, yams, cocoyams and plantain which are boiled, pounded and rolled into balls and served with soups like groundnuts, palmnuts or light soup. These soups are prepared with fish, meat and vegetables. Other indigenous dishes include *kenke* (fermented cornmeal wrapped in corn husks or plantain leaves).

Traditional drumming and dancing such as adowa, kete, borbobor, kpanlono, gonji, asafo, fontonfon drummings form an integral part of the Ghanaian culture and have a unique way of communicating messages during important occasions. While the University of Ghana's Institute of African Studies offers a systematic study of indigenous dance, drumming and performing arts in the perpetuation of Ghana's traditional drama, drums and musical heritage, the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology College of Arts' Department of Painting and Sculpture trains visual artists on skills including pottery, wood carving, plastic art, gold and silverwork, and textiles. Many contemporary visual artists have combined traditional artistic styles into progressive gallery pieces unique to Ghana. Artists include El Anatsui, Paa Joe, Vincent Kofi, Adjo Kisser, and many others (see page 55). Specialized craft villages continue to engage in traditional ceremonies, and to create traditional handicrafts passed through generations. Famous craft villages include Bonwire (Ashanti Region), known for kente cloth, Ntonso (Ashanti Region) for Adinkra cloth, Krofrom (Ashanti Region) for brass figures, and Ahwiaa (Ashanti Region) and Aburi (Eastern Region) for traditional wood carving. Among indigenous communities, a stool serves as a traditional and revered symbol of the office for tribal chiefs and traditional leaders in southern Ghana, and an animal skin is the equivalent symbol in the north. Small specialized groups of craftsmen provide these tools and skins to the chief. Literary authors like Francis Selormey, Ama Ata Aidoo, Ayi Kwei Armah, and others have produced a number of literary and dramatic works written mostly in English. Ghana also attracted world attention in the field of film production. Notable among them are "Love Brewed in African Pot" and "Heritage Africa" by Kwaw Ansah.

After independence in 1957, President Kwame Nkrumah encouraged the development of a national sports identity to unify citizens and generate recognition for the emerging country. Political support in the 1960s led to giant strides in the athletic development of track and field and boxing. Ghanaians have also performed well internationally in cricket, basketball, and volleyball. However, the country's passion is soccer, and the men's national team, the Black Stars, has won several African Cup of Nations championships in 1963, 1968, 1978 and 1982. Women's football gained in popularity after the national team, the Black Queens, placed in the 1998 African Championships and competed in the 1999 Women's World Cup. The junior men's national teams, the pride of Ghanaian football, have won many international titles. Ghana's first Olympic participation was in the 1952 Summer Games in Helsinki. In 1960, Ghanaian boxer Clement "Ike" Quartley became the first black African to win an Olympic medal. Other notable boxers are David Kotei (popularly known as D.K. Poison, who was the first Ghanaian professional boxer to win a world crown in 1975) and Azumah Nelson.

Activity - Questions related to this overview for students to research can be found on page 43.

The History of Ghana

Many countries around the globe are often plagued by corrupt dictators, failing governments, and the persecution of citizens who are often deprived of any democratic participation in their country's future. Refreshingly, the Republic of Ghana is a great success story!

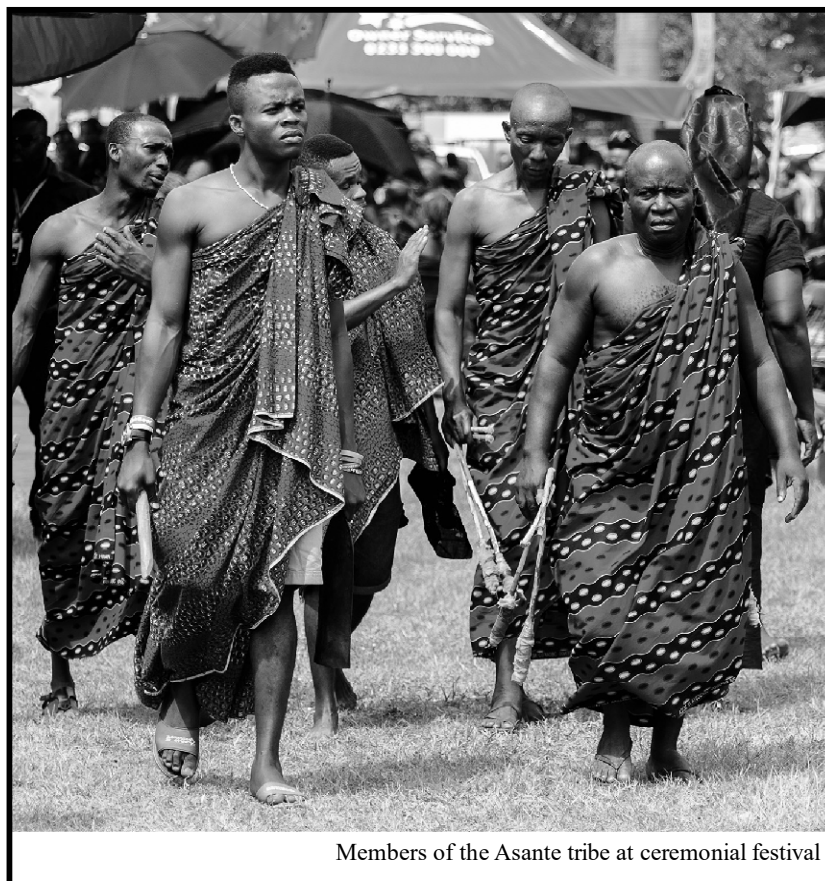
Prehistoric West Africa & The Ghana Empire

During the Pleistocene Epoch which began about two million years ago, the area of West Africa saw much precipitation creating thick forests spreading north. Uncovered artifacts and primitive tools prove that early humans retreated toward the Sahara. As climates became arid, various cultures repopulated the region, moving along the Togo mountain range from the Niger River. These included the Acheulean, Sangoan and later the Lupemban people.

Populations in West Africa during the Middle Stone Age of the Mesolithic Period utilized more advanced tools and their belongings included stone hoes and quartz beads. Pottery still remained absent until the Neolithic cultures of the New Stone Age emerged. Around Kintampo and in the Accra plains, evidence includes clay houses, polished axes made of greenstone, chart monoliths, coarse pottery and shale arm rings. Iron was still absent until European imports began after the 17th century.

Ghana was still not a country. In fact, Ghana is relatively young as a country. Instead, Ghana, prior to its official name, was the first of the great medieval trading

empires of western Africa which emerged in the 4th century and then dominated between the 7th and 11th centuries. This trading empire was further north in a large region which today encompasses much of Mauritania and Mali, between the Sahara and the Sénégal and Niger rivers. It was populated by clans of people who served as intermediaries between salt traders to the north and gold and ivory traders to the south. It was called Wagadu by its kings, although it gained its more familiar name from the king's title of reverence, *ghâna*, which meant "Warrior King." Chiefs or various clans throughout the region, ruled much of the empire. The king charged taxes on traders and on the production of gold, the empire's most valuable commodity, which drew traders from Spain and Portugal. Though the capital moved, the primary capital of Kumbi was about 200 miles north of the current city of Bamako in Mali. The empire's gold was secured at the southern limits of the empire, then brought to the capital where it was traded for other commodities, like salt. The Ghana Empire's power began its decline in the 11th century as Muslim tribes began a holy war, seizing the capital of Kumbi in 1076. In 1240, the city was destroyed by the emperor, Sundiata. What remained of the Ghana Empire became part of his empire of Mali.



Members of the Asante tribe at ceremonial festival

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The History of Ghana *(continued)*

State of Ghana & Islamic Trade Routes

Some evidence points toward a southern migration of the citizens of the Ghana Empire, some 500 miles into the area of modern Ghana. Archaeological research suggests that, prior to coming under British rule, people migrated from either the north or northwest or the east or northeast. These traditions also provide evidence to suggest that the area that is now Ghana served, for many centuries, as a meeting place for two major trans-Saharan routes, one northward towards Morocco and eastward toward Tunisia. Through these trade routes, inhabitants of what is now Ghana were influenced by the wealth and traditions of western Sudan empires and north African Islamic civilizations.

Ghanaian states began to be formed. About the 13th century, Akan-speaking migrants from the direction of Mande inhabited the forest and coastlands. From the 15th to the 19th centuries, the Akan people dominated gold mining and trading in the region. From the 17th century on, they were among the most powerful groups in Africa. Later, 15th century invaders from the Hausa region established the dominant norther states of Dagomba and Mamprusi. Travelers along a southern route from Nigeria founded the southeast states of Ga and Ewe in the early 17th century.

European Contact and Trade

In 1471 Portuguese trade mariners arrived along the Ghanaian coast. This direct sea trade established with Europe became a milestone in Ghana's history. The region earned its "Gold Coast" name from the readily available commodity which enticed European traders to Ghana, offering textiles, hardware, beads, metal items, weapons, ammunition and other important items. Portugal even leased land from Ghanaian states to build stone fortresses in order to protect its trade monopoly in the region. The first of these, Elmina Castle, built in 1482, still stands today and is the oldest European building in existence south of the Sahara, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. However, these trade sites, portals of European commodity trading began to take a very dark turn in the 17th century.

Traders from the Netherlands, England, Denmark, Sweden and Prussia saw that the commercial routes established with the Gold Coast could be easily adapted for the export of human slaves, meeting an increasing demand from American plantations. The Dutch seized Elmina Castle from the Portuguese in 1637, following a failed attempt in 1596, then took over the entire Portuguese Gold Coast in 1642. Elmina held up to 1,000 male and 500 female slaves, shackled and crammed in the castle's dungeons, with no space to lie down and very little light. Many captives fell seriously ill, without water or sanitation, spending up to three months in captivity under horrible conditions before being sold like produce and shipped to the New World. Conversely, the governor's and officers' offices were spacious and airy, with beautiful parquet floors and scenic views of the Atlantic Ocean. Officers, traders and their families went about their normal day-to-day life completely detached from the unfathomable human suffering they were inflicting. By the mid-18th century the Gulf of Guinea was dotted by about 40 forts controlled by Dutch, British and Danish merchants. The Dutch continued the slave route until 1814, when they abolished the slave trade, pursuant to the Anglo-Dutch Slave Trade Treaty. The English and the Danes also outlawed their slave trade, but not

Timeline of Ghana's History

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The History of Ghana *(continued)*

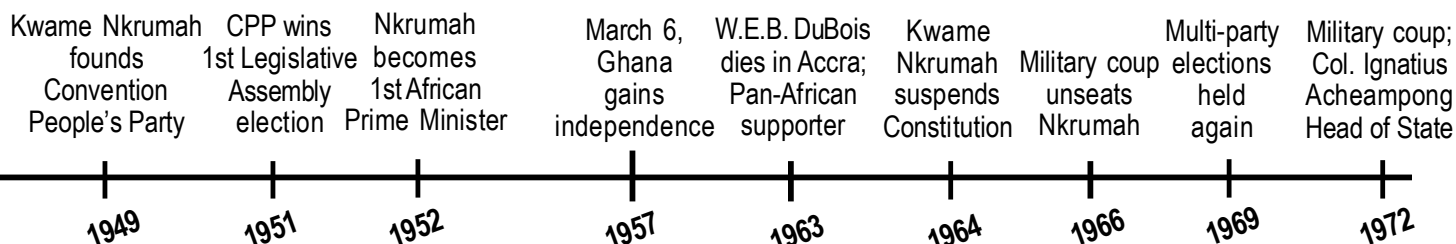
before about one million slaves were transported from the Gold Coast between 1600 and the mid-19th century.

During these centuries, close contact with the Europeans initiated economic, social and political changes. The wealthiest states located north of the Ghanaian forest declined in the face of trade along the southern coast. By the 18th century, the Akan state of Akwamu created an empire that, stretching from the central Gold Coast eastward to Dahomey, sought to control the trade roads to the Gold Coast. The Akwamu empire was short-lived, but its example soon stimulated a union of the Asante states of the central forest, under the leadership of their founding king, Osei Tutu (*Asantehene* was the title for king). The Asante union, after establishing its dominance over other neighboring Akan states, expanded north of the forest to conquer Bono, Banda, Gonja, and Dagomba. After controlling the trade market, they turned toward the coastlands, sending Asante armies led by Asantehene Osei Bonsu to invade coastal states controlled by the Fante Confederacy. The political uncertainty and European suspicions following the Asante invasions hindered the development of new trades meant to replace the outlawed slave trade. However British merchants under the leadership of George Maclean began to assume a protectorate over the Fante states along the coast, and in 1850 bought out the Danes and took over British forts. Later, Fante leaders sought a confederacy independent of British and Asante control, however their 1871 Mankesim constitution was rejected by the British. Britain not wanted even greater control of the region, and sent British military troops which sacked the capital of Kumasi in 1874. The Gold Coast was declared a British colony that same year.

Colonial Period

The British escalated their involvement and protection over the Gold Coast colony from 1896 until about 1901 in order to protect their commercial interests in the region, particularly mining. At this time, the French and the Germans had increased their presence and activity in areas around West Africa. The British military conquered Asante factions, especially in the northern areas which were formed into a British protectorate during this period.

Throughout the 56 years during which the British ruled, European ways of government were assimilated into the Gold Coast. A governorship reined over the Asante people and the Northern Territories. A legislative council was established in 1850 and a supreme court in 1853, however a fully responsible parliament was never established. While gold earned the region its name, during the Colonial period another trade item elevated the region and brought the country together. Historically, Tetteh Quarshie is known to have brought the cocoa seeds from Fernando Po and planted the seeds at Mampong, Akwapim in the Eastern Region of Ghana in 1879. It was not until 1891 when Ghana began the export of cocoa. The official export of two bags was recorded in 1893. Until the early 1980s Ghana was known as the world's largest exporter of cocoa. By the 1920s, the Gold Coast was producing more than half of the world's supply of cocoa, used for chocolate. Gold, as well as timber and magnesium, remained major exports, however with the addition of cocoa, the trade wealth provided the region with modern transport facilities to accommodate the booming export trade. These included new harbors, railways and modern roads, all necessary to move export products. An expanding economy and infrastructure also helped provide citizens with



The History of Ghana *(continued)*

critical social services, especially university level education opportunities, although political advancement lagged behind economic and social development.

Independence

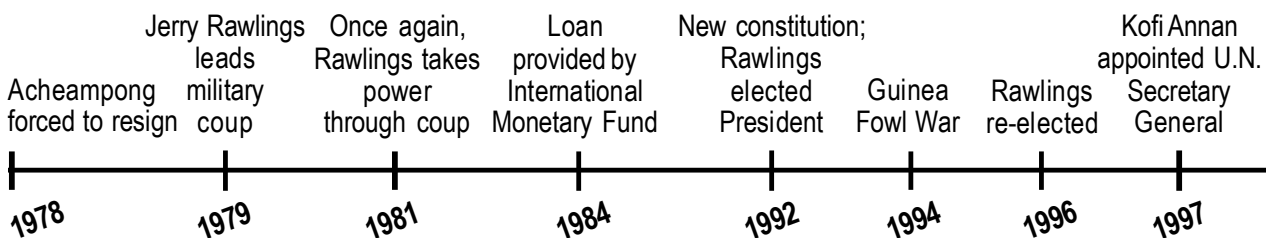
During World War II, the Gold Coast contributed many men and materials. With a continued lag in the full development of unified political structure throughout the country, there were riots involving workers and war veterans which began to break out in 1948 throughout many of the larger towns. The Watson Commission was established in 1948, under the chairmanship of Aiken Watson, to investigate the disturbances and their underlying causes. The Commission determined that the Burns constitution established two years earlier, giving Africans a majority in the legislative council was flawed. An all-African committee led by Justice Coussey, later Sir James Hensley Coussey, established a new constitution in which some executive power would be transferred to African ministers responsible to an African assembly. Simultaneously, “self-government” was the benchmark of radical politician Kwame Nkrumah and his Convention People’s Party. In 1951 the CPP won almost all the elective seats in the post-Coussey legislative assembly, whereupon Gov. Sir Charles Arden-Clarke invited Nkrumah to lead the new administration. A partnership developed between the two, so power was transferred to an all-African cabinet responsible to a popularly elected national assembly.

In 1956 the territory of British Togoland became united with the Gold Coast. During 1954 and 1956 general elections, the CPP government still led by Nkrumah secured 70 percent of the assembly seats. In 1956 they obtained the recognition of their country, renamed Ghana, as an independent self-governing member of the Commonwealth and a member of the United Nations, which Nkrumah saw as an opportunity toward the pursuit of the liberation of all of Africa from colonial rule. The Gold Coast region declared independence from the



Kwame Nkrumah Memorial, Accra

(continued on next page)





The History of Ghana *(continued)*

United Kingdom on March 6, 1957 and established the nation of Ghana. On July 1, 1960, following the Ghanaian constitutional referendum and Ghanaian presidential election, Nkrumah, as the first President of Ghana, declared Ghana as a republic. Annually, March 6 is celebrated as the nation's Independence Day and July 1 is celebrated as Republic Day.

Presidential Roads to Democratic Success

Following independence, Nkrumah assumed greater power for himself, declaring himself as life president of both the Convention People's Party and of the Republic of Ghana. His authority became increasingly challenged by many independent leaders, and his dream of African socialism was mired by increasing corruption, foreign debts, and declining standards of living among Ghana's people. During a 1966 visit to Hanoi, Nkrumah had his powers suddenly taken away when police and army leaders rose against his party and replaced it with the new National Liberation Council under the leadership of Lieutenant General Joseph A. Ankrah. Despite establishing a new government and initiating conservative financial policies, by 1969 the government of Ghana was yielded to a dynamic, young brigadier named Akwasi Amankwaa Afrifa. A new constitution was produced, a parliamentary policy was reintroduced, and general elections were held in August of 1969. Those elections were won by a university professor who had consistently opposed Nkrumah, Kofi Busia, a leader of the Progress Party, who became prime minister. One year later former chief justice Edward Akufo-Addo was chosen as president.

Three years later, following marginal results against foreign debt and lagging world cocoa prices, history repeated itself, when impatient army officers once again rose up against the elected government of Akufo-Addo, which was replaced by the National Redemption Council (NRC) of military men chaired by Colonel Ignatius Kutu Acheampong. The military regime imprisoned political leaders and prohibited public meetings or any other political parties. Just like robbery and damaging public property, political activity and the spreading of rumors could be punished by the death penalty. Ghana's gross domestic product, export earnings and standards of living plummeted.

In 1975 the NRC was reorganized with some civilians sharing in government with the military, although a Supreme Military Council (SMC) maintained ultimate power. In 1977 the SMC proposed a "Union Government to which everybody will belong," with no other political parties, however a national referendum clearly showed the SMC's unpopularity. Acheampong was replaced as SMC chairman by Lieutenant General Frederick W.K. Akuffo, who proved less effective than his predecessor. In 1979 amid a floundering economy, the government of the generals was overthrown by young officers, led by air force flight lieutenant, Jerry Rawlings. Acheampong, Akuffo and others were executed and a parliamentary government was returned under President Hilla Limann. Once again, history repeated itself in 1981 when Rawlings once again overthrew the ineffective government, with his second military coup establishing the Provisional National Defense Council as the national government.

Initially, older Ghanaians were skeptical of Rawlings and the new government. Other young soldiers contemplated their own military coups against Rawlings to secure power. Ultimately, in 1982 and 1983, Rawlings snuffed out two

(continued on next page)

John Kufour
elected President;
1st peaceful
transfer since
independence

IMF / World
Bank Debt
Relief

50 years
of
independence

John Atta
Mills
elected
President

President Mills
dies in office;
Mahama
sworn in

Nana
Akuffo
Addo
elected

2000

2001

2007

2008

2012

2016

The History of Ghana *(continued)*

countercoups and achieved wide, genuine approval of his reformation of Ghana's political and economic life, despite his conservative economic policies. Rawling's government instituted price controls to reduce inflation, privatized many state-owned companies, and devalued currency to stimulate exports, securing International Monetary Fund (IMF) support and other foreign aid. These IMF measures revived Ghana's economy, which by the early 1990s had one of the highest growth rates in Africa.

In early 2001, Rawlings was succeeded by John Agyekyum Kufor, elected president via the New Patriotic Party, in the first peaceful transfer of power between democratically elected governments since Ghana's independence in 1957. Kufuor was re-elected in 2004. During the presidential elections four years later, Kufor's party, the New Patriotic Party won the first round of voting with candidate Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo. Akufo-Addo failed to secure a voter majority, leading to a runoff. During the runoff, candidate John Evans Atta Mills of the National Democratic Congress (NDC) party defeated Akufo-Addo by less than one percentage point in a tense national election for the presidency. However, the transfer of power remained peaceful, an important point in Ghana's continued democratic stability.

On July 24, 2012, President Mills died in office as he approached the end of his term. In accordance with the constitution of Ghana, Vice President John Dramani Mahama was sworn in as the interim president of Ghana later that same day, and was selected as the NDC candidate for the forthcoming December 2012, presidential election. For that election, he faced seven candidates including former presidential candidate Akufo-Addo. Despite the loaded field of candidates, the two captured the vast majority of the public vote, with Mahama barely managing to avoid a runoff by gaining 50.7 percent of the vote against Akufo-Addo's 47.74 percent, despite NPP claims of election fraud which were dismissed following a Supreme Court challenge.

Growing national discontent over power shortages throughout Ghana, corruption scandals throughout its judicial system, and a weakening economy plagued Mahama's presidency. To support economic reform, the International Monetary Fund provided the Ghanaian government with a financial assistance package in 2015. Many of these challenges throughout Mahama's presidency remained critical themes during the campaigns for the 2016 presidency, which once again repeated a rematch between Mahama and Akufo-Addo. This time, the field of candidates also included former first lady Nana Konadu Agyeman-Rawlings representing the National Democratic Party. This time, with almost 54 percent of the public vote and after three attempts, Akufo-Addo captured Ghana's presidency, ahead of Mahama's 44 percent. Equally important, Ghana's continued democratic stability also reigned victorious. President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo has introduced a policy of "Ghana Beyond Aid" and launched a number of flagship programs such as "Free Senior High School," "One District One Factory," "Planting for Food and Jobs," among others. In December, 2020, incumbent President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo won re-election in a tight race against John Mahama of the NDC party with 51.59 percent of votes cast.



Credits include: "Kumasi, Gold Coast, West Africa, in the late 19th century." From *The Countries of the World* by Robert Brown, 1876. Special thanks to John D. Fage, Donna J. Maier and the Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica.



A List of Famous Ghanaians

Prepare to meet presidents, singers, actors, athletes, business leaders, and even a United Nations Secretary General. Have your students choose one of these famous Ghanaians and prepare a research paper.

Politics & Patriots

Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo - President of Ghana, re-elected on December 7, 2020 with 51.59 percent of the votes against John Mahama, who he also defeated in 2016 when, for the first time in a Ghanaian presidential election that an opposition candidate won with an outright majority in the first round. He first ran for president in 2008 and again in 2012, both times as the candidate of the New Patriotic Party (NPP). He was chosen as the presidential candidate of the NPP for a third time for the 2016 general elections.

Kofi Atta Annan - Diplomat from Ghana, and the first to emerge from the ranks of United Nations (UN) staff to serve as the Secretary-General of the UN. He served as the seventh UN Secretary-General from 1997 to 2006. The UN and Annan were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2001 "for their work for a better organized and more peaceful world". While he was the Secretary-General, he prioritized the establishment of a comprehensive reforms program aimed at revitalizing the UN. Annan dies in 2018.

Yaa Asantewaa - Female military leader born around 1840. She was the queen mother of the Ejisu in the Ashanti Empire, which is now part of modern-day Ghana. She was appointed as Captain of the Ashanti army by her brother, Nana Akwasi Afrane Opese, the Edwesuhene, or ruler, of Edwesu. In 1900, she led the Ashanti war known as the War of the Golden Stool against British colonialism.

John Agyekum Kufuor - Ghanaian politician who served as the President of Ghana from 2001 to 2009. Chairperson of the African Union from 2007 to 2008. His electoral victory in 2000 over John Atta Mills at the end of Jerry Rawlings' second term marked the first peaceful democratic transition of power in Ghana since independence in 1957. After two terms, he was no longer eligible for the presidency.

John Dramani Mahama – Ghanaian politician who served as President of Ghana from 2012 to 2017. He served as Vice President before becoming President following the death of his predecessor, John Atta Mills. He was a Member of Parliament from 1997 to 2009 and Minister of Communications from 1998 to 2001. He is a member of the National Democratic Congress.

John Evans Fiifi Atta Mills – President of Ghana from 2009 until his death in 2012. A politician, lawyer, legal scholar, tax expert and sports administrator inaugurated on January 7, 2009, having defeated the ruling party candidate Nana Akufo-Addo. Vice-president under President Jerry Rawlings. Unsuccessful in the 2000 and 2004 presidential elections as a National Democratic Congress candidate.

Kwame Nkrumah - Ghanaian politician, revolutionary, and the first Prime Minister and President of Ghana, having led the Gold Coast to independence from Britain in 1957. An influential advocate of pan-Africanism, Nkrumah was a founding member of the Organisation of African Unity, winner of the Lenin Peace Prize in 1962, and founder of the Convention People's Party. After pursuing higher education and developing his political philosophy abroad, he returned to the Gold Coast to begin his political career as an advocate of national independence.

Samia Yaba Christina Nkrumah - A Ghanaian politician born in 1960, and chairperson of the Convention People's Party. In the 2008 parliamentary election, she won the Jomoro constituency seat at her first attempt. She is the daughter of Dr. Kwame Nkrumah. She became the first woman to ever lead a major political party in Ghana.

Sir Emmanuel Charles Quist - Barrister, educator and judge who served as the first Speaker of the Gold Coast Legislative Assembly and Ghana's first Speaker of the Parliament. He was also known as Paa Quist, and was born in Christiansborg, Accra in 1880. He was the son of the Rev. Carl Quist, a Basel Mission minister from Osu, Accra, and Paulina Richter, his Ga-Danish mother. He was knighted in 1952.



A List of Famous Ghanaians *(continued)*

Intro

Jerry John Rawlings - Military leader and politician who ruled Ghana from 1981 to 2001 and briefly in 1979. He led a military junta until 1992 and then served two terms as the democratically elected President. After handing power over to a civilian government, he took back control in 1981. In 1992 Rawlings founded the National Democratic Congress, and became the first President of the Fourth Republic. He was re-elected in 1996 for four more years, the constitutional limit. Rawlings died on Nov. 14, 2020, just three weeks before national elections.

Otumfo Osei Tutu II - The 16th Asantehene, the absolute monarch of the Kingdom of Ashanti, coronated on April 26, 1999. He is also the Chancellor of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology.

Business

Kwabena Frimpong-Boateng - Ghanaian cardiothoracic surgeon, born in 1949, who established the National Cardiothoracic Center and the Ghana Red Cross Society. He's also President of the Ghana Heart Foundation and was the CEO of the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital in Accra. He was elected a Fellow of the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2002.

Dr. Esther Ocloo - Ghanaian entrepreneur and pioneer of microlending, a program of making small loans in order to stimulate businesses. Born in Ghana in 1919, she was co-founder of Women's World Banking in 1976, with Michaela Walsh and Ela Bhatt. Received the 1990 African Prize for Leadership and many other honors for her work on behalf of economic empowerment of women and families.

Arts & Entertainment

Ephrim Amu - Ghanaian composer, musicologist and teacher who was born in 1899. He's particularly known for his commitment to music education, and for playing the atenteben, a traditional Ghanaian bamboo flute. His compositions, "Yen Ara Asase Ni" has become a nationally acclaimed patriotic song.

Nadia Buari - Actress born in Sekondi-Takoradi in 1982. She received two "Best Actress" nominations at the African Movie Academy Awards in 2007 and 2009. Major films included *Mummy's Daughter* and *Beyonce: The President's Daughter*. She starred in more than 20 movies. In 2013, she released her own movie, *The Diary of Imogen Brown*. She moved to Nollywood films in 2008 with her breakthrough film, *Beyonce & Rihanna*.

Amma Darko - African novelist born in Koforidua, Ghana in 1955 and grew up in Accra. She studied in Kumasi and worked for the Science and Technology Center there. In the 1980s, she lived and worked in Germany prior to returning to Accra. Her novels illustrate everyday life in Ghana. Her first novel, "Beyond the Horizon," was originally published in German. Her most recent novels, "Faceless" and "Not without flowers" were published in Ghana.

Phillip Gbeho - A Ghanaian musician, composer and teacher born in 1904. He was best known for his composition of the Ghana National Anthem. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Arts Council of Ghana and was a Director of Music and conductor for the National Symphony Orchestra.

E.T. Mensah - Born in 1919, Emmanuel Tetty Mensah was a Ghanaian musician who was regarded as the "King of Highlife" music. He led the band, "The Tempos" which toured widely throughout West Africa. A trumpeter, saxophonist and vocalist, Mensah was considered to be one of the most influential musicians in Ghana.

Peter Mensah - Born in Chiraa, Ghana in 1959 before moving with parents to England. His best known films include *Tears of the Sun*, *Avatar*, *Hidalgo*, *300*, *Dead Space*, and *The Incredible Hulk*, and for his television roles including *Spartacus: Blood and Sand*, *Star Trek: Enterprise*, *La Femme Nikita* and others.

Joseph Hanson Kwabena Nketia - Ethnomusicologist and composer, born in 1921. Africa's premier musicologist and "the most published and best known authority on African music"



A List of Famous Ghanaians *(continued)*

and aesthetics in the world,” with 200 publications and 80 musical compositions to his credit.

Reggie Rockstone - A Ghanaian rapper known as “The Godfather of Hiplife.” He pioneered the Hiplife art form and has played an important role in the development of this uniquely African genre in Ghana’s capital of Accra. He raps in Akan Twi and English. Rockstone is the son of fashion designer Ricky “Ricci” Ossei.

Sports

Abadi Ayew - Known professionally as Abadi Pele, a former Ghanaian soccer player who played as an attacking midfielder and captain of the Ghana national team. Regarded as one of the greatest African footballers of all-time.

David Kotey - Professional boxer born in Accra in 1950. He was one of many boxers spawned by Bukom, a suburb of Accra populated by the Ga people. He was a world featherweight champion from 1975 to 1976 and the first Ghanaian professional boxer to win a world title. He was popularly called “D.K. Poison.”

Samuel Kuffour (OseiKuffour) - A former professional football player known for his physical power and defender skills. He gained fame while he played for Bayern Munich, his team for over a decade, playing in almost 250 matches and winning 14 honors. Samuel also played for the Ghanaian national team in the 2006 FIFA world cup.

Leo Myles-Mills - Professional Ghanaian athlete in the 100 and 200 meter races. Born in 1973, he was the first Ghanaian runner to finish the 100-meter race in under 10 seconds, clocking in at 9.98 seconds, his own personal best. He won gold and bronze medals at the All-African games in 1999 and 2003, and also represented Ghana at the Summer Olympics and the Commonwealth Games.

Azumah Nelson - Born in 1958, he earned the title as the “professor” of boxing after winning an Olympic bronze medal for Ghana in 1978. During his career, he won and held the welterweight and super welterweight belt for a number of years. He also holds a place in the International Boxing Hall of Fame.

Theodosia Okoh - A stateswoman, artist and educator born in 1922, best known for designing Ghana’s national flag in 1957. She also played a lead role in the development of hockey in Ghana as the first female chairman of the Ghana Hockey Association. Also served as the President of the Ghana Hockey Federation for more than 20 years.

Margaret Simpson - Ghanaian track star born in 1981. She specialized in the Heptathlon. Simpson won gold medals for Ghana in the 2002, 2004 and 2010 African Championships, and a bronze medal in the 2005 world championship. She also won gold in the 2003, 2007 and 2011 All-African Games.

Samuel Takyi - Ghana boxer who medaled at the 2021 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo, bring Ghana its first Olympic medal in 29 years.

Aziz Zakari - Ghanaian track and field athlete born in 1976. Zakari is a skilled sprinter and represented Ghana in the 2000 Olympics where he had qualified for the 100-meter finals. An injury sustained 35 meters into the race kept him from finishing. Winner of the 100, 200 and 4x100 meter race at the 2000 African championship.

Education

Ama Ata Aidoo - Ghanaian author, poet, playwright and academic, born in 1942. She served as the Minister of Education under President Jerry Rawlings’ administration. In 2000, she established the Mbaasem Foundation to promote and support the work of African women writers.

Anton Wilhelm Amo - Philosopher born in 1703 in a region now known as Ghana. Taken to Germany by the Dutch West India Company in 1707 as a child, given as a gift to the Dukes of August Wilhelm and Ludwig Rudolf von Wolfenbüttel, and treated as a member of the family of the Duke of Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. The first African known to attend a European university. Served as a university professor in Germany.



The Ultimate Ghanaian Quiz

What began as the first of the great medieval trading empires of West Africa has emerged as a land of history, ecotourism, music & dance, cuisine, heritage, beautiful coastlines, business, wildlife adventures, and more. Ghana has emerged as one of Africa's premier destinations with a solid democratic government and so much to experience. However, before you begin, test your Ghanaian smarts with this quiz. After exploring Ghana, revisit this "Ultimate Ghanaian Quiz" and see if your score improves. Answers can be found on page 68.

1. Let's start easy! What is the capital of Ghana? _____
2. Which Ghanaian served as Secretary-General of the United Nations? _____
3. What grassy ecological zone makes up most of the top half of Ghana? _____
4. What is the actual Soninke translation of the country's name, Ghana? _____
5. Who was the first President of Ghana, who helped lead the country to independence? _____
6. Name Ghana's three bordering neighbors. _____
7. What is the most popular sport in Ghana? _____
8. Ghana is famous for folktales about the trickster Anansi. What is Anansi? _____
9. At 2,900 feet, what mountain serves as the highest point in Ghana? _____
10. On what day of the year do Ghanaians celebrate their Independence Day? _____
11. What is the largest artificial reservoir in the world by size? _____
12. What construction project created the largest artificial reservoir in the world by size? _____
13. What is the easternmost Ghanaian city? _____
14. The famous kente fabric of Ghana was named for the Akan word "kenten." What does it mean? _____
15. What major Ghanaian city serves as the seat of the King of the Asante people? _____
16. Does most of Ghana's population live in cities or in rural areas? _____
17. The heat and pressure fermentation process of cocoa seeds yields what 3 final products? _____
18. It is hump day in Ghana (Wednesday), what is the word at the top of your calendar? _____
19. What is the largest tribe in Ghana, numbering about 7 million people? _____
20. What export represents Ghana's oldest extraction (mining) industry? _____
21. The first Presidential opposition candidate to win with an outright majority in a first round election. _____
22. What is the Ghanaian equivalent of the U.S. penny? _____
23. The Eternal Flame of African Liberation burns in Independence Square, known by what other name? _____
24. What are you most likely to find swimming in Chief's Pond in Bolgatanga (Paga)? _____
25. What are you most likely to find swimming in Wechiau Sanctuary on the Black Volta River? _____
26. What were the fortified warehouses built by the Asafo warriors during the Colonial period? _____



Exploring Two Countries An Ocean Apart

6th - 8th Grade Learning Unit

One country is as large as some continents. The other is the same size as an American state. One hosts cultures that date back many centuries, even though as a country it is not a century old. Both have major metropolitan cities and vibrant economies, and both also have rural areas and small towns. Both have beautiful landscapes and spectacular wildlife, and both also have dark periods in their past, like slavery. Each year, as students are given the opportunity to learn more about Memphis in May's honored country, they learn about that honored country... as well as their own country... by exploring the similarities and differences. As your students explore Ghana's culture, sports, government, economy and more throughout this Learning Unit, encourage them to make comparisons to the U.S. and to our own history.

The introductory section of this curriculum guide offers several pages which offer a general overview of Ghana (pages 4 - 6), and several pages which deal with Ghana's history (pages 7 - 12). To gain more understanding about Ghana (some students may know little), have them review those pages, and then answer the questions below. While some are specific questions with distinct answers, others serve to encourage your students to ponder and to make comparisons.



1. What does Pan-African mean?
2. Within a decade of Ghana's independence in 1957, more than 30 other African countries followed suit, and declared their own independence. Identify and research one of these other 30 African countries and compare their fight for independence with that of Ghana. From whom were they seeking their independence? Was it the same as Ghana? What specific aspects of Ghana's fight for independence do you feel drove this other African country to seek independence?
3. What factors do you feel led to Accra becoming or being chosen as Ghana's capital? Consider factors like location, resources, what was taking place there previously, etc. Support your answers. In comparison, what factors might have led to the selection of Washington, D.C. as the U.S. capital? Were both of these cities the original capital for their respective countries?
4. Kumasi is the seat of the King of the Asante people in central Ghana. If Ghana is a democracy, why is there a King?
5. With the Atlantic Ocean to its south, Ghana has three neighboring countries which comprise its borders. Choose one of these three countries and research a comparison between it and Ghana in regard to geography, government, economy, customs and lifestyle.
6. In some ecological zones of Ghana, trees of varying heights form a canopy. What is a canopy, and how would you suspect it would impact animals and other plant life along the floor of the forest?
7. Explain the rotational system of agriculture, and why do you think it is important to crop production?
8. Ghana's population shifted from about one-third city dwellers in the 1960s to over half of Ghana's population living in cities by 2000. What do you believe caused the shift? Has American history recorded a similar shift? If so, when?
9. Debate the benefits and challenges of a nation which has over 100 different cultural groups and over 80 different languages.



Comparisons from the “World Factbook”

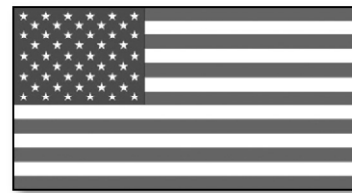
Standards

Social Studies
6-8 SSP.01
6-8 SSP.02
6-8 SSP.06
6.04, 7.21,
7.23, 7.24

There are many similarities between the Republic of Ghana and the United States than many might expect, while there are also significant differences. The CIA online “World Factbook” at <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html> offers information about all countries around the globe, regarding topics ranging from natural resources, population, government, military and more. Many more facts about Ghana and the U.S. are available than those presented and used for this lesson plan. In addition to the activity questions listed on page 46, consider having students select a category from the website not represented on these two pages, make a comparison, and present their findings. Use the information below to answer questions on page 46.



Population:	28,102,471 (2018 est.)
Population Growth Rate:	2.16% (2018 est.)
Net Migration Rate:	1.8 migrants / 1000 pop.
Comparison to the World:	154
Total Land Area:	92,100 sq miles
Coastline:	208 sq miles
Climate:	Tropical, warm and comparatively dry along southeast coast; hot and humid in southwest; hot and dry in the north
Highest Point:	Mount Afadjato, 2900 ft
Natural Resources:	Gold, timber, diamonds, cacao, manganese, fish, rubber, hydro power, petroleum, silver, salt bauxite, limestone
Agricultural Products:	Coffee, cut flowers, bananas, rice, tobacco, corn, sugarcane, cocoa beans, oilseed, vegetables, shrimp, forest products
GDP:	\$47.02 billion (2017 estimate)
GDP per capita:	\$4,700



Population:	329,256,864 (2018 est.)
Population Growth Rate:	0.8% (2018 est.)
Net Migration Rate:	3.9 migrants / 1000 pop
Comparison to the World:	30
Total Land Area:	3,796,742 sq miles
Coastline:	7,693 sq miles
Climate:	Temperate, but tropical in Hawaii and Florida, arctic in Alaska, semiarid in the plains west of the Mississippi, arid in the southwest
Highest Point:	Mount McKinley, 20,308 ft
Natural Resources:	Coal, copper, lead, gold, bauxite, iron, phosphates, timber, petroleum, uranium, iron, mercury, nickel, silver, natural gas, arable land
Agricultural Products:	Wheat, corn, fruits, other grains, vegetables, cotton, beef, poultry, pork, dairy products, fish, forest products
GDP:	\$19.49 trillion (2017 estimate)
GDP per capita:	\$59,800

Comparisons from the “World Factbook” (cont.)



Population Below Poverty Rate:	24.2% (2013)
Unemployment rate:	11.9% (2015 est.)
Military Expenditure:	0.4% of GDP (2017 est)
Population No Electricity:	7.3 million (2013)
Life Expectancy at Birth:	67.4 years total pop.
Male:	64.9 years
Female:	70 years
Health Expenditure:	3.6% of GDP (2014)
Education Expenditure:	4.5% of GDP (2017)
Literacy Rate: can read and write)	76.6% (age 15 and over)
Ethnic Groups:	Akan 47.5%, Mole-Dagbon 16.6%, Ewe 13.9%, Ga-Dangme 7.4%, Gurma 13.1%, Guan 3.7%, Grusi 2.5%, Mande 1.1%, other 1.4%
Religions:	Christian 71.2%, Muslim 17.6%, Traditional 5.2%, Other 0.8%, None 5.2%
Languages:	Asante 16%, Ewe 14%, Fante 11.6%, Boron 4.9%, Dagomba 4.4%, Dangme 4.2%, Dagarte 3.9%, Kokomba 3.5%, Akyam 3.2%, Ga 3.1%, Other 31.2%
Government Type:	Presidential Republic
Internet Users:	Total, 9,328,018; % of population, 34.7%; country comparison to the world, 128
Labor Force:	12.49 million
Labor Force / Occupation:	Agriculture, 44.7%; Services, 40.9% Industry 14.4

Population Below Poverty Rate:	15.1% (2010)
Unemployment rate:	4.4% (2017 est.)
Military Expenditure:	3.29% of GDP (2017 est.)
Electrification - Total Pop.	100% (2016)
Life Expectancy at Birth:	80.1 years total pop.
Male:	77.8 years
Female:	82.3 years
Health Expenditure:	17.1% of GDP (2014)
Education Expenditure:	5% of GDP (2014)
Literacy Rate: can read and write)	99% (age 15 and over)
Ethnic Groups:	White 72.4%, Hispanic (includes all of Spanish, Hispanic, Latino origin) 16.3%, Black 12.6%, Asian 4.8%, Native American 0.9%, Hawaiian/ Islander 0.2%, Other 6.2%
Religions:	Protestant 46.5%, Catholic 20.8%, Jewish 1.9%, Mormon 1.6%, Muslim 0.9%, Buddhist 0.7%, Hindu 0.7%, None 22.8%
Languages:	English only 78.2%, Spanish 13.4%, Chinese 1.1%, Other 7.3%
Government Type:	Constitutional Federal Republic
Internet Users:	Total, 246,809,221; % of population, 76.2%; country comparison to the world, 3
Labor Force:	160.4 million
Labor Force / Occupation:	Managerial 37.3%, Services 37.3% Sales & Office 24.2%, Manufacturing 20.3%, Industry 20.3%, Farming / Agriculture 0.7%



Comparisons from the “World Factbook” *(cont.)*

The information on the previous two pages, pulled from the CIA “World Factbook” website, provides many comparisons between the United States and Ghana, including resources, geography, population, economy, etc. Utilize the information provided, as well as other research sources such as library reference materials and the internet, to determine answers to the following questions. As mentioned on the previous pages, also encourage students to further research the CIA World Factbook and to find one other interesting comparison between Ghana and the United States, and present to the classroom.

Activity - Study the charts comparing Ghana and the U.S. and answer the following questions.

1. Based on the total area of each country, how many times would Ghana fit inside the land area of the United States?
2. Calculate how much each country spends on education (total dollar amount per year). Do you think there is a correlation between how much is spent and the literacy rate? Do you think that the amount spent on education by Ghana is higher or lower than other African countries? Research some comparisons.
3. The chart lists the U.S. government type as a constitutional federal republic, and Ghana’s as a presidential republic. Speculate what is meant by “presidential republic,” then research to find out what it means. Also research the exact meaning of “constitutional federal republic,” as we often simply label the U.S. as a “democracy.”
4. Compare the two types of governments and write a paragraph describing how the governments are alike. Write another paragraph describing how they are different.
5. The U.S. spends eight times more of our GDP on the military as does Ghana. Calculate the actual amount of money each government spends on the military.
6. Notice the big discrepancy in the life expectancy between our countries. Come up with, and list five possible reasons that people in Ghana have a considerably shorter life expectancy than Americans, then research Ghana to find out two actual reasons why this is the case.
7. Notice that the United States has many of the same natural resources as Ghana; gold, bauxite, silver, etc. Pick three of the resources that both countries possess. Research to find out the amounts of each and create a basic chart to display your findings. Find and include at least one resource in which Ghana has a larger supply of that natural resource.
8. Have students visit the CIA World Factbook webpage to discover more fascinating facts about our friends in West Africa! Have each student identify one additional interesting comparison between the two countries, research it in depth, and present their findings to the rest of the class for discussion.



School students in Koforidua

Discovering the Architecture of Ghana



Larabanga Mosque, Larabanga



Villaggio Vista, Accra



Stilted Village, Nzulezu



National Theatre, Accra

Ghana's traditional architecture of tribes and ethnic groups was influenced by available materials, religious beliefs, and social relationships within a community. Many traditional Asante buildings are listed as UNESCO World Heritage sites. The "shrine" house is a traditional example, with four buildings enclosing a central courtyard, used for music, cooking and religion.

The Larabanga Mosque is built in the Sudanese architectural style. It is the oldest mosque in the country and one of the oldest in West Africa. It is reputed to be Ghana's oldest mosque and houses a copy of the Qur'an almost as old. It has survived for centuries despite inclement weather and bad reconstruction projects.

During the last decades there has been a huge migration to the cities in Ghana, especially the capital Accra. With many of the African designers educated in Europe or America, much of Accra's new design is determined by European and American models.

The Ghana National Mosque Complex in Accra is a beautiful example of Ottoman architecture. Its arches and domes, in spite of the forest of wooden formwork, give hints of the elegance associated with Islamic architecture. It was a gift from the people of Turkey to the people of Ghana, with its impressive series of domes and semi domes.

The National Theatre of Ghana is a multifunctional institution, professionally equipped to meet world standards. Its core function is the development and promotion of the performing arts, both contemporary and traditional. It was designed by Chinese architects, and features influences of the Sydney Opera House in Australia.

Villaggio Vista is the tallest tower building in West Africa, an ambitious new project in the booming capital of Accra. Its high-quality apartments with impressive penthouse units and in-house facilities such as rooftop swimming pools, concierge and gym are set to appeal to the growing middleclass of businessmen of Ghana's thriving economy.

The construction of the World Bank Building in Accra has incorporated a number of eco-friendly designs, like the rain water harvesting system, green roofing features and other sustainable features.

Activity - Have each student choose one of these sites and develop a research paper about it, including location, use, history, architectural style, unique facts and preservation: ● The Accra Mall, ● Cape Coast Castle, ● Flagstaff House, ● Ghana National Mosque Complex, ● The Larabanga Mosque, ● SSNIT Emporium, ● The Stilted Village of Nzulezu, ● Unity Hall at Kwame Nkrumah University, ● Villaggio Vista, ● World Bank Building, ● The National Theatre

Ghanaian Map Skills

Ghana, officially the Republic of Ghana, is a country located along the Gulf of Guinea and Atlantic Ocean, in the subregion of West Africa. Spanning a land mass of 92,100 square miles, Ghana is bordered by the Ivory Coast to the west, Burkina Faso to the north, Togo to the east and the Gulf of Guinea and Atlantic Ocean to the south. The country's name, Ghana, means "Warrior King" in the Soninke language. Use the map of Ghana on the next page to explore the cities and geographical features of Memphis in May's 2022 honored country. The map can also be used to answer the following questions and complete the accompanying map skills activity. Teachers may choose to incorporate an art activity into this lesson plan, and have students create a large wall map of Ghana utilizing butcher paper and markers. On it they can label cities, mountains, rainforests, and bodies of water. The wall map could also be used to label Ghana's national parks and game reserves.

Activity - Use the map of Ghana on the following page to solve the following problems. Find the exact location for the following cities, using longitudes and latitudes:

- Accra _____
- Bolgatanga _____
- Ho _____
- Takoradi _____
- Tamale _____
- Sunyani _____

Use the map scale in the upper right corner of the map of Ghana to determine the distance between the following cities. Use either miles or kilometers:

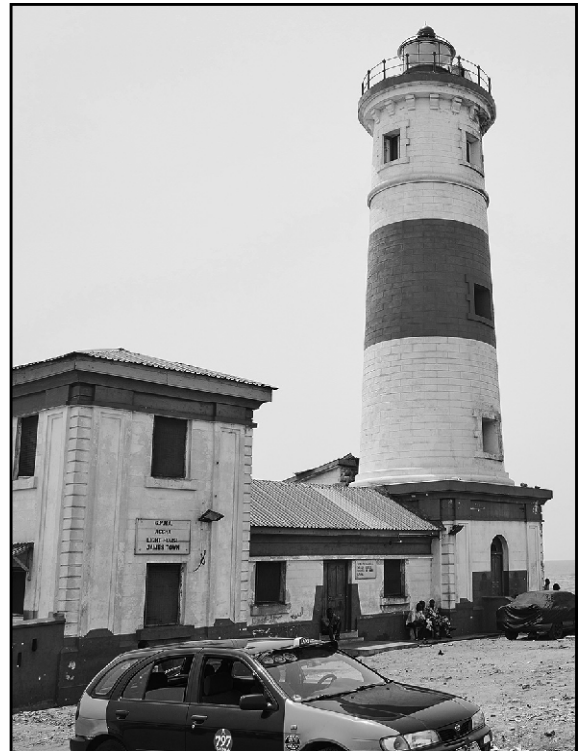
- Takoradi to Ho - _____
- Accra to Bolgatanga - _____
- Tamale to Sunyani - _____
- Obuasi - Tema _____

Continue to use the map as you answer the following questions.

- What countries border Ghana?
- With which country do they share the longest border?
- How many miles of coastline do the Ghanaians enjoy?
- Estimate what percentage of Ghana is taken up by Lake Volta.
- Make a list of the major rivers which run throughout Ghana.
- By studying the map, which area of the country has the largest population?
- Where do you think you would find the largest concentration of roadways?

Standards

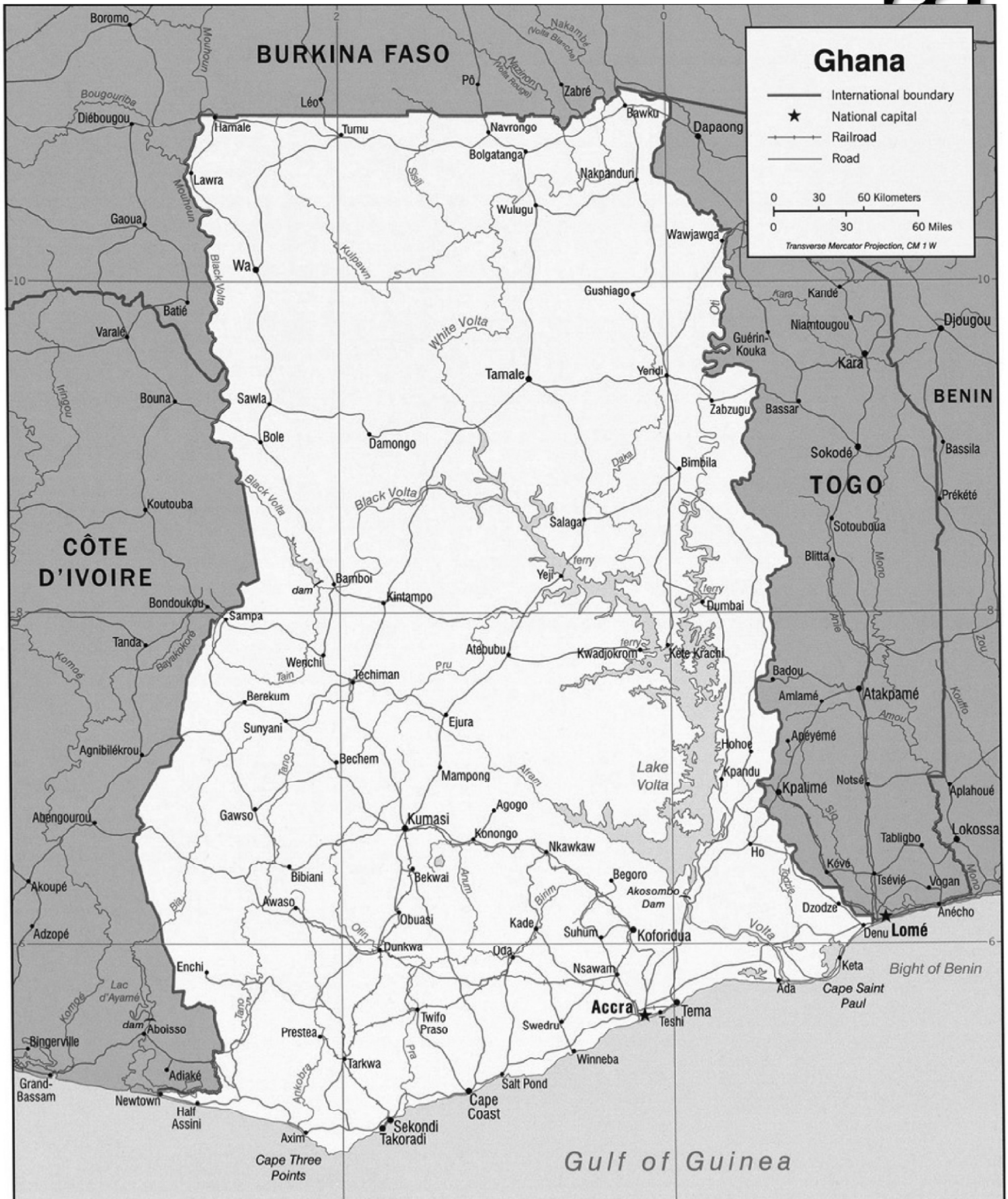
Social Studies
6-8 SSP.01
6-8 SSP.02
6-8 SSP.06
6.04, 7.21,
7.23, 7.24



Jamestown lighthouse



Kakum National Park tree canopy





6-8

Anansi the Spider & The Sky God

Anansi the trickster is a West African deity. He often takes the shape of a spider and is considered to be the god of all knowledge of stories. He is also one of the most important characters of West African and Caribbean folklore. The Anansi tales are believed to have originated among the Ashanti people in Ghana. The word Anansi is Akan and means, simply, spider. These folktales later spread to other Akan groups and then to the West Indies, Suriname, and the Netherlands Antilles, often passed along through oral tradition during the Atlantic slave trade. On Curaçao, Aruba, and Bonaire he is known as Nanzi, and his wife as Shi Maria. He is also known as Ananse, Kwaku Ananse, and Anancy. In some beliefs, Anansi is responsible for creating the sun, the stars and the moon, as well as teaching mankind the techniques of agriculture. Anansi stories are considered “trickster” folktales because the small spider uses his intelligence and trickiness to triumph larger creatures. Stories such as these are told by elders to pass down knowledge and moral messages to the younger generations. Sometimes the stories were acted out by the storyteller, or even sung with dancing and drumming.

In the 1950s people began collecting the famous stories and writing them down so that school children in Ghana could learn them. In this particular folktale, Anansi obtains all the stories from the Sky God. This same folktale has been told beautifully in the book “How Anansi Obtained the Sky God’s Stories” by Donna Washington, with illustrations by Janice Skivington (available from Amazon).

Anansi & The Sky God

Once there were no stories in the world. Kwanku Anansi the spider once went to Nyan-Konpon the sky god in order to buy the sky god’s stories. The sky god said, “What makes you think you can buy them?”

The little spider answered, “I just know I shall be able.”

Thereupon, the sky god said, “Great and powerful towns like Kokofu, Bekwai, and Asumengya have all come to me and they were unable to purchase them, and yet you who are but a simple little spider, and you say you will be able to buy them?”

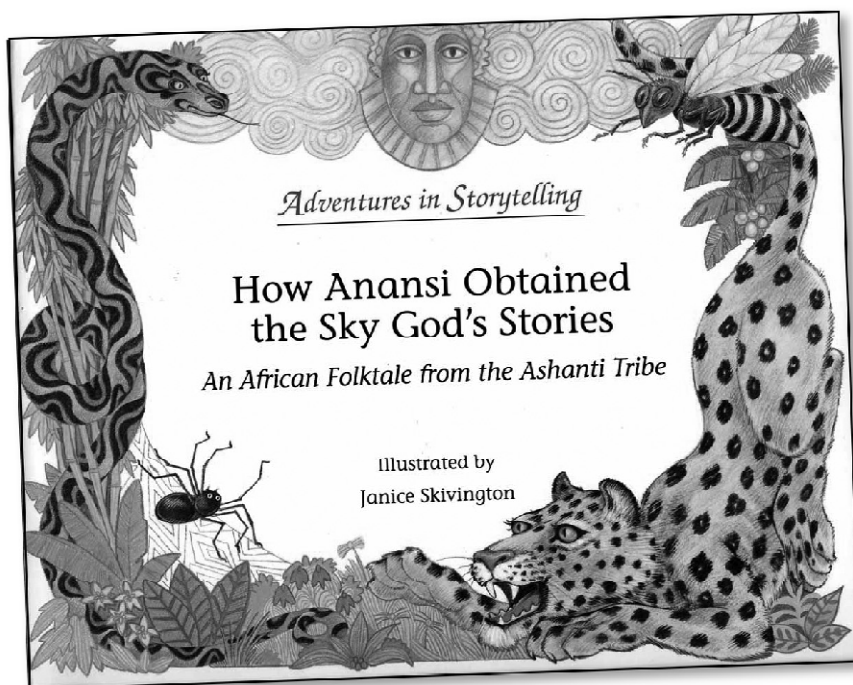
The spider said, “What is the price of the stories?”

The sky god said, “They cannot be bought for anything... unless you are able to bring to me Onini the python, Osebo the leopard, Mmoboro the hornet, and Mmoatia the fairy.”

The spider said, “I will bring all of these to you.”

The sky god said, “Go and bring them then!”

Anansi set about capturing these. First he went to where Onini the Python lived and debated out loud whether Onini the Python was really longer than the branch of a palm tree as his wife, Aso, says. The python overheard and, when Anansi explained the debate, agreed to lie straight and be measured along the palm branch. Because he cannot easily make himself completely straight a true impression of his actual length is difficult to obtain,



Anansi the Spider & The Sky God *(cont.)*

so Onini the Python agreed to be tied to the branch (to keep him straight). When he was completely tied, Anansi took him to the sky god.

To catch Osebo the Leopard, Anansi dug a deep hole in the ground. When the leopard fell in the hole Anansi offered to help him out with his mighty webs. Once the leopard was out of the hole he was bound in Anansi's webs and was carried away.

To catch Mmoboro the Hornet, Anansi filled a large calabash gourd with water and poured some over a banana leaf he held over his head and some over the nest, calling out that it was raining. He suggested the hornet get into the empty calabash in order to stay dry from the rain, and when Mmoboro the Hornet did, Anansi the Spider quickly sealed the opening.

To catch Mmoatia the Fairy he made a doll and covered it with sticky gum. He placed the doll under the Odum (Tree of Life) where the fairies play. He placed some yams in a bowl in front of the doll. When the fairy came and ate the yam she thanked the doll which of course did not reply. Annoyed at its bad manners she struck it, first with one hand then the other. Mmoatia the Fairy's hands stuck and Anansi captured her.

Anansi handed his captives over to Nyan the sky god. The latter said, "Kawku Anansi, from today and going on forever, I present my sky god stories to you, kose! kose! kose! my blessing, my blessing, my blessing! No more shall we call them the sky god's stories, but we shall call them Anansi the Spider Stories! This is my story which I have related. If it be sweet, or if it be not sweet, take some elsewhere, and let some come back to me.

Questions & Activities

1. Folktales, myths and legends have been told for thousands of years by all people throughout the world. Why do you think these stories are important to a culture? What are the components of a story that makes it more than a story, but makes it engaging enough to audiences that it gets repeated and passed from generation to generation?
2. Create an extra part to this story, telling why Nyan-Konpon the sky god wants each of the items. The conclusion of your story can tell what he did with Onini, Osebo, Mmoboro and Mmoatia. Do you think he used them for good or for evil?
3. What does the narrator ask for at the end of the story? Why do you think she asks for this?
4. Almost every country and almost every culture of people have some sort of folktales. Some communities call them fables. In the U.S. we tell stories around campfires. Have each story think about an example of an American folktale. Even better, have them think about a folktale that they remember which made an impact on them when they were little. Allow each student to share and compare their stories.

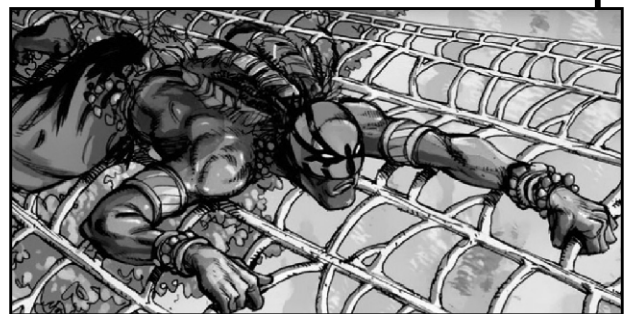
Standards

Social Studies
6-8.SSP.01
6.04, 7.22

English L.A.
6-8.LC SE.1
6-8.L.CSE.2
6-8.KL.3
6-8.VAU.6

Anansi, The Superhero?

In a 2007 Spiderman comic, Marvel Comics introduced Kwaku-Anansi, described as an African god with superhuman strength, speed and agility who can also shoot organic webs from his wrists on a scale far beyond that of Peter Parker. He once conjured a web long enough to allow him to climb into the clouds.



For more details, visit "Ryan Fraser's World of Black Heroes," <http://worldofblackheroes.com/2014/06/07/kwaku-anansi>



The Glory & Agony of World Cup 2010

Do you have a favorite sports team that you enjoy watching? It's no different in Ghana. Like many countries around the globe, soccer is Ghana's number one pastime. Ghanaians love soccer so much it's considered the national sport of Ghana. Crowds of people from all over gather together in the capital of Accra to support their favorite soccer team. The Ghana national football team represents Ghana in international association football and has done so since the 1950s. The team is nicknamed the Black Stars after the Black Star of Africa represented on the national flag of Ghana. The national team has had much success. They have won the Africa Cup of Nations on four different occasions (1963, 1965, 1978, 1980), and have finished as runner-up on five other occasions. In 2010 Ghana reached a place they had never been - the quarterfinals of the FIFA World Cup. In what has become one of the cruelest moments in World Cup history, Ghana's chance to advance to the final four ended in shocking fashion. Below is a 2014 article written about that fateful match.

Special thanks to John McAuley, writer for The National.

Activity

Read the article with the students, then have them answer the questions that follow.

It is one of the indelible images of the World Cup held in South Africa in 2010. Ghana was on the verge of becoming the first African team to qualify for a World Cup semi-final - just a penalty kick away from making history at Africa's World Cup. It had been a frantic final few moments of a competitive encounter with Uruguay. A teeming Soccer City had dragged its continental counterparts through 120 minutes when, with the score tied at 1 to 1 and in the dying final seconds of extra time, Uruguay's Luis Suarez used his right hand to slap away Dominic Adiyiah's goal-bound header on the line.

Suarez was sent off the field, but a guaranteed goal became a not-so-sure penalty kick. A deserved victory for Ghana seemed to possibly wither in the cold Johannesburg night. Asamoah Gyan, for so long Ghana's protagonist, placed the ball on the spot of the penalty,



but as the host continent of Africa held its breath, he crashed his shot against the crossbar. It was the last kick of the game. Suarez stood by the tunnel, watching on the stadium's giant screen. He erupted in celebration. In the ensuing shootout, even though Ghana's Asamoah Gyan admirably converted the first penalty kick, Uruguay triumphed 4-2. As Sebastian Abreu cheekily chipped the winning spot-kick and was buried below a sea of sky blue uniforms, Gyan was in the center of the pitch, inconsolable. What had been a World Cup of significant individual success - he had scored three times, including two penalties and a thunderous, half-volleyed winner against the United States in the last 16 seconds - this game had ended in despair. "It was a painful moment," Gyan says, in an exclusive interview with The National, little more than two weeks before he finds himself back on football's main stage. "For me, my family and the whole of Africa."

Standards

Social Studies

6.04

English L.A.

6-8.LC SE.1

6-8.LAU.4

"Because we were the only African team left in the tournament and were doing great. We then had the opportunity and we didn't make use of it - the penalty miss and everything." The years since have been restorative, almost transformative. At 28, he is the most prolific player in his country's history. Yet that penalty miss gnaws at him; it hurts and it haunts. Ghana

The Glory & Agony of World Cup 2010 (cont.)

had emerged from a group containing Germany, Australia and Serbia, had beaten the United States in the first knockout stage, and had seemed destined to lift the cup on African soil. What a surprise. What a story. Then that miss. “Sometimes when I’m alone, I get up and put the DVD on and start watching that game,” Gyan says. “Probably watched it 20 times until now. I wish the match could happen again because it really hurts me every time when I’m alone. It’s something that I can never forget. Obviously, I’m over it now, I’m stronger for it, but I can never forget what happened. I watch it over and over and over again and hope one day I can turn things around and make people happy. If it doesn’t happen, then that’s part of life. But if it does, I’ll be really happy for the rest of my life.”

Brazil, the site of the 2014 World Cup, could have helped exorcise those demons, and help Gyan write a new chapter in what had been a largely inspired international career. The Uruguay encounter was a major setback, much like another missed penalty at the 2012 African Cup of Nations, which prompted a brief “indefinite break” from international football, however he knew it could also be the making of him. It has been forgotten among the rubble of its conclusion, but that World Cup had elevated Gyan to another level. He scored three goals, was nominated for the Ballon d’Or and was voted African footballer of the year by the BBC. Perversely, it was Gyan’s “greatest year.”



Prior to the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, Gyan said, “I just pray to God that should happen again this time because, mentally, I’m more prepared to prove a point again. It’s very early to talk about what’s going to happen in Brazil, but that is my ambition, to prove a point once again and to show my fans and Ghanaians what I’m capable of. But before this can happen it all depends on the players playing our normal game and fighting like the way we fought in 2010... play our hearts out and just be tactically disciplined. Then we’ll have a good tournament and everything will happen naturally.”

Key Vocabulary - Restorative, Transformative, Past time, Fateful, Perverse, Indefinite, Inconsolable, Tactic. Have students research definitions for each of these words.

1. Asamoah Gyan missed the penalty kick that would have put Ghana in the semi-finals of the World Cup for the first time in history. From reading the article, how would you describe how he has responded? Cite examples from the text. Do you think you would have responded the same or differently, both in private and in the public eye?
2. The article states that the years since that fateful miss have been restorative and transformative for Gyan. Cite evidence in the text that proves that point.
3. Share a setback that you have experienced in your life. How did you handle yourself afterward? How did you grow from the experience?
4. Have students locate Gyan’s kick on YouTube and view it or access it in your classroom and show it to the class. Regardless of whether students like soccer or not, it provides an interesting discussion about pressure and failure.

Once you show it, discuss it with your class.



Gawu Creations & Ghanaian Art

Ghana has a rich history, and a contemporary industry of creative arts. Ghana-born artist El Anatsui is known internationally for his large-scale sculptures called “Gawu,” a composite of the words “ga,” meaning something made of metal and ‘wu,’ meaning a fashioned garment.

From a distance, El Anatsui’s “Gawu” works of art appear to be large pieces of draped, luxurious fabric, similar to the traditional kente cloth that is woven for African royalty. Close examination of each work of art reveals the sculptures are made from discarded materials, such as metal liquor bottle wrappers and tops, and flattened food tins. El Anatsui leads his viewers to contemplate the social and economic history of West Africa, consumerism, and waste, as woven into beautiful sculptures, many of which consume entire art galleries.

In this activity, students create their own tapestries as a response to El Anatsui’s art, using African kente to discover rhythm and pattern in art. Recycled materials can be used, including folded papers and labels. Craft sticks glued to a burlap background give the piece rigidity and dimension, so it can hang as a sculptural “Gawu” and be displayed throughout your classroom. Pieces can be created individually or provide larger pieces of burlap and allow students to work together in groups for larger finished works of art. Instructions and materials are based upon a class size of 25 students. Adjust materials as needed based on number of classes.

Materials

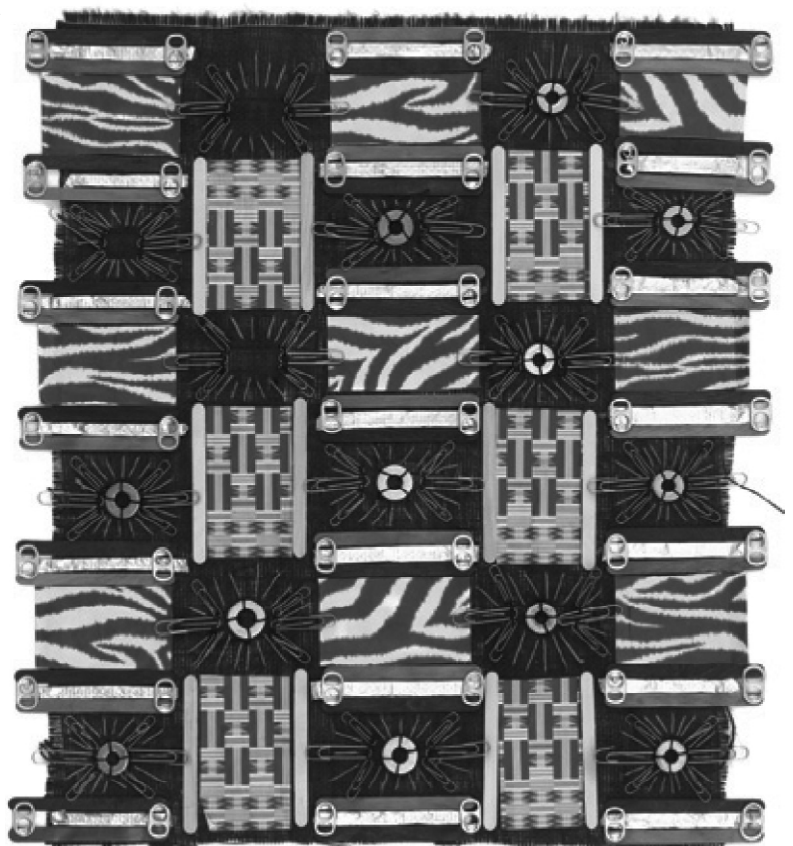
- Black burlap, approximately 46" wide; share six total yards among class
- Assorted colors of craft sticks, assorted colors; share approximately 1,000 craft sticks among class
- White craft glue
- Sticks of white chalk
- 18" x 24" sheets of newsprint
- Recycled items to incorporate into the tapestry, including papers, labels, jar lids, metal bottle caps, metal soda can flip tabs, foil paper, markers, assorted magazine clippings and paper prints (like animal prints, plant textures), etc.

Standards

Visual Arts
 6-8.VA.Cr2.A
 6-8.VA.Cr2.B
 6-8.VA.Cr3.A
 6-8.VA.P2.A
 6-8.VA.R1.B



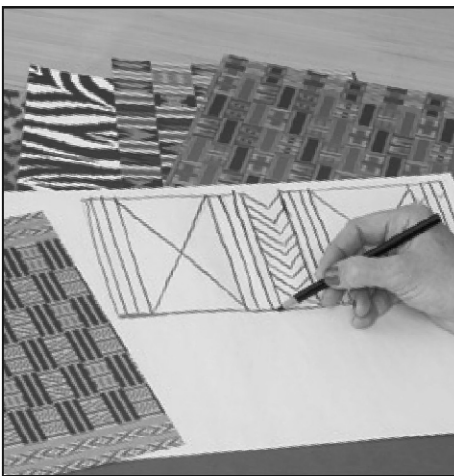
El Anatsui, the youngest of 32 children, was born in Anyako, in the Volta Region of Ghana, and trained at the College of Art, University of Science and Technology, in Kumasi, in central Ghana.



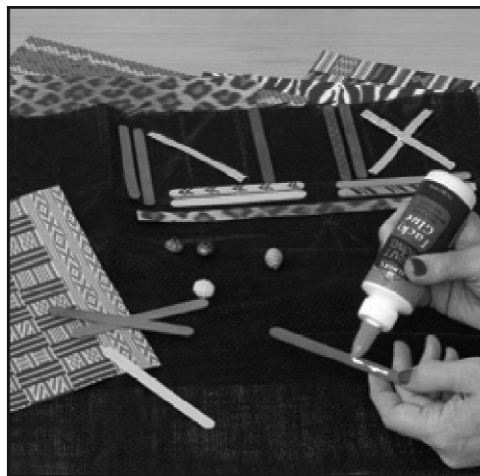
Gawu Creations & Ghanaian Art *(continued)*

Process - Read these instructions to students prior to beginning the activity. Copies can be made and distributed to students to follow as they create their “Gawu” work of art.

1. View and discuss images of El Anatsui’s art, and also view African designs and patterns used for kente.
2. Gather colorful, metallic found materials to incorporate into the tapestry. Flat items such as foil, labels, and papers can be folded to fit. Bottle caps, jar lids, can pulls, paper clips, and more can also be used, as long as there are no sharp edges.
3. Cut burlap into 23" x 18" pieces (four per yard).
4. If desired, first plan design on newsprint, then sketch it onto the burlap using white chalk sticks. Sticks may be halved to distribute across class.
5. Fill design with folded papers, foils, labels, and found materials. Materials may be glued or stitched into place.
6. Glue craft sticks in place around the border of the burlap or in other areas to give the tapestry sculptural dimension. Enhance craft sticks with patterns created using markers or paints.
7. Display completed “Gawu” works of art throughout your classroom.



Step 1: Plan design based on African textile colors and patterns.



Step 2: Create design on burlap using folded papers, found objects, craft sticks for rigidity.



Step 3: Hang the tapestry, allowing it to drape and hang sculpturally.

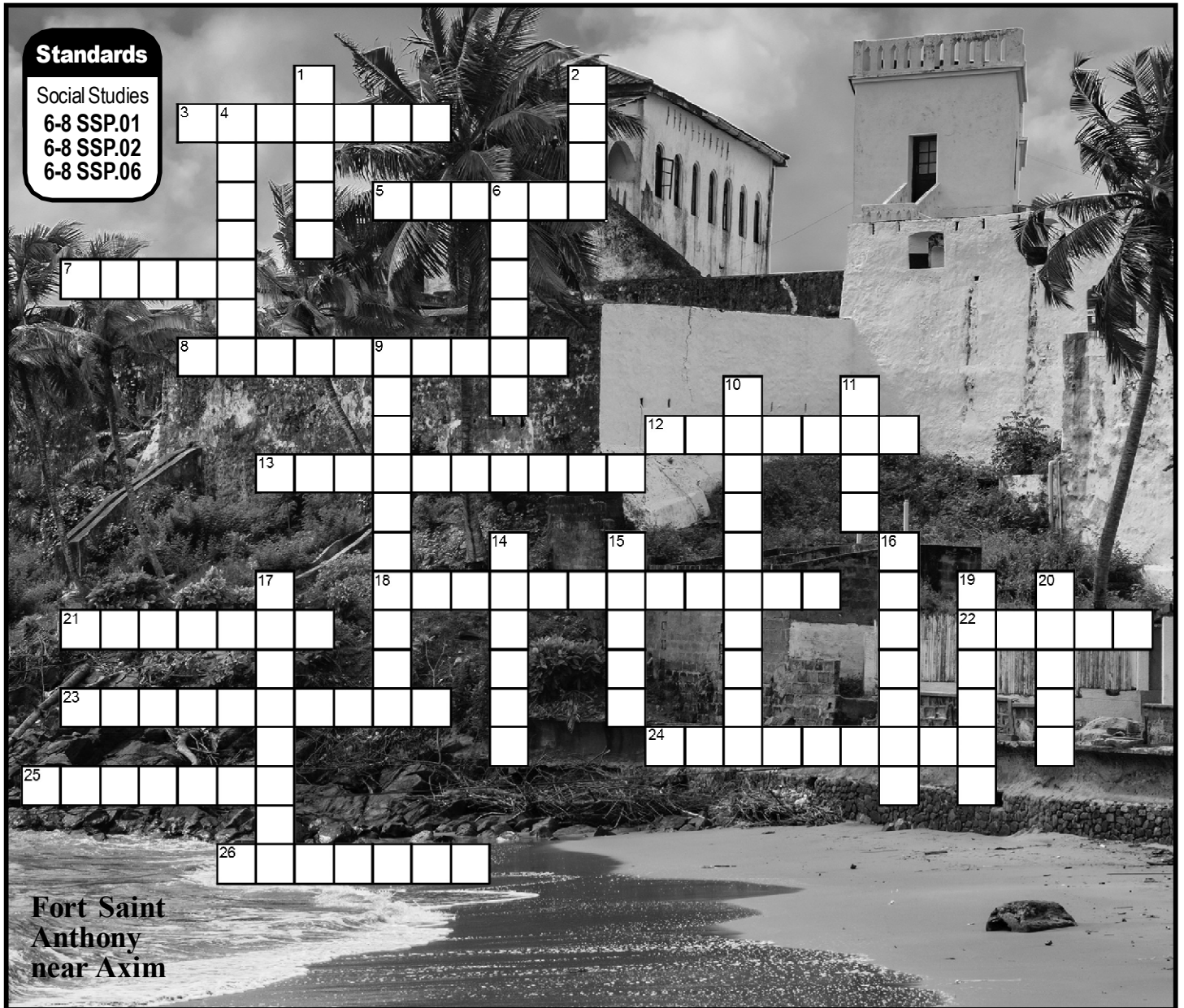
Artists of Ghana Activity - Ghana has established itself as having a rich and varied community of artists whose diverse works of art are displayed in corporate collections, museums and art galleries, not only throughout Ghana but also around the world. Have each student select one of the following Ghanaian artists, research their work, and prepare a written and visual presentation about their background and artistic style.

Ibrahim Mahama	Bright Ackwerh	Owusu Ankomah	Robert Aryeetey
Paa Joe	Bernard Akoi-Jackson	Martin Dartey	Godfried Donkor
Serge Attukwei Clottey	Ama ‘Poetra’ Diaka	Saka Acquaye	Atta Kwami
Zohra Opoku	Kwame Akoto-Bamfo	Ablade Glover	Nanart J.D. Agyeman
Adjo Kisser	Oku Ampofo	Ato Delaquis	Samuel Kane Kwei
Latifah Idriss	Vincent Kofi	Amon Kotei	Caroline Monda Dartey



Ghanaian Crossword

Have students use this curriculum guide and other online resources to complete this crossword puzzle. There is a Word Bank on page 68 you can provide to students. Answers are available on page 68.



Standards

Social Studies

6-8 SSP.01

6-8 SSP.02

6-8 SSP.06

**Fort Saint
Anthony
near Axim**

ACROSS

3. Cedis are dollars. What are pennies?
5. Akan word for "two"
7. Capital of Ghana
8. What Ghana government has instead of Congress
12. Largest tribal population
13. Ecological zone in southwest corner of Ghana
18. Wechiau Sanctuary is home to this animal
21. Reggie Rockstone is "Godfather" of this musical style
22. Game of collecting seeds
23. Famous inhabitants of Paga

24. Made with the seeds of the cacao tree
25. Huge market found in Kumasi
26. Asafo companies' concrete warehouses

DOWN

1. Famous cloth made by the Akan people
2. Metal fabric sculptures of El Anatsui
4. Monday
6. First Portuguese castle built in 1482
9. Title for "King"
10. Green
11. What's in the center of the Ghana flag?

14. What animal is Anansi of folktales?
15. Huge man-made lake
16. First president of Ghana
17. Ghana's highest mountain
19. Inhabitant of Tafi Atome Sanctuary
20. Where you'll find Ghana's famous canopy walkway

Ghana Puzzle & Quiz Solutions



Here are the answers we promised! Included below are the answers to most of the puzzle: quizzes included throughout this International Paper Curriculum Guide, providing your students with a wealth of information about the honored country of Ghana.

Ultimate Colombian Quiz, page 16

1. Accra
2. Kofi Atta Annan
3. Savannah
4. "Warrior King"
5. Kwame Nkrumah
6. Cote D'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Togo
7. Soccer (Football)
8. A spider
9. Mount Afadjato
10. March 6
11. Lake Volta
12. Akosombo Dam
13. Denu
14. Basket
15. Kumasi
16. Since 2000, in cities & dry cocoa cake
17. Cocoa liquor, cocoa butter
18. Wukuada
19. Ashanti (Asante)
20. Gold
21. Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo
22. Pesewa
23. Black Star Square
24. Crocodiles
25. Hippopotamuses
26. Posubans

Two-Part Word Search Puzzle, page 32

1. Parliament
2. Burkina Faso
3. Monkey
4. Talbotiella Gendtii
5. Hiplife
6. Matrilineal
7. Asantehene
8. Asamoah Gyan
9. Anansi
10. Gulf of Guinea
11. Kenke
12. Lake Volta
13. Issac Hayes
14. Republic Day
15. Peter Mensah
16. Freedom and Justice
17. Memeneda
18. Makola
19. Cedi
20. Emmanuel Ofori Yeboah
21. Aardvark
22. Wechiau
23. Slavery
24. Larabanga
25. Pirogues

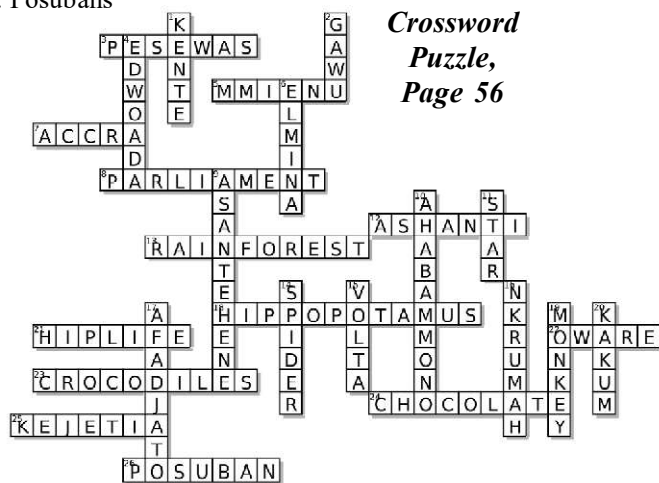
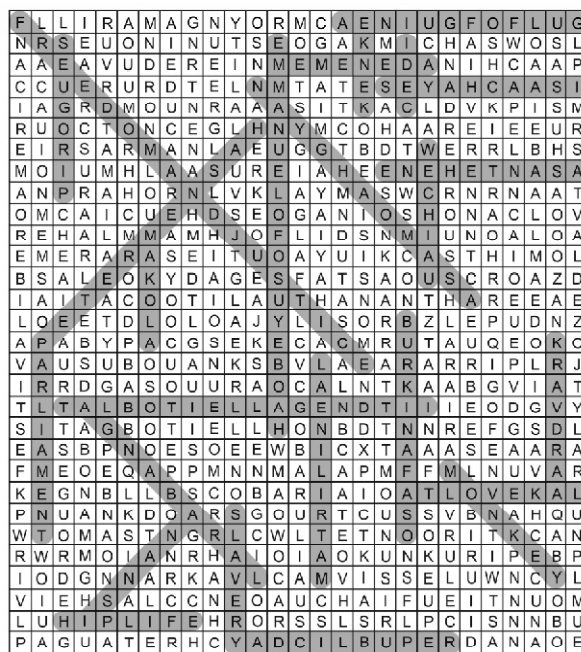
Crossword Puzzle Word Bank, Page 56

- | | | |
|------------|--------------|------------|
| Accra | Gawu | Oware |
| Afadiato | Hiplife | Parliament |
| Ahabammono | Hippopotamus | Pesewas |
| Asantehene | Kakum | Posuban |
| Ashanti | Kejetia | Rainforest |
| Chocolate | Kente | Spider |
| Crocodiles | Mmienu | Star |
| Edwoada | Monkey | Volta |
| Elmina | Nkrumah | |

Crossword Puzzle Answers, Page 56

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Across | 23. Crocodiles | 9. Asantehene |
| 3. Pesewas | 24. Chocolate | 10. Ahabammono |
| 5. Mmienu | 25. Kejetia | 11. Star |
| 7. Accra | 26. Posuban | 14. Spider |
| 8. Parliament | | 15. Volta |
| 12. Ashanti | Down | 16. Nkrumah |
| 13. Rainforest | 1. Kente | 17. Afadiato |
| 18. Hippopotamus | 2. Gawu | 19. Monkey |
| 21. Hiplife | 4. Edwoada | 20. Kakum |
| 22. Oware | 6. Elmina | |

Two-Part Word Search Puzzle, Page 33



Crossword Puzzle, Page 56

Resources - A good selection of books and websites to assist you and your students in the study and exploration of Ghana, and to help with puzzles and assignments like those on this page, can be found listed on page 72 of this guide.



Memphis in May Contests & Opportunities

Education Programs

Your exploration of the Republic of Ghana continues past this International Paper Curriculum Guide. Each year, Memphis in May produces many educational and cultural events and contests to showcase its honored country. Throughout the year, Memphis in May offers contests, exhibits, performances and other educational opportunities for teachers and students to learn all about Ghana. Additional information about each, as well as updated details and deadlines, is available at www.memphisinmay.org/education. All programs are subject to change or modification.

Delta Dental of TN World Cargo Crates

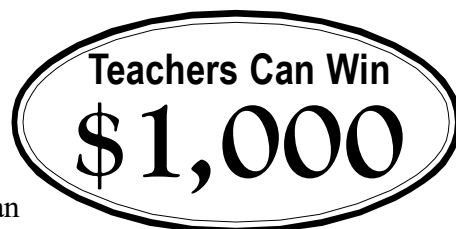
The incredible country of Ghana is sending a bit of its own culture straight to your classroom! Each year, Memphis in May receives an international shipment from its honored country. The festival loads the goods into four different “World Cargo Crates” designed to be transported to Memphis area schools. Each Delta Dental of TN World Cargo Crate is loaded with educational items, cultural items, historical items, games, musical instruments, costumes, handicrafts, and more, as well as a description of each item and its significance to Ghanaian culture. Your school can reserve a crate free of charge for a one-week period so that classrooms throughout your school will have the chance to explore the crate. The Memphis in May Delta Dental of TN World Cargo Crates are available for reservation for dates between January and May 2022. **To reserve a crate for your school, or for more information, please email education@memphisinmay.org.** One week per school, please. The crate will be delivered to your school before 12 noon Monday morning, and picked up the following Monday by 10:00 a.m., courtesy of Blue Sky Couriers.

Education Contests

This year we are making it easier to sign up for our programs and integrate the Memphis in May Curriculum into your classroom activities. Memphis in May provides easy to use resources to enable teachers to integrate education about the honored country into your classroom. Memphis in May will recognize teachers that utilize these resources during the year as an Official Memphis in May International Classroom. A minimum level of participation is required. Visit <http://bit.ly/MIMEducation> for details.

Become the Official Memphis in May Classroom Program Classroom Competition / Grades K - 12

Teachers, you can win \$1,000 just by incorporating the honored country of Ghana into your classroom. Involve students in your classroom or grade level in classroom decorations and activities with a theme based on this exciting country. Fill your classroom (and your students’ minds) with images of Ghanaian art, animals, landscapes and culture. For details, visit <http://bit.ly/MIMEducation>. Entries must be digitally submitted by **Friday, May 6, 2022 at 5:00 pm.**



Applications, additional details, deadline information, program changes and frequent educational opportunity updates are available online at <http://bit.ly/MIMEducation>.

(cont. on next page)

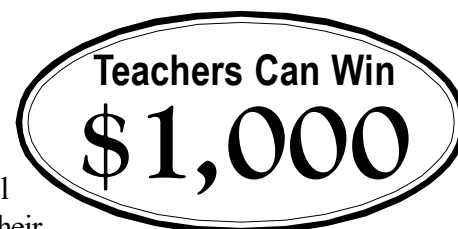
Contests & Opportunities *(continued)*



Sedgwick CMS International Teacher Competition Teacher Competition / Grades K - 12

Now teachers have the chance to win alongside their students! If you're ready to celebrate Memphis in May's honored country in your classroom, this competition is for you. Memphis in May will recognize the teachers with the most outstanding "global classrooms," teachers who utilize international programming to supplement their curriculum and introduce a foreign culture to their

students. Sign up and participate in one or more of Memphis in May's education programs and events, complying with all program guidelines. Participate in as many of the programs and events as possible to increase the international appeal of your classroom. Entries will not be judged solely on the quantity of Memphis in May activities, but rather the main criteria will be the educational impact, creative use of curriculum, and quality of the learning and educational activities in the classroom. Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at <http://bit.ly/MIMCompetitions>. Entries must be digitally submitted by **Friday, May 6, 2022 at 5:00pm**.



Creative Writing Contest Grades 4 - 12

The Creative Writing Contest promotes literary creativity and allows students to incorporate what they have learned about the Memphis in May honored country through the written word. Creative Writing Contest entries can include any type of literary work, fiction or non-fiction, including but not limited to poems, essays, short stories, plays, narratives, scripts and biographies. First, second and third place winners will be chosen in three grade categories (Upper Elementary - 4th & 5th grades, Middle - 6th - 8th grades, High - 9th - 12th grades). The competition is open to students attending any public, private or home school within the Shelby County area. Each entry must be submitted with a completed Creative Writing

Contest entry form (typed or printed only). Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at <http://bit.ly/MIMCompetitions> (subject to change, check website for any updates). Entries must be received by **Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.** Entries must be digitally submitted to the Memphis in May International Festival offices at 56 S. Front Street, Memphis, TN 38103.



International Paper Children's Poster Competition Grades K - 6

The International Paper Children's Poster Competition promotes the creative artistry of students in grades K-6. Patterned after the Memphis in May Fine Art Poster Program, the student's work must depict some aspect of the honored country of Ghana through the medium of drawing and coloring. One student will become the Grand Prize winner, and their work depicting Ghana will then be printed and sold by Memphis in May as the 2022 International Paper Children's Poster. Since there will be a limited number of signed and numbered prints created, this lucky young artist's poster has the potential of becoming a unique collector's item. The Grand Prize winner will sign and number 100 of the prints. First, second and third prize winners will also be recognized in various grade divisions. All artwork must be designed and executed by the student. Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at <http://bit.ly/MIMCompetitions>. Entries must be received by **Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.** Entries must be submitted to the Memphis in May International Festival offices at 56 S. Front Street,

Memphis, TN 38103.



Contests & Opportunities *(continued)*

Graphic Design Competition Grades 7 - 12

This competition promotes the creative artistry of students in grades 7-12. Patterned after Memphis in May's Fine Art Poster Program, the student's work must depict some aspect of the honored country of Ghana through the medium of graphic design. First, second and third prize winners will be recognized in various grade divisions. All artwork must be designed and executed exclusively by the student. Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at <http://bit.ly/MIMCompetitions>. Entries must be digitally submitted to Memphis in May by **Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.**

Multimedia / PowerPoint Competition Grades 9 - 12

This competition promotes design creativity and allows students to incorporate what they have learned about Ghana through overall presentation, graphic design, and written word. Students have a chance to create unique presentations illustrating the honored country's history, geography, people, music and culture. This competition is a wonderful tool to get students acquainted with Video or PowerPoint, important programs in the business world. As an additional activity, teachers may also opt to have students present in front of the class, giving them valuable practice in communication skills, all while exposing them to international history and culture. This competition is open to all high school students attending public, private, or home school within the Shelby County area. First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded. Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at <http://bit.ly/MIMCompetitions>. Entries must be received by **Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.** Entries must be submitted to the Memphis in May offices at 56 S. Front Street, Memphis, TN 38103.

Memphis in May Delta Dental of TN World Cargo Crate Photo Contest

The Delta Dental of TN World Cargo Crate Photo Contest encourages teachers to use their cameras to capture special moments in their classrooms. The photographic entries portray special "learning moments" between the students, their teachers, and the unique items from the honored country. As most of these items are foreign to the students, their reactions of interest, surprise, and curiosity are clearly visible in the photos. The winning teacher receives a Memphis in May prize package for their classroom and the privilege of being the first to reserve a Delta Dental of TN World Cargo Crate for the upcoming school year. The winning teachers and students also get to see their pictures displayed on the Memphis in May website as "the face" of the Delta Dental of TN World Cargo Crate for the next year. Up to 5 photos may be submitted per entry, along with the teacher's name and title, school name, school address, school phone number, and teacher's email address. Entries must be received by **Friday, May 13, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.** Entries must be digitally submitted to Memphis in May. For more information, see Memphis in May's website at www.memphisinmay.org or contact education@memphisinmay.org with any questions.

Exhibitions & Field Trip Opportunities

Each year, Memphis in May plans cultural exhibitions and performances involving art, artifacts, speakers and performers from the honored country. In 2022, teachers and students can expect many opportunities to explore the beauty, culture and history of Ghana. Many exhibits and performances offer great opportunities for classroom field trips. As the festival approaches, visit the Memphis in May website at www.memphisinmay.org/education for updates on exhibitions, field trips opportunities and additional educational materials. You may also call 525-4611, ext. 108, to be placed on an education email list for notifications throughout the year.



Books, Websites & More

With numerous geographic regions, 100 different indigenous cultural groups, 80 different languages, and one of the most diverse animal environments in the world, with hundreds of thousands of exotic species, it's hard to fit a country like the Republic of Ghana into just 72 pages. Below are many books and websites which can help your students locate additional information for many of the educational assignments in this guide. These resources will also help them explore many more fascinating aspects of Ghana. Teachers may also want to utilize the Internet to reach out to other schools in Ghana to establish communication between their classroom and a similar classroom in that country, especially since English is widely spoken. Your students could even reach out to like-aged students in Ghana via Twitter or Facebook to establish a web-pal program!

Books

Ghana by Philip Briggs, Bradt Guides

Ghana: The Essential Guide to Customs & Culture by Culture Smart

Country Explorers: Ghana by Lyn Larson, Lerner Publications

The Ghana Cookbook by Fran Osseo-Asare and Barbara Baeta

The Ghana Reader: History, Culture, Politics by Kwasi Konadu and Clifford C. Campbell

Once Upon A Time In Ghana: Traditional Ewe Stories Told in English by Anna Cottrell and Agbotadua Togbi Kumassah

The Political History of Ghana (1950-2013): The Experience of a Non-Conformist by Obed Yao Asamoahg

Websites

"Visit Ghana," Ghana Tourism Authority - <https://visitghana.com>

Government of Ghana - <http://ghana.gov.gh>

Ghana Department of Tourist Development - <http://gtdcgh.com>

Lonely Planet - <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/ghana>

Nations Online - www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/ghana.htm

CIA World Factbook - <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/gh.html>

GhanaWeb - <http://ghanaweb.com>

Embassy of Ghana, Washington, D.C. - <https://www.ghanaembassydc.org>

National Geographic, Ghana for Kids - <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/countries/ghana>

Activity Village, Ghana - <https://www.activityvillage.co.uk/ghana>

Need an International Paper Curriculum Guide of Your Own?

We teach students to share, but for your own copy of this Curriculum Guide, visit the Memphis in May website at www.memphisinmay.org. This entire Curriculum Guide about Ghana is available on-line in a downloadable PDF format, so you can print your own Curriculum Guide copy for free!

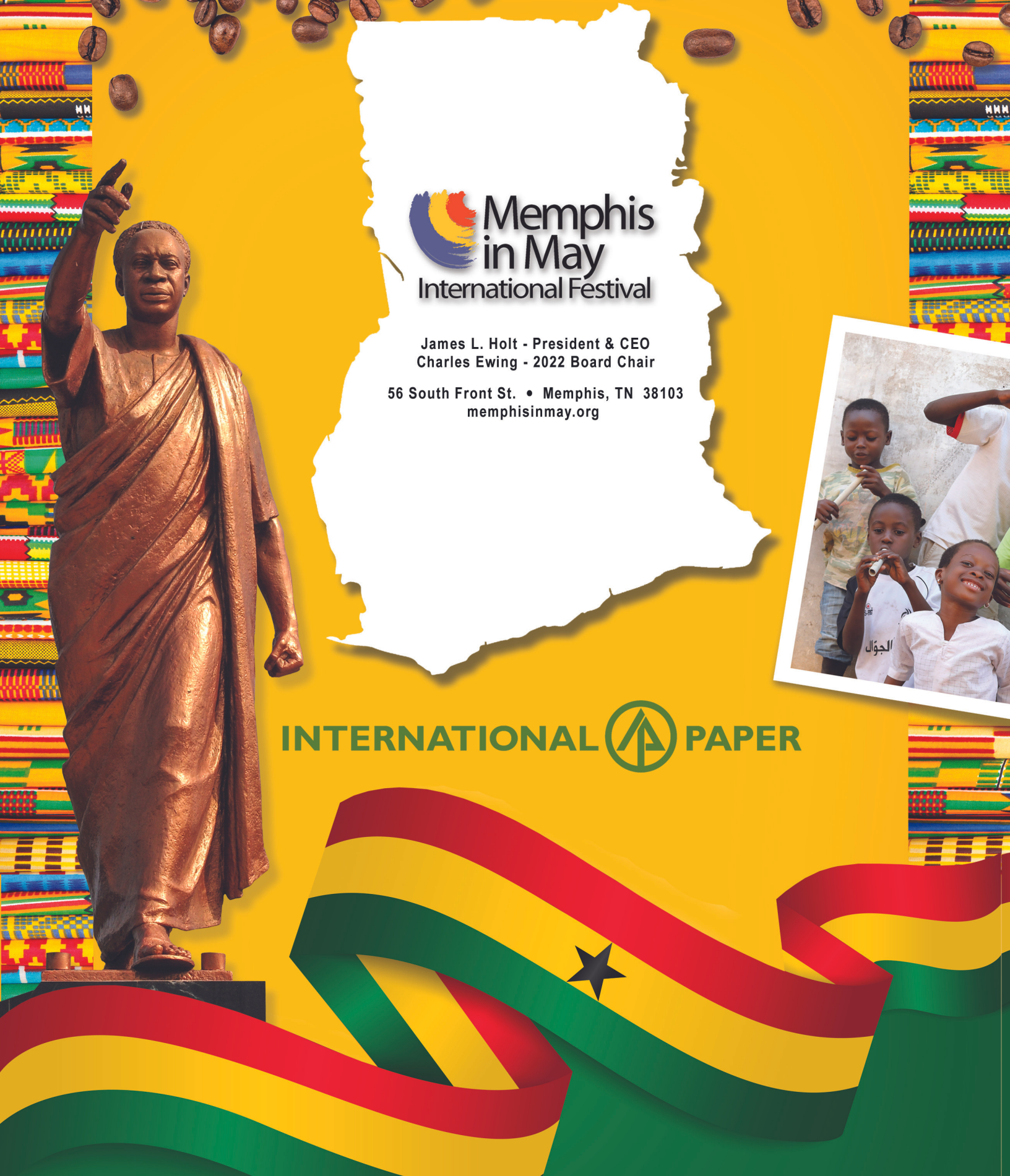
Questions?

Each year, Memphis in May receives questions from educators about the honored country. This year, teachers might need a little help with the pronunciation of Akan days of the week, or how to know the difference between cacao and cocoa! Each year, Memphis in May strives to identify local citizens who are native to the festival's honored country. These citizens are often available to answer teachers' questions, and sometimes are available for classroom visits. Memphis in May also organizes a speakers bureau which offers presentations to schools and civic organizations. Interest and requests

can be made by calling 525-4611 or by emailing Memphis in May at education@memphisinmay.org.

Join the Memphis in May Education Email List!

Receive additional information and applications as soon as they become available. To join the list, simply email education@memphisinmay.org!



Memphis in May International Festival

James L. Holt - President & CEO
Charles Ewing - 2022 Board Chair

56 South Front St. • Memphis, TN 38103
memphisinmay.org

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