

Read Around the World

Unit 2: Ethiopia

by Teach Beside Me.

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Read Around the World: Ethiopia



This unit will focus on books about Ethiopia. Find a few of these books online or at your library. They are all linked below to Amazon for your convenience. Along with the books are recipes, craft ideas, video links about culture, questions about Ethiopia to answer, an Ethiopian flag to color and a coloring page. These units are meant to be done once each week in a home or school setting for elementary level kids.

Ethiopia Books:

[E is for Ethiopia](#) by Ashenafi Gudeta

[The Perfect Orange: A Tale from Ethiopia](#) by Frank P. Araujo

[Tsion's Life](#) by Stacy Bellward

[The Lion's Whiskers](#) by Nancy Raines Day

[Animals to Count](#) (Amharic/English) by Brian Wildsmith

[Yafi's Family](#) by Linda Pettit

[Explore Ethiopia- A Coloring Book](#) by Stacy Bellward

[Fire on the Mountain](#) by Jane Kurtz

[Trouble](#) by Jane Kurtz

[Grandma's Humongous Suitcase](#) by by Elsi Abebe

[Am I Small?](#) by Philipp Winterberg

[Where Do I Come From?](#) by Alicia Grinberg

[Ethiopia](#) by Ann Heinrichs

[Pulling the Lion's Tail](#) by Jane Kurtz

[Only a Pigeon](#) by Jane Kurtz

(Books are all linked to Amazon.)

Ethiopian Culture

Listen to the Ethiopian National Anthem.

A few interesting facts about Ethiopia:

1. They have 13 months in their year and their new year is in our September. They are about 7 1/2 years behind us by date!
2. There are more than 80 languages spoken in Ethiopia. The most common ones are Oromo and Amharic.
3. In Ethiopia, they measure time from when the sun rises and count time on the opposite side of the clock. When the sun rises it is said to be 12 o'clock.
4. Kids in Ethiopia have to learn English, their tribal language and the official language of the country, Amharic.
5. Ethiopia has never been occupied by another country, although the Italians tried and failed two different times!
6. Ethiopia is the home of several natural wildlife preserves.
7. Addis Ababa is in Ethiopia. It is said to be that capital of Africa because the headquarters of the African Union are hosted there.
8. Lucy, the oldest human skeleton ever found is in a museum in Addis Ababa.

Ethiopian Recipe

The Ethiopian national dish is called wat. It is a hot spicy stew accompanied by injera (a traditional large spongy pancake) There are many varieties of wat. It is made with different meat, beans or vegetables. Following is a vegetarian version that we tried. You may want to adjust seasonings for your kids.

Ethiopian Chickpea Wat

- 1-2 tablespoons of olive or vegetable oil
- 1 large red onion, finely chopped
- 2 carrots, chopped
- 1 potato, peeled and chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon cumin
- 1/4 teaspoon cardamom
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 1 can chickpeas, drained and rinsed
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 1 cup frozen peas, thawed

Heat the oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add the onion, cover and cook until softened, about 5 minutes. Add the carrots and potato, cover and cook 10 minutes longer. Remove and cover and stir in seasonings and tomato paste. Add chickpeas and water and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low and simmer, covered, until vegetables are tender and the flavor is developed, about 30 minutes, adding a bit more water if needed. About 10 minutes before the stew is ready, stir in green peas and taste to adjust seasonings.

Traditional Ethiopian Game

Homemade Mancala Game

Sidewalk chalk or an egg carton
Seeds, stones or fruit pits (for game pieces)

Create your game board by either drawing it with chalk outside or using an empty egg carton. For a mandala board, you need 12 holes- like an egg carton, with a holding place (the mancala) on each end. If using an egg carton, have a small bowl at each end.

Set up the game by putting 4 seeds/stones/marbles/pennies (whatever you choose to use for your pieces) in each spot, except in the end holes. You will need 48 total.

To play:

The first player grabs all of the stones in one hole on their side and drops them, one by one, in succeeding holes going in a counter-clockwise direction. You do place stones in their own mancala (it counts as a hole), but skip over the opponent's mancala. You continue to place the stones in holes, even on their opponent's side, until they run out of stones. This continues until the player has no more stones in his hand. When you run out, it is the other player's turn.

The stones that land in the mancala stay there and are not collected on your turn. The object is to get the most stones in your mancala at the end of the game. The game ends when one player runs out of stones. The other player moves all of the remaining stones into their mancala.

See our example on the blog.

All About Ethiopia!

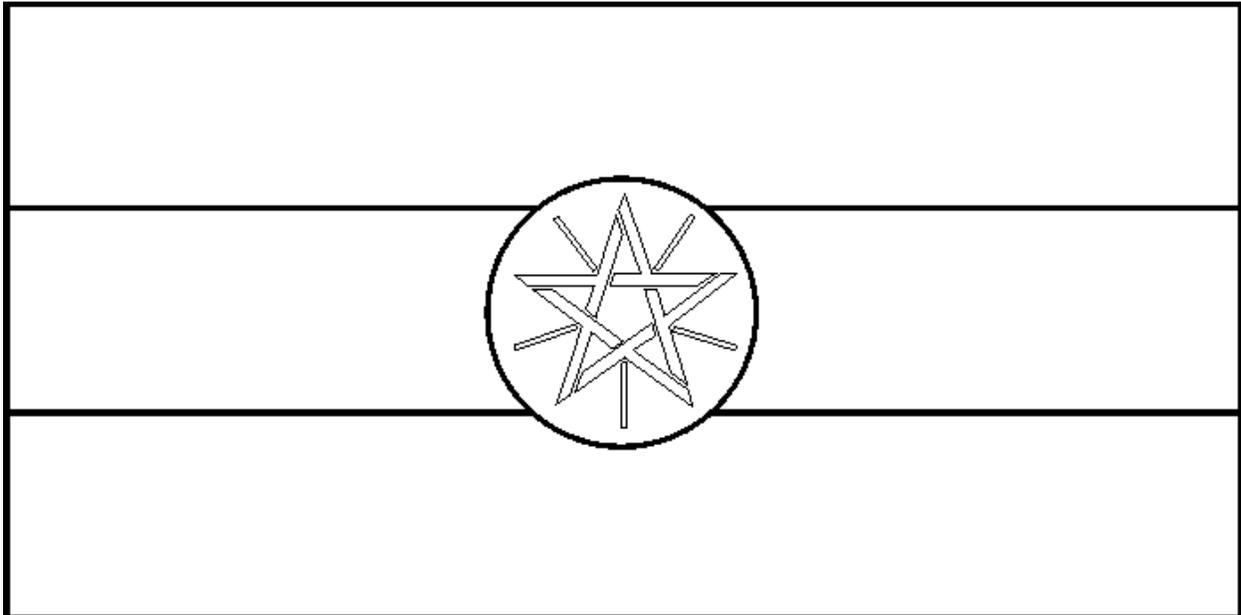
The Book(s) I chose to read: _____

What interesting things did I learn about Ethiopia? _____

What is a famous landmark in Ethiopia? _____

What language (s) do they speak in Ethiopia? _____

Color the Ethiopian Flag and put your stamp into your reading passport.



Map of Ethiopia

