Kenyan Mud Huts

KS1 TOPICS

GEOGRAPHY | DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY | SCIENCE

THE WIDER WORLD | HOUSES & HOMES | SORTING MATERIALS

Curriculum Links

Science: (Y1) Distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made; Identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock; Describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials; Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their simple physical properties. (Y2) Identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials.
DT: (KS1) Investigate and analyse a range of existing products.
Geography: (KS1) Understand geographical similarities and differences through studying the human and physical geography of a small area of the United Kingdom, and of a small area in a contrasting non-European country; Use world maps, atlases and globes to identify the United Kingdom and its countries, as well as the countries,

Lesson Objectives

Children will name some materials and features of typical Kenyan houses. They can build a simple mud-hut with a partner from mud and straw.

Resources

- Typical Kenyan Houses Think Sheet & Info Sheet (Scroll down)
- See Outdoor Skills section of this website for tips and detailed instructions on Building a Simple Mud Hut.
- Natural Materials for building, e.g. mud and straw.

Key Vocabulary

Materials, rooms, properties, 2D/ 3D shapes, weather, climate, suitability.

Risk Assessments

Generic Site RA; Building Shelters RA.

Learning Outcomes

LA -Children will name some materials used to build typical Kenyan houses. They can build a simple mud-hut with a partner with help.

MA - Children will name some materials and features of typical Kenyan houses. They can build a simple mud-hut with a partner from mud and straw.

HA - Children will name some materials and features of typical Kenyan houses. They can build a simple mud-hut with a partner from mud and straw and explain its features.

Session Outline

- Discuss why we need a home? (As shelter to protect us from the wind, rain etc)

(You may wish to have completed 'UK Homes' and 'Homes Abroad' beforehand.)

- Show the children the Typical Kenyan Houses Think Sheet (scroll down) and allow children time to discuss the questions with a talk partner. Discuss some answers together using the Typical Kenyan Houses Info Sheet for help.
- Explain that the children are going to have a go in pairs, building a small mud-hut in their outdoor area using natural materials, mud and straw. You may want to give some tips (See Outdoor Skills section of this website Building a Simple Mud Hut for more info and tips), or let them construct entirely freely.
- Children to present their shelters to the rest of their group, explaining their methods in relation to materials used and the typical weather conditions their shelter needs to be suitable for.

Differentiation: HA- Can they explain why they have used particular materials, shapes or features? LA- Help/ prompts with construction.

Extension: Can they create more features for their home to make it more stable, comfortable and attractive?

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Typical Kenyan Houses Think Sheet

Kenyan Mud Huts

With a 'Talk Partner:'

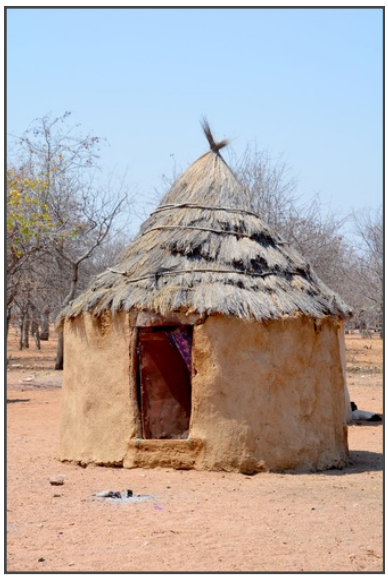
What are the similarities and differences between the typical Kenyan houses below and your own house?

Can you describe some of the features of the houses?

What materials are they made from?

What is that country's weather and climate like?

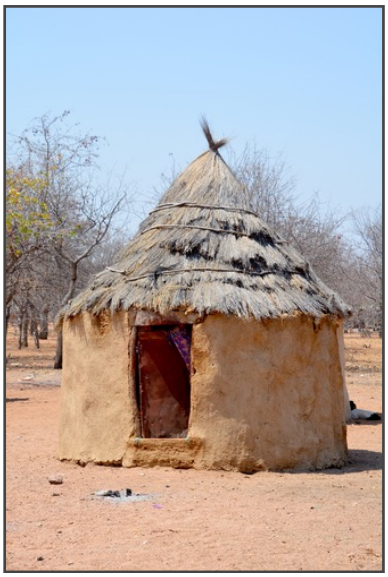
Why do you think the houses are built in that way & with those materials?

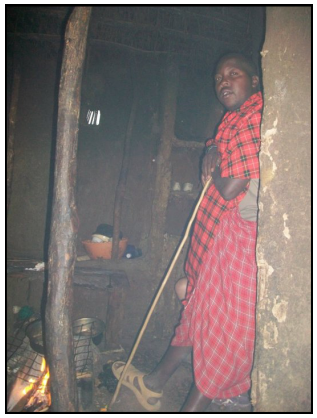


Typical Kenyan Houses Info Sheet

Kenyan Mud Huts

- The cost of building earth based dwellings is only a fraction of the cost of building a conventional house with commercial materials. Therefore they are relatively cheap to build.
- They are built using the natural materials around them and so no transportation of materials is needed.
- Earth based houses built from mud and straw are naturally insulated, so they will be cool in hot summers and warm in cool winters.
- They are extremely strong if constructed correctly, and are often resistant to earthquakes.
- Earth houses are also relatively healthy and environmentally friendly with no irritant chemicals incorporated within the mixture to cause any allergies, or pollute the atmosphere etc.
- When the community wish to move on, as the house is built from natural materials, they return the materials to the earth- where they came from.





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