

People of Africa — Maasai and Egyptian Cultures

Base Sheet

Activity Sheet

The child explores two distinct African cultures: the Maasai people of East Africa and the ancient Egyptians. This lesson celebrates the diversity within Africa and introduces the concept that one continent can contain many different cultures and ways of life.

What You Need:

- Pictures of Maasai people and culture
- Pictures of Egyptian pyramids and artifacts
- Hieroglyphic alphabet chart (simplified)
- Paper and pencils
- Globe or Africa map

Steps:

1. 'Africa is home to MANY different groups of people. Today we will learn about two.'
2. Maasai: show pictures. 'The Maasai live in Kenya and Tanzania. They are herders — they take care of cattle.'
3. Show Maasai clothing (bright red cloth), jewelry (beaded necklaces), homes (mud and grass huts).
4. Egypt: show pictures of pyramids and the Nile. 'Ancient Egyptians built pyramids and created hieroglyphics — picture writing!'
5. Compare: both African, but very different ways of life.
6. Activity: try writing your name in hieroglyphics (simplified).

Work Space:

