



# What Do We Need to Live on Planet Earth?

A Case Study of Traditional Rural Life in East Africa



## IN A NUTSHELL

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**Cost:** \$29.95

## SUBJECTS

Economics  
Language Arts  
Social Studies

This curriculum engages students in the study of two civilizations very different from their own, specifically the Masai and Kikuyu peoples of eastern Africa. The focus is on understanding what these cultures require to survive in their respective environments, how and why some survival strategies work, and to compare and contrast them with the students' own culture and needs. The curriculum consists of six lessons, lasting from thirty to sixty minutes in length, each of which involves a group activity and project. The book lists complete instructions for the teacher, including materials, identification of different skills, teaching towards different learning abilities, suggestions for assigning roles for students within groups, thoughts on rotating and timing activity assignments, optional activities, and preparation guidelines. The book includes full-color student activity cards, maps, and lists of reference materials.

**Grade Level**  
2-4

**Length**  
59 pages

**Date Published**  
1995

THE BOTTOM  
LINE

"Activities let students make their own conclusions and make connections between different societies and cultures."

What the REVIEWERS Said !	Key Characteristics	Strengths Noted	Other Considerations
	Fairness and Accuracy	Provides balanced presentation of different points of view. Invites inquiry and discussion. Describes two different African societies to employ diversity. Lists reviewers and sources of information.	Unclear if East Africans or people with direct knowledge of the cultures examined or were involved in review of curriculum.
	Depth	Thorough treatment of concept of survival in different contexts. Makes connection between human and animal needs.	
	Emphasis on Skills Building	Encourages critical thinking, group work, and problem solving skills. Provides opportunity for applying skills to issues.	Misses opportunities to do science experiments relevant to the curriculum.
	Action Orientation	N o t A p p l i c a b l e .	
	Instructional Soundness	Involves a variety of learning styles. Clearly states goals and objectives.	Some material may be too advanced for stated age group.
	Usability	Easy to use and copy materials. Provides sources of additional information. Information is long-lived.	Lacks follow-up activities.

"Encourages awareness of all organisms' needs."

"Encourages students to identify and conserve what is needed in the environment."