

Africa is a highly diverse continent with different peoples, geography and customs. However, there are many ways in which life is similar from one country to the next, especially in sub-Saharan countries. Visit Cowforce.com – About Africa – Tazo's Tour to go on a fun tour of the continent.

Below are some boxes with general background information to give pupils a 'feel' for what life is like in an African country and specifically in Uganda. They can be used to aid discussion or research and are useful for project work in Geography and PSHE.

Fetching water

*In Africa most people have to **collect water** to drink, wash and cook with. This job is usually left to children, mainly girls. This can mean anything upto a five mile hike to and from a spring or well with a heavy water can – every day.*

Toys

*Toys in Africa are usually **handmade** – banana leaf dolls, wooden carts, bent wire models, or just a stick and tyre. Kids make footballs from anything they can find – like plastic bags held together by cloth or banana leaves.*

TV and phones

*Ugandan TV is very different to UK TV as there is less money to spend on programmes – plus most people don't even own one! It is more likely for a well-off Ugandan to own a **mobile** – in fact, there are more mobiles than landline phones.*

Grasshoppers

*In Uganda's capital, **Kampala**, grasshoppers are collected in bags, saucepans and metal chutes. Why? They're considered a **tasty bite** by the locals, who pay good money for the little leapers! Ketchup, anyone?*

Malaria

***Malaria** kills about a million children in Africa every year – simply because they don't have the right medicines, which cost just a few pence. **Mosquitoes** are the insects that carry malaria and pass it on when they bite people.*

Bikes

*Ever used your bike to carry things? Africans do – in fact they use bikes like we use **vans**. You can see them loaded up with huge amounts of stuff (fruit, bottles, jerry cans, fire-wood) on many African roads!*

For more general information about life in Africa and the work of Send a Cow, visit our kids site at www.cowforce.com or www.countryreports.org

Games

*Ugandan children enjoy games, but they don't have X-boxes or mobiles. Skipping, football, ludo and other **board games** are popular – and if there's no board they'll use a flat surface and **seeds** as counters.*

Life expectancy

*This means how long you will probably live until you die. In the UK most people can expect to live to about 78 years old, but in Uganda the life expectancy is **only 45**. This is because of disease, AIDS, poor diets and war.*

Families

*Because of disease or war, many children in Uganda are **orphans**. There are nearly a million orphans under 14 years old in Uganda alone – that's as many children as the entire population of Birmingham.*

Chickens

*A **common sight** in Africa – chickens roam around villages, pecking at the ground and flapping out the way of cars. Send a Cow chickens are better behaved than this and live in a shed where they stay safe and healthy.*

School

*Unlike in the UK, many children in Africa are desperate to go to school. Why? Getting an education can mean finding a **way out of poverty** through a good job – at the moment 40% of African children still aren't enrolled at a primary school.*

Ants

*White ants are a **delicacy** in some African countries. They are served up roasted or raw and are full of protein. To catch ants, people lie down on the ground and sing or drum for them – the ants stroll out into a trap, ready for dinner!*

Luganda numbers

Luganda is one of the main languages spoken in Uganda.

1	Emu
2	Biri
3	Satu
4	Nya
5	Tano
6	Mukaga
7	Musanvu
8	Munana
9	Mwenda
10	Kumi

Swahili numbers

Swahili is the most widely spoken African language, mainly in East and Central Africa.

1	Moja
2	Mbili
3	Tatu
4	Nne
5	Tano
6	Sita
7	Saba
8	Nane
9	Tisa
10	Kumi

Simple Luganda phrases

Ki kati	-	<i>Hello</i>
Weraba	-	<i>Goodbye</i>
Webale nyo	-	<i>Thank you very much</i>

Erinnya lyo ggwe ani?
- *What is your name?*

Erinnya lyange nze ...
- *My name is ...*

Olina emyaka emeka? ...
- *How old are you?*

Ova ludda wa?
- *Where are you from?*

Ndi Mungereza
- *I am English*

Ndi musanyufu
- *I am happy*

Ye - *Yes*

Nedda - *No*

Simple Swahili phrases

Habari	-	<i>Hello</i>
Kwaheri	-	<i>Goodbye</i>
Asante sana	-	<i>Thank you very much</i>

Jina lako nani?
- *What is your name?*

Jina langu ni ...
- *My name is ...*

Una umri gani?
- *How old are you?*

Unatoka wapi
- *Where are you from?*

Mimi ninatoka (Uingereza)
- *I come from (England)*

Nimefurahi - *I am happy*

Ndiyo - *Yes*

Hapana - *No*