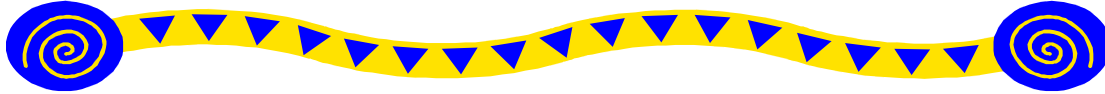


Literature for East Africa

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Biography

Kabaji, Egara. (2000). *Jomo Kenyatta: Father of Harambee*. Nairobi: Sasa Sema Publications Ltd.

This is an account of the life of the first president of Kenya.

Activities:

- ~ Construct a timeline of Jomo Kenyatta's life.
- ~ Ask students to write a news article summarizing their opinion about Kenyatta's greatest contribution to Kenya.
- ~ Have students write a list of questions they would ask Jomo Kenyatta if they were able to interview him.
- ~ Have students conduct an interview with someone they admire and write a short biographical sketch of that person.
- ~ Write biopoems about Jomo Kenyatta.
- ~ Have students brainstorm what they would hope to accomplish as president of the United States.

Markham, Beryl. (2005). *The good lion*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

This is a true story of aviator Beryl Markham. At the beginning of the book, information is provided about Ms. Markham and her biography. The story itself exposes the "safety" felt by those growing up near wildlife, yet the very real dangers of being too trusting.

Activities:

- ~ Compare fictional vs. nonfictional accounts of an event or compare biographical vs. autobiographical accounts of the same event.
- ~ Compare and contrast the biographies of Markham and Amelia Earhart.
- ~ Using Markham as an example of a female role model, have students identify other women who serve as role models. Use literature circles to study the biographies of these women.
- ~ The watercolor illustrations in this book can serve as examples for students' illustrations in their personal journals.

Mbugua, Ng'ang'a. (2003). *Mwai Kibaki: Economist for Kenya*. Nairobi: Sasa Sema Publications Ltd.

This is an account of the life of Kenya's third president and includes his inaugural speech.

Activities:

- ~ Construct a timeline of Mwai Kibaki's life.
- ~ Ask students to write a news article summarizing their opinion about Kibaki's greatest contribution to Kenya.
- ~ Have students write a list of questions they would ask Mwai Kibaki if they were able to interview him.
- ~ Write biopoems about Mwai Kibaki

Waihinya, Waithaka. (2006). *Army of one. Kenya: Oxford University Press.*

This is the biographical story of Wangari Maathai, the first African woman to fight for the precious environment by planting trees in Kenya. Maathai won the Nobel Peace Prize for her dedicated work with The Green Movement.

Activities:

- ~ Research other Nobel Peace Laureates to discover the reasons for their recognition.