

## Kenya

Have you ever been to Kenya? Do you know what it is like there? Would you like to find out more? Read this to find out lots of interesting information about the country.

### Where is Kenya?

Kenya is a country in the continent of Africa. Kenya is on the east coast so has beaches leading into the Indian Ocean.



Kenya located on a world map.

### What is the Capital City like?

The capital city of Kenya is Nairobi. Nairobi means "cool water" because of the river that flows through the city. Nairobi is also home to a Nature Reserve where giraffes, zebra, lions and black rhinos live. How amazing that is!



A giraffe in Nairobi.

Did you know you can buy Pizza Hut and KFC in Nairobi? You can even find Subway and Burger King!

### What is the weather like in Kenya?

Kenya is on the equator (the middle of the Earth's surface) so has a tropical climate. This means that it is often hot. There are times when it rains a lot and times where it doesn't rain for longer periods of time.

### What is school like in Kenya?

Children and young people don't need to pay for school in Kenya but many young people do not attend because they are too busy helping to do chores such as cleaning, fetching water, working the land and tending the cattle. Children who do go to school have to walk very far to get there, they sometimes even have to swim across rivers!

## Who are the Maasai?

The Maasai are a tribe of people who live on the southern border of Kenya. The area is called the Maasai Mara and is an important area for wildlife conservation. There are elephants, lions, giraffes, hippos, zebras and lots more. Can you imagine coming out of your house and spotting a zebra?



Maasai Mara on a map of Africa.



Clothing and jewellery worn by the Maasai.

The Maasai wear red clothes to represent the blood of a lion which make them look brave. They also wear lots of jewellery made from beads to show how important they are.

## Who is Wangari Maathai?

Wangari Maathai is from Kenya. She was the first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize. What an inspiration woman she was! She won the prize because she encouraged women to plant trees near where they lived to combat deforestation. They called this the Green Belt Movement. It is believed that this movement encouraged the planting of over thirty million trees! What an incredible accomplishment!



Wangari Maathai

## Unfamiliar words:

Nature Reserve: an area of land where plants and animals are cared for

Tropical: areas near the equator. These areas are hot.

Climate: the long-term weather of an area.

Deforestation: cutting down trees to make room for buildings.