

Year 2

Spring 1

Big Question- Why is our world so wonderful (Africa focus)?

Please read through the following with your child to prepare them for what they will be learning:

### Key Vocabulary

<b>endangered</b>	A species of animal or plant that is at risk of becoming extinct (no longer existing).
<b>game reserve</b>	A protected area of land where humans are allowed to live and carry out some different activities.
<b>habitat</b>	The natural home of a plant or animal.
<b>migration</b>	When animals move from one area to another, often to find food, water or shelter.
<b>national park</b>	A protected area of land where only tourism and research is allowed. No humans live there.
<b>rural</b>	Areas away from towns or cities, also known as the countryside.
<b>savannah</b>	Tropical grasslands with shrubs and trees but not much rainfall.
<b>tourists</b>	People who travel for fun.

### Where is Kenya?

- Located in east Africa.
- Population of around 44 million.
- The capital city is Nairobi.
- Mombasa, situated on the coast, is one of Kenya's largest cities.
- The Tana river is the longest river in Kenya.
- Mount Kenya is the highest mountain (5200m).
- Kenya's coastline is on the Indian Ocean.
- Swahili and English are the official languages.



### Weather and Climate

Kenya lies on the equator.	Climate is hot, sunny and dry for most of the year.
Hot, dry deserts in the north.	Hot and humid in the west.
The highlands are cool.	Mount Kenya is high enough to be covered in snow all year round.

## National Parks and Reserves

- There are over 50 **national parks** and **game reserves**.
- They include different types of wildlife and **habitats**, including wetlands, grasslands, forest and **savannah**.
- The Maasai Mara National Reserve is one of the most popular reserves for **tourists** to visit.
- Millions of **tourists** visit the famous reserve to go on safari, explore the landscape and to see the amazing wildlife, including the 'Big Five'.
- Each year visitors come to watch the huge **migration** of wildebeest.
- Some animals in Kenya are **endangered** and are protected within the parks and reserves.

## The Maasai Tribe

- Maasai people traditionally live in mud huts made from mud, sticks, grass and cow dung.
- Many Maasai are farmers and own large herds of cows, goats and sheep.
- The Maasai people love music and dance. They often sing and the men perform a special jumping dance.



Traditional mud hut.

## School Life in Kenya

- Most children in Kenya go to school, but not all of them.
- Some children, especially in **rural** areas, are too busy helping their families by working on the farm, cooking or fetching water.
- At school, some children may be different ages but in the same year group.



Maasai Tribe.

## The Big Five - the largest and most dangerous African animals



African lion



African elephant



Cape buffalo



African leopard



White/black rhinoceros



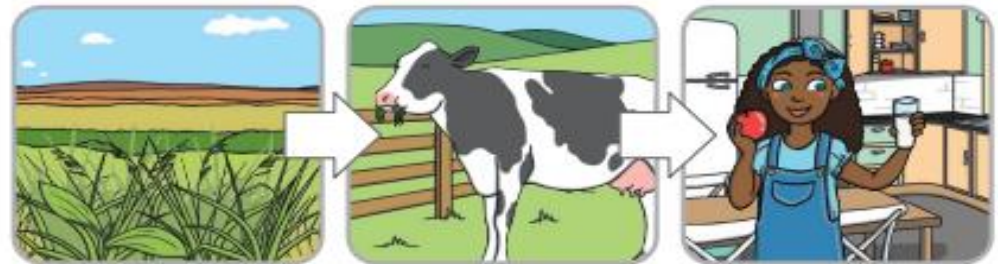
Key Vocabulary

<b>life processes</b>	These are the things that all <b>living</b> things do. They move, breathe, sense, grow, make babies, get rid of waste and get their energy from food.
<b>living</b>	Things that are <b>living</b> have all the <b>life processes</b> .
<b>dead</b>	Things that are <b>dead</b> were once <b>living</b> . They did have all the <b>life processes</b> but don't now.
<b>never living</b>	Things made out of metal, plastic or rock were <b>never living</b> . They never had the <b>life processes</b> .
<b>food chain</b>	A <b>food chain</b> shows how each animal gets its food. <b>Food chains</b> are one of the ways that <b>living</b> things <b>depend</b> on each other to stay alive.
<b>food sources</b>	This is the place a <b>living</b> thing's food comes from.

Key Knowledge



**Food chains.** The arrows mean 'is eaten by'.





## Key Vocabulary

<b>habitat</b>	A <b>habitat</b> is the natural place something lives. A <b>habitat</b> provides <b>living</b> things with everything they need to <b>survive</b> such as food, shelter and water.
<b>microhabitat</b>	A <b>microhabitat</b> is a very small <b>habitat</b> in places like under a rock, under leaves or on a branch. Minibeasts live in <b>microhabitats</b> . The <b>microhabitats</b> have everything they need to <b>survive</b> .
<b>depend</b>	Many <b>living</b> things in a <b>habitat</b> <b>depend</b> on each other. This means they need each other for different things.
<b>survive</b>	This means to stay alive.

Examples of **microhabitats**:



short grass



flowers



inside rotting wood



under leaves



in and on soil

## Key Knowledge

Examples of **habitats**:



woodland



urban



coastal



rainforest



arctic



desert



ocean



river



mountain

