

March The Arts

**Theme:
African
Culture**

Music

This month we enjoyed exploring West African Culture and Music. One of the highlights for the students was learning about the djembe drum. The djembe drum is made out of wood, metal rings, goat skin and rope. It is played with the hands. The students loved playing an actual djembe drum loaned to us by Ms. Rabiya in class 3. The drum was originally used to communicate messages over great distances. We were introduced to a rhythm commonly played on the djembe drum. We also listened to the music of a performer from Gambia. Here is a link so you can listen too.

[Gambia](#) by Sona Jobarteh

Drama

We were inspired by the art we created to write poems. Some classes used the sounds of the African animals as a starting point for their poem. Our creativity ran wild like the animals. Please keep reading to see our class poems.

Visual Arts

The continent of Africa is known for its natural beauty and unique animals. We were able to create our own beautiful sunsets using yellow, orange and red paint. We added animals and trees using stencil. Students also tried their hand at batik art using paper, crayons and paint. It was so much fun to create a picture, crumple it up and then paint over it. It was so exciting to remove the excess paint and reveal the finished masterpiece.

Dance

We learned about the rhythm of life. Everything we do has a rhythm. In African Culture history is passed down through storytelling and dance. Dancers go barefoot to be close to the earth and to feel the earth beneath their feet. They wear colourful costumes decorated with fringes or pom poms and even bells for performing. We all loved the fancy costumes and sounds of the dance music

Music



Visual Arts



Dance



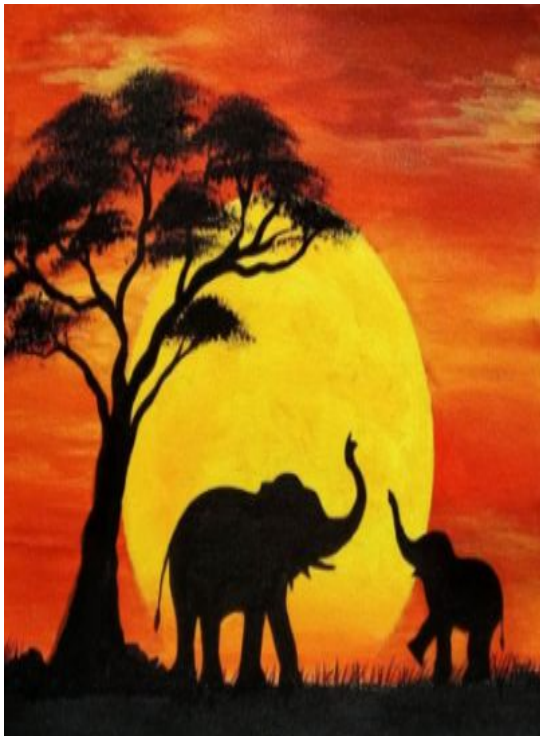
Class 3 - One Night in Africa



The tall giraffes are enjoying the sunset.

The wrinkly elephants are playing in the shadows.

The elephants are trumpeting loudly.



Their large trunks swing high in the air.

It is a joy-filled night in the Savannah.

Class 4 - The Lion is the King



The lion roars in the distance.

The giraffes graze quietly as the sun sets.

The sound of the zebras yapping fills the air.



Young elephants are stomping and playing.

We wonder what the hippos are doing?

Class One Discovers African Animals



The buffalo sounds like a motorcycle, speeding down the highway.

The snort of the warthog lets the giraffes know he is near.

The elephants have long trunks and pointy tusks.



The monkeys are very hairy and stinky.

We love listening to the sounds of African animals.

Class 5 -Sounds of the Savannah



The lion has a loud roar like Ethan.

The elephants play and make trumpet sounds like Zahraa.

The giraffes are as quiet as Addison.



The warthogs snort and snort.

Of all the sounds in the Savannah the laugh of Benny is the best.