



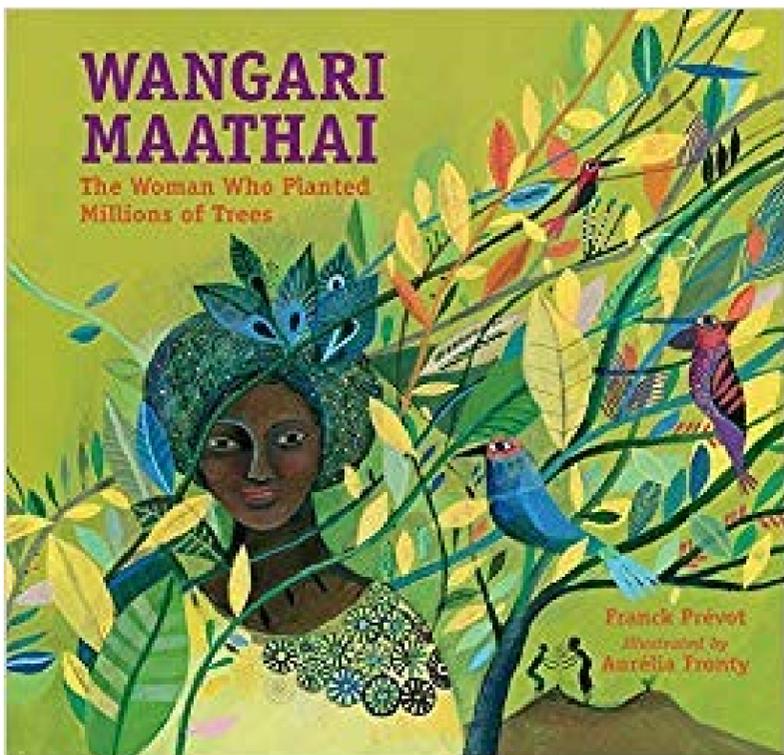
Bringing Africa to your Classroom

Wangari Maathai: The Woman Who Planted Millions of Trees by Franck Prévot

Topics Covered | Things to Introduce:

- Inspiring Women
- Protecting the Environment
- Kikuyu Language

- Level: Age 6-9
- Country Focus: Kenya
- Language Focus: Kikuyu



Wangari Maathai received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004 for her efforts to lead women in a nonviolent struggle to bring peace and democracy to Africa through its reforestation. Her organization planted over thirty million trees in thirty years. This beautiful picture book tells the story of an amazing woman and an inspiring idea.

From Publisher's Blog: About Franck Prévot

Franck Prévot studied writing, business, and education. After he became a father, he rediscovered children's literature with his children and students. He is the author of several picture books. He loves to tell stories, talk about books, and play with words.

Discussion Questions

Comprehension:

- 1.What country did Wangari Maathai live in?
- 2.Near what mountain did Wangari grow up?
- 3.What did Wangari's mother tell her about trees?
- 4.What were the British doing to the trees in Kenya?
- 5.What were people trying to grow instead of trees?
- 6.Why did Wangari go to the U.S.?
- 7.Whom did Wangari challenge in Kenya to protect the trees?
- 8.What was the name of the movement Wangari created?
- 9.What prize did Wangari win?
- 10.What does Wangari mean?

Critical Thinking:

- a.What other important women do you know?
- b.How are trees worth more than their wood?

Activity Suggestions/ Resources

Opinions:

- 1.How do you feel about Wangari standing up to the president of her country to fix issues like this one?
- 2.How is your family similar to Wangari's?

Kikuyu children's song:

<https://www.mamalisa.com/?t=es&p=5043>

<https://www.mamalisa.com/?t=es&p=1716>

- a.Kanyoni Kanja "Little Robin Bird"
- b.Muti Muhande "A Tree Planted"



Country Fact Box: Kenya



Capital:

Nairobi

Population:

49 Million People

People from Kenya are called:

Kenyans

Main Languages Spoken in Kenya:

Kiswahili, English, Kikuyu, Luhya, Dholuo, Sheng

Language Box: Kikuyu

How many people speak Kikuyu as their mother tongue?

6.6 Million, with speakers in the highland area of south-central Kenya

Practice some Kikuyu

mūtwe - head

Njuĩrĩ - hair

Iniürũ - nose

Kanua - mouth

Igego- tooth, magego – teeth,

For more information on Kikuyu and what it sounds like, visit

<http://aboutworldlanguages.com/kikuyu>