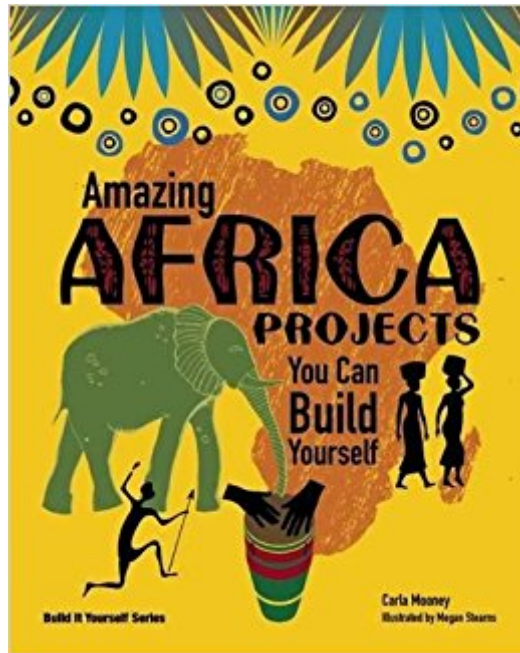


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# Amazing AFRICA PROJECTS: You Can Build Yourself (Build It Yourself)



## Synopsis

While Africa is one continent it contains many diverse countries. *Amazing Africa Projects You Can Build Yourself* introduces readers ages 9 and up to the stunning landscapes, ancient civilizations and ethnic groups, unique traditions, and amazing wildlife of the vast African continent. With 25 fun projects that kids can complete using common household supplies and many recycled materials, kids learn about life in Africa. Step-by-step instructions show young readers how to make their own shields for an initiation ceremony, cook banana fritters and fufu cakes, and design animal masks to commemorate the seasons. Kids will celebrate Africa and its place in our world.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 930 (What's this?)

Series: Build It Yourself

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Nomad Press (February 9, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1934670413

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Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.4 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,128,709 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #108 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Africa](#) #467 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa](#) #515 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Cultural Studies > Customs, Traditions, Anthropology](#)

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Gr 4-6—This book has an enormous amount of information, covering history, occupations, ethnic groups, daily life, geography, recreation, music, and more. The introduction includes a full-page, labeled map of Africa and the surrounding waters. Each chapter is easy to understand, with just enough facts to give readers a picture of this fascinating continent. “Words to Know” boxes appear in each chapter, resulting in more than 200 highlighted words with definitions. The book includes well-known topics (Nile River, rainforest, savanna, ancient Egypt,

etc.) as well as natural wonders, minerals, wildlife, and challenges such as AIDS and hunger. Additional sidebars provide information on beadwork, Kente cloth, Adinkra printing, shantytowns, 2010 World Cup, and more. The 25 projects require easily obtainable materials and can be completed in two to seven steps. All are illustrated with black-and-white drawings. Children will learn how to craft a golden amulet, a leopard mask, a basket, a Mancala game, rock paintings, a Masai beaded necklace, an African rain stick, and more. Adult assistance is suggested when using a stove or knife. Fascinating trivia further enhances the experience, such as the double meanings of Zulu bead colors, the more than 1000 different languages spoken in Africa, and how in Ethiopia tables are covered with flatbread that diners break apart to wrap around their food. This title will be useful for assignments and/or programming ideas. Augusta R. Malvagno, Queens Borough Public Library, NY  
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Casual and informative, this large, attractive, browsable paperback in the Build It Yourself series offers a view of contemporary African life that reaches far beyond the usual scenery-and-wildlife tourists' perspective. Blending history, culture, and tradition with politics and life in both cities and rural areas, the chapters begin with a look at natural wonders and dangerous wildlife that will grab readers, then move on to historical discussions of humankind's birthplace and early civilizations. Views of daily life today show the continent's vast diversity: in a city apartment, a teen might surf the Internet, but most Africans live in smaller, more rural communities, where there may be no electricity or running water. The author also discusses AIDS orphans, many of whom live homeless in the streets of shantytowns. The open design includes sketches on every page. Many readers may skip the craft projects and make your own Maasai beaded necklace, kente cloth, woven basket, galimoto doll, and much more and go straight to the facts. Grades 4-7.  
--Hazel Rochman

This is a great book with indepth information about varying countries in Africa, that offers lots of "hands on" projects. My kids and I both loved it.

No work pages

I wish this book were about 4 times longer. The text is so good; it combines science, social science, history, and art. There are maps and illustrations -- very well done. The activities are great and utilize

things you already own: string and paper and ink pads and paint and cardboard. Best of all -- they require almost no help from Mom. I like how this book explores Africa as a continent and does not shy away from uncomfortable truths about the slave trade and African history. Highly recommend for teachers and families.

There were a couple of moments at the start when I worried this was going to be yet another Africa book that's totally about animals and tribal art, which isn't a particularly balanced picture of Africa - but by the end I was impressed with how much ground this book had covered. It was mostly pretty excellent and in a field of few resources, it was the best one I found. The projects are just okay (a couple of them didn't mention what specific geographic region or group was inspiring them, which is one of my big pet peeves in a book about "Africa" or "Native Americans" or the like), but it's actually the narrative text that's the best part of this resource. It summarizes in clear, understandable language many aspects of African geography, geology, wildlife, history and culture in a way that I haven't seen in most books for children. And it's up to date to boot.

Amazing Africa Projects You Can Build Yourself by Carla Mooney is a wonderful book full of cool projects and information that will keep your child busy for hours. Africa is part of Nomad Press's Build-it-Yourself series for kids ages 9-12. This book thoroughly explores Africa, the people, the culture, their traditions and amazing wildlife. But unlike other books that just talk about Africa, this book actually includes 25 hands on projects that can be done using household items. Some of the projects include; \* Make your own Rainforest Vine \* Make your own Ndebele House Painting \* Make your own Dogon Antelope Mask \* Make your own Zitumbuma (Banana Fritters) In addition to these cool projects, Amazing Africa Projects also includes interesting facts, historical information as well as a glossary for those words that are a bit tricky.

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