



Africa in Focus

Social Studies

ALTSCHUL, 1998

Social Science SOL grades 8-10

6 20-minute programs for grades 7-12

Unrestricted Use for Educational Purposes

Africa remains a mystery to many. This series helps students see the way African countries are confronting the problems of the 21st Century in different ways. From modern cities to rural marketplaces, students will gain historical, cultural, and geographical perspectives on Africa today... and tomorrow.

101: Egypt SOL 8.2, 8.8, 8.10, 9.1, 9.5, 10.4, 10.5, 10.7, 10.11

This program explores Egypt, from its well-known historic roots to the challenge of participating in the global marketplace. The strong Arab influence on Egyptian culture is examined, as well as Egypt's progress since its independence from England. The Nile River's importance to Egypt's economy and culture is reviewed, and other geographic features are also emphasized. This comprehensive program will expose students to all facets of Egyptian life, both past and present.

102: Central African Republic SOL 8.8, 9.5, 10.4

Located in the center of the continent and near the equator, the C.A.R. is a remote, isolated country that is largely undeveloped. This country, whose rich natural resources remain largely untapped, struggles to overcome transportation problems that prevent it from competing globally. Students will see how political turmoil caused by corrupt dictatorships has hindered C.A.R.'s ability to achieve modernization.

103: Ghana

SOL 8.2, 8.8, 9.5, 10.5, 10.11

Ghana was the first African colonial country to achieve independence. Previously known as the Gold Coast for its plentiful gold resources, it is now a country in transition as it tries to stabilize and improve a faltering economy. This program explores how life in Ghana has changed with independence, and documents the great strides in political freedom this small nation has made. The diverse ethnic and religious qualities of Ghana's population are explored as well as the geography of this coastal nation.

104: Tanzania

SOL 8.8, 10.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.9

Located near the equator, Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa, serves as an example of the climactic and topographic diversity found in Tanzania. Formerly a British colony, Tanzania faces the challenge of modernization along with many of its neighbors.

105: The Horn of Africa

SOL 8.2, 8.5, 10.4, 10.5

Somalia, Djibouti, and parts of Ethiopia make up the desolate land of the Horn of Africa. This region has always been critical due to its strategic location for shipping and commerce. This program compares the economies, cultures, politics, and geography of countries in the region. Also noted are the efforts by the nations of the world in restoring peace to Somalia following unrest in the 1990s.

106: South Africa: A Land Apart SOL 8.2, 8.8, 8.10, 9.1, 9.5, 10.4, 10.11

South Africa has gone through many turbulent times. From Dutch colonization to the end of Apartheid, there is more to this country than just the headlines. This program explores the diverse geography, rich natural resources and remarkable game reserves, as well as the unique political changes of South Africa's past. Students travel to Cape Town and Johannesburg, the two largest cities in South Africa.