

# Picture Books Around the World - AFRICA SOUTH OF THE SAHARA

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## Benin

[It takes a village](#)

by Cowen-Fletcher, Jane

**JEASY**

*Benin. On market day in a small village in Benin, Yemi tries to watch her little brother Kokou and finds that the entire village is watching out for him too.*

## Botswana

[Bashi, elephant baby](#)

by Radcliffe, Theresa

**JEASY**

*Bashi, a newborn elephant, becomes the target of a trio of lionesses when he becomes stuck in the mud at the watering hole, but his mother and other members of the herd move in quickly to keep him safe.*

## Democratic Republic of the Congo

[Rickie and Henri : a true story](#)

by Goodall, Jane

**JEASY**

*When her human guardian goes on a business trip, Ricki, an orphaned chimpanzee infant, adopts Henri, a shaggy dog, as her "mother."*

## Ethiopia

[Faraway home](#)

by Kurtz, Jane

**JEASY**

*Desta's father, who needs to return briefly to his Ethiopian homeland, describes what it was like for him to grow up there.*

## Ghana

[One hen : how one small loan made a big difference](#)

by Milway, Katie Smith

**JEASY**

*Based on a true story, tells of how a poor Ghanaian boy buys a chicken through a community loan program, which eventually helps lift him, his mother, and his community out of poverty.*

### [Sosu's call](#)

by Asare, Meshack

#### **J PIC+**

*When a great storm threatens, Sosu, an African boy who is unable to walk, joins his dog Fusa in helping save their village.*

## **Kenya**

### [For you are a Kenyan child](#)

by Cunnane, Kelly

#### **JEASY**

*From rooster crow to bedtime, a Kenyan boy plays and visits neighbors all through his village, even though he is supposed to be watching his grandfather's cows.*

### [Lila and the Secret of Rain](#)

by Conway, David

#### **JEASY**

*Lila, concerned about the effects of the unrelenting sun on her village, tries to coax some rain out of the sky by telling it sad stories.*

### [Planting the trees of Kenya : the story of Wangari Maathai](#)

by Nivola, Claire A.

#### **J 333.7209 NIV**

*Relates the story of Wangari Maathai, a native Kenyan who taught the people living in the highlands how to plant trees and care for the land.*

## **Malawi**

### [Galimoto](#)

by Williams, Karen Lynn.

#### **JEASY**

*Walking through his village, a young African boy finds the materials to make a special toy.*

## **Mali**

### [My baby](#)

by Winter, Jeanette

#### **JEASY**

*As she waits for her baby to be born, a young African woman describes some of the sights and sounds of her Mali homeland as she creates a beautiful bogolan cloth for her child.*

## **Mozambique**

No books have been entered for this sublist!

## **Nigeria**

### [Catch that goat!](#)

by Alakija, Polly

## **JEASY**

*Ayoka is put in charge of the family goat, who promptly vanishes and runs through the town's market stalls taking whatever looks tasty.*

## **Somalia**

### [The color of home](#)

by Hoffman, Mary

## **JEASY**

*Hassan, newly-arrived in the United States and feeling homesick, paints a picture at school that shows his old home in Somalia as well as the reason his family had to leave.*

## **South Africa**

### [A South African night](#)

by Isadora, Rachel

## **JEASY**

*The inhabitants of South Africa divide their activities by day and night, as the animals in Kruger National Park go about their business while the people of Johannesburg sleep and then lie down in the shade as the people wake up.*

### [Elsina's clouds](#)

by Winter, Jeanette

## **JEASY**

*In South Africa, a Basotho girl paints designs on her house as a prayer to the ancestors for rain.*

### [Hey, frog!](#)

by Grobler, Piet

## **JEASY**

*On a very hot day, the animals are roaring mad when a frog drinks up all of the water on the savannah, but each animal has an idea of how to get the water back.*

### [Once upon a time](#)

by Daly, Niki

## **JEASY**

*Sarie struggles when she reads aloud in class in her South African school, but then she and her friend Auntie Anna find a book about Cinderella in Auntie Anna's old car and begin to read together.*

### [What's cooking, Jamela?](#)

by Daly, Niki

## **JEASY**

*Jamela is responsible for fattening up the chicken intended for Christmas dinner, but instead she gives it a name and makes it her friend.*

## **Sudan**

### [My great-grandmother's gourd](#)

by Kessler, Cristina

## **JEASY**

*Residents of a Sudanese village rejoice when a traditional water storage method is replaced by modern technology, but Fatima's grandmother knows there is no substitute for the reliability of the baobab tree.*

## **Tanzania**

### [Elizabethi's School](#)

by Stuve-Bodeen, Stephanie

#### **JEASY**

*Although she enjoys her first day at school, Elizabethi misses her family and wonders if it wouldn't be better to stay home.*

### [My rows and piles of coins](#)

by Mollel, Tololwa M.

#### **JEASY**

*A Tanzanian boy saves his coins to buy a bicycle so that he can help his parents carry goods to market, but then he discovers that in spite of all he has saved, he still does not have enough money.*

## **Uganda**

### [Beatrice's goat](#)

by McBrier, Page

#### **JEASY**

*A young girl's dream of attending school in her small Ugandan village is fulfilled after her family is given an income-producing goat. Based on a true story about the work of Project Heifer.*

## **Zimbabwe**

### [Gugu's house](#)

by Stock, Catherine

#### **JEASY**

*Kukamba loves helping her grandmother decorate her mud home in a dusty Zimbabwe village, but when the annual rains partially destroy all her art work, Kukamba learns to see the goodness of the rains.*

## **Africa--Regional**

### [Bintou's braids](#)

by Diouf, Sylviane A.

#### **JEASY**

*When Bintou, a little girl living in West Africa, finally gets her wish for braids, she discovers that what she dreamed for has been hers all along.*

### [Imani's music](#)

by Williams, Sheron

#### **JEASY**

*Imani, an African grasshopper, brings music to the new world when he travels aboard a slave ship.*

### [Jamari's drum](#)

by Bynum, Eboni

**JEASY**

*Little Jamari loves the sound of the great village drum and often sits at drummer Baba's feet. "Why do you play every day?" he asks. "The drum is the keeper of peace in the village," Baba replies.*

[Shining](#)

by Lester, Julius

**J PIC+**

*A young girl who has not uttered a sound since birth is shunned by the people in her village, until they realize how special she is.*

[The village that vanished](#)

by Grifalconi, Ann

**J PIC+**

*In southeastern Africa, a young Yao girl and her mother find a way for their fellow villagers to escape approaching slave traders.*