

Books on Ghana, about Ghana, from Ghana, suitable for use in the classroom with the Tzedek Primary School Twinning Programme.

Any of these books are available to loan for your classes for up to 2 weeks at time. Please email education@tzedek.org.uk or call 0203 603 8120 to arrange.

The collection includes thirty two fiction and non fiction books.

Fiction

Maya Angelou: Kofi and His Magic

A story about a boy called Kofi from Bonwire, a town noted for its beautiful Kente cloth. Kofi uses his magic to visit neighbouring towns and see different people. Beautiful photographs of Ghana are included.

KS2

Peggy Appiah: Tales of an Ashanti Father

Over twenty short folk tales from Ghana. Some are funny, some are sad: some are strange and magical.

KS2, Year 4 and above.

Kathleen Arnott: Tales from Africa

Meet a greedy spider, an evil shark, flying horses, and a cunning hare. Includes a number of tales from

KS2 Yr4+

Meshack Asore: Sosu's Call

An award winning story book, voted in the top twelve of Africa's best books. It tells the story of a disabled boy, his dog, and his incredible spirit.

Meshack Aswe: Kwajo and the Brassman's Secret; A Tale of Old Ashanti Wisdom

What happens when a little brass figure from long ago comes alive in your hands and invites you to uncover ancient secrets?

This is how Kwajo, an Ashanti boy, is drawn into magical experience of gold and wisdom and perhaps gold.

KS2

Eileen Browne: Handa's Surprise

Handa puts seven different delicious fruits in a basket to take to her friend Akeyo as a surprise.

KS1 and early KS2

Roselyn Byrne: Anansi and the Wisdom Pot: An African folk tale set in the Culture and Tradition of the Ashantis in Ghana

A story about how no one person can claim to have all the wisdom in the world.
KS2 Year 4+.

Niki Daly: Pretty Salma

A version of Red Riding Hood set in a village with a crazy –eyed rooster, Anansi the storyteller and a no good Mr Dog.
Early KS2

Ann Grifalconi: The Village that Vanished

A beautiful story of inner strength and courage. An African story about the Yao people.
An award winning book
KS2

Eric Kimmel: Anansi and the Magic Stick

KS2

Eric Kimmel: Anansi and the Talking Melon

KS2

Stephen Krensky: Anansi and the Box of Stories: A West African Folk Tale

The sky God Nyame owns all the stories in the world. He keeps them to himself in a box in his kingdom in the clouds. But Anansi thinks the stories should be shared by all creatures. This is an ancient tale from Africa.
KS2

Hugh Lipton: Tales of Wisdom and Wonder; The Blind Man and the Hunter

How can a blind man see more than his companion, the hunter? What will become of the pedlar who wants to follow his dream? How do fishes find themselves in the grass of a forest? An award winning book
KS2

Eric Maddern: The Fire Children; A West African Folk Tale

A West African folk tale based on a creation myth which tells how the first spirit people solve their problems using clay and fire and fill the earth with children every colour under the sun. Beautiful illustrations
KS2

G McDermot: Anansi and the Spider

Anansi the Spider is one of the great folk heroes of the world. He is a rogue, a mischiefmaker, and a loveable creature. This is a traditional Ashanti tale. Has geometric African folk-style illustrations.
KS1 and EAL

Margaret Musgrave: The Spider Weaver: A Legend of Kente Cloth

Ifeoma Omyefula: Deron Goes to Nursery School

Deron goes to nursery school in Accra. Shows all the new things he sees and new friends he makes on his first day at nursery school.

KS1, very useful for the pictures.

Bobby Norfolk: Anansi and the Pot of Beans

KS2

Ifeoma Omyefula: Grandma Comes to Stay

Shows a visit by Grandma to see her grandchild Stephanie in her home in Accra.

KS1 book but useful for pictures.

Ifeoma Omyefula: Welcome Dedei

Describes in beautiful pictures and words the African naming ceremony. Explains what happens in Ghana and Nigeria.

KS2

Tom Palmer: Foul Play: Offside

A detective novel about a young man from Ghana who is lured to City by a corrupt agent. Danny Harte is a football fan and a crime detective. From the author of many books and also an excellent website based on his many books and Ghana.

KS2 Year 4+

Frances Provençal and Chris McNamara : Nii Kwei's Day. From Dawn to Dusk in a Ghanaian city

Shows through photographs and writing the day in the life of a young boy living in Accra. Excellent photographs and descriptions and gives an insight in to life in Ghana for a young person

KS2

Kate Smith Milway: One Hen

One Hen is a beautifully illustrated book. It is a great way to introduce children to the concept of sustainable development.

It tells the story of Kojo, a young Ghanaian boy who uses a micro loan to buy a chicken, so he can sell the eggs to make money. Through hard work, Kojo soon earns enough to go back to school. He grows up to own his own farm, employing many people in his village, and contributing to Ghana's development.

The story illustrates how a small loan can have a huge impact on many people's lives if used in the right way. At the end of the book, the story of the real-life Kojo is told, as well as other people who have been helped by micro loans.

There is also a page of background information on how micro finance works, plus further information, lesson plans and activities on the One Hen website (although this is focused mainly around the school curriculum in the USA).

The book could be used within the primary Geography, PSHE or Citizenship curriculum, and the micro finance concepts could also be developed within Maths lessons.

Perfect for KS2

John Steptoe: Muforo's Beautiful Daughters: An African Tale

An African tale about Beautiful Nyasha who would make a perfect wife for the Great King. But she has a sister Manyara who is jealous of Nyasha. The two sisters travel to the King's city and a strange adventure is told. Which sister will become queen? Beautifully illustrated.

KS2

Hugh Vernon Jackson: African Folk Tales

A collection of fables and stories from West Africa. There are eighteen stories that introduce the reader to interesting people and unusual animals.

KS2

Gordon Woodson: African Myths and Folk Tales

How was the earth formed and where do animals come from? Why does the hippopotamus live in water and why do cats chase rats. A selection of short stories from the rich traditions of Africa.

KS2

Non Fiction

Philip Briggs: Ghana [Bradt Travel Guide]

The best guide book on Ghana. Full of information on Ghana's history, culture and places to visit.

Margy Bruce Knight: Africa is not a Country

Shows the different cultures and diversity that exists in Africa through the experiences of children at home, at school, at work and at play.

KS2

Camilla De La Bedoyere: Discover Ghana

A book full of information about all aspects of life in Ghana. Covers topics from population, family life, industry and trade, leisure and tourism, education etc. Full description and photographs. A really useful book for topics on Ghana.

KS2

Martin Hinz: Ghana; Enchantment of the World

Written in 1999. Detailed book about all aspects of life in Ghana. Covers its history, culture and social structure. Pictures and written text.

KS2

Lyn Larson: Ghana

A tour of Ghana in words and photographs. Covers tropical forests, animals, Kente cloth, outdoor markets and a special section on the capital, Accra and the language of the country.

KS2

Ofori Yeboah: Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel

The true story of how a disabled boy in Ghana set out to change the world. Published in 2015.
Early KS2