

The Mangrove Tree

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

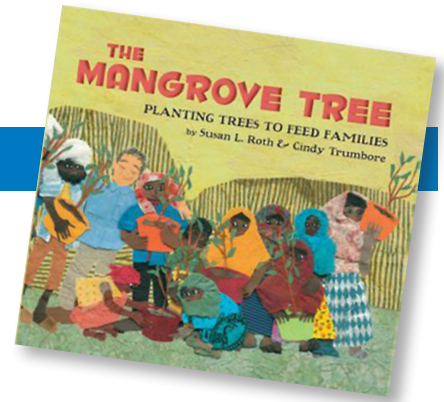
Themes: African Culture, Agriculture, Community, Habitats, Nutrition, Plants

Grade Level: 2nd to 3rd grade

Book Brief: Scientist Dr. Sato helps the villagers of Hargigo find a way to plant mangrove trees to feed themselves and their animals.

Author:
Susan L. Roth
and Cindy
Trubore

Illustrator:
Susan L. Roth



TIME TO READ!

Before reading, build background: Find the country of Eritrea on a map or globe. The village of Hargigo is one of the hottest places in the world where people actually live. Why would it be difficult to live in a hot area with little water?

While reading, visualize: The author describes the village of Hargigo and the mangrove tree. How do you picture the village and the trees in your mind? Have your child draw their own interpretation of a mangrove tree.

After reading, ask questions:

- ◆ How is life in Hargigo different from life here? How is it the same?
- ◆ What makes the mangrove tree different from other trees?
- ◆ How do the mangrove trees help the community?
- ◆ Why is this an important story to share?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

MANGROVE MUNCHIE

Ingredients: 1 rice cake, 1 oz. cream cheese, 10 pretzel sticks, blue food coloring, leaf lettuce

Mix cream cheese and food coloring in small bowl. Spread onto rice cake. Press ten pretzels into the rice cake to represent the roots of the mangrove tree coming up from the water. Use a piece of leaf lettuce in the center to represent the leaves. Enjoy!

COMMUNITY CHANGE

Dr. Sato made a major change in the Hargigo community. What could you do to make a change in your own community? What does your community need, and how can you help? Some ideas to try: bake cookies for a homeless shelter, start a food drive, or help an elderly neighbor with yard work.

SCRAP ART

Materials: scrap paper, glue, white paper

The illustrator used paper to create the beautiful images in this book. Collect scrap paper pieces to recycle into art by gluing them onto white paper. Look back in the book for ideas of pictures you might like to try with the paper. Notice the different textures used by the illustrator. Can you make a landscape with your scraps? Be creative!

TECHNOLOGY LINK

Visit www.themanzanarproject.com to see a slideshow of the mangrove tree project and Hargigo.

For a fun vocabulary game, go to www.freerice.com. For every question you answer, ten grains of rice are donated to help feed the hungry.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS ABOUT MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Gaia Warriors, Nicola Davies (2011), *Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai*, Claire A. Nivola (2008), *Seeds of Change: Planting a Path to Peace*, Jen Cullerton Johnson (2010).



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