

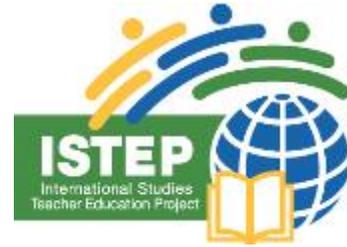
Global Book Bag

Title: *Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah*

Authors: Laurie Ann Thompson & Sean Qualls

Grade Levels: 2-4

Global Competence: Recognize the value of each person in a global community



This book tells the life story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah, who was born in Ghana with only one working leg. As you read about his life growing up, it is apparent that Emmanuel does not let his disability or lack of opportunity slow him down. As the story goes on, his mother, Comfort, falls ill and passes away. He takes her last words to heart and decides to fulfill his dream of bicycling around Ghana. In the end, he becomes a national hero and starts a cultural shift that shows his fellow Ghanaians that physical disability does not limit a person's potential to become a leader in this world.

The goal of this learning activity is to familiarize students with accommodations that persons with disabilities may need that an able-bodied person would not. In achieving this goal, students build a sense of empathy for persons unlike themselves.

Bag Contents:

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

Copies of Emmanuel's Dream Walkabout Worksheet

Copies of the Maps of Africa and Ghana

Pencils and Erasers

Directions:

1. Read *Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah*. Use the maps to identify the continent of Africa and the country of Ghana.

2. With an adult, take a walking tour around your home and neighborhood. Fill out the worksheet to determine how easy it would be for a person with a disability to get around.

3. When back at home, write recommendations to make your area more friendly to people with physical disabilities.

Example: If your home has multiple stories but no way for people in a wheelchair to get from one level to the next, share ideas on how this might be changed (ramps, escalators, elevators, etc).

Extended Learning:

1. Watch these videos to learn more about Emmanuel's story and his mission to build a school in Ghana. Share your thoughts with a family member and discuss the similarities and differences between how people with disabilities are viewed in your community.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BHUDh82sZYs> - 5 minute video of Emmanuel*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6KDwXNN0zmE> - Emmanuel meets students at Francis Parker School

2. Organize or participate in a fundraiser for Emmanuel's school for children with and without disabilities. Consider collecting pennies at school, holding a recycled can drive, or asking your classmates for fundraising ideas.

3. Discuss what it means to "recognize the value of each person in a global community."



Notes for Parents/Guardians:

This book contains the sensitive topic of living with a disability in Ghana. It is common belief that these people are cursed and viewed as the poorest of the population. They often lack access to health care and education and are shunned by the public.

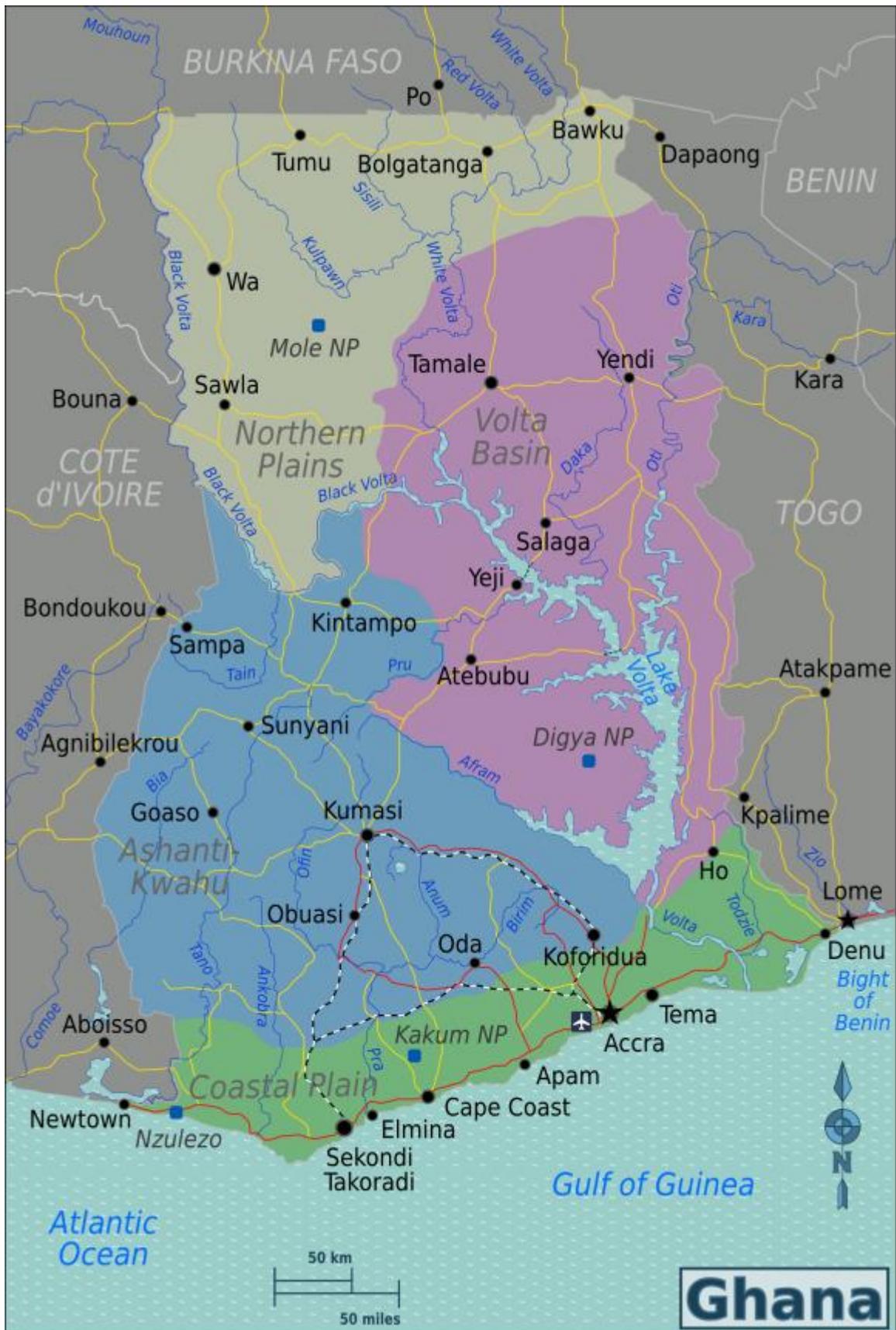
You may want to define and discuss the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) law with your child and compare/contrast living with a disability in the U.S. vs. Ghana (or another country).

Americans with Disabilities Act - An "equal opportunity" law for people with disabilities.

http://www.ada.gov/ada_intro.htm

* In the first video, Emmanuel mentions the practice of killing babies with disabilities. Please use discretion when showing to your child.





Name _____ Date _____

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

Now that you've read Emmanuel's story, imagine he lived in your home and neighborhood as a boy. Walk around and decide whether or not it is friendly to someone with only one leg. Circle Yes or No and make notes of your findings.

1. Getting from the street to your front door? Yes or No Notes:
2. Carrying books and toys from your bedroom to the living room? Yes or No Notes:
3. Bringing a glass of water from the kitchen to the living room? Yes or No Notes:
4. Going from your home to school? Yes or No Notes:
6. Riding your bike around the neighborhood? Yes or No Notes:
7. Going from your home to a neighbor's or the grocery store? Yes or No Notes:

