



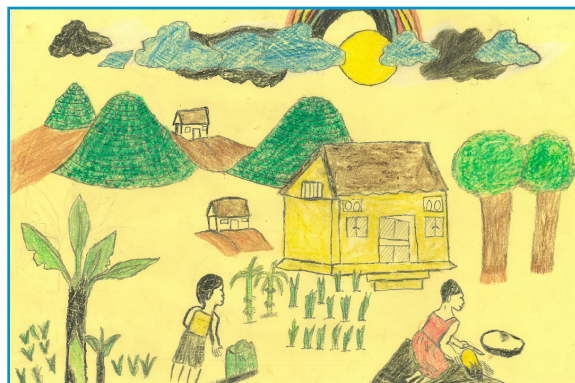
## ThinkLink Lesson: My Family and My Environment

Based on 5 ArtLink Pieces from the 2019-20 International Art Portfolio

*For students ages 9-13 years old*



**Guatemala - Harvesting Coffee**



**Uganda - Farming**



**The Gambia - Naming Ceremony**



**Kenya - Grazing**



**Cyprus - Swallows**

***Art and descriptions can be found at the end of this lesson.***

### Introduction

Young artists from Kenya, Cyprus, Gambia, Guatemala, and Uganda created art pieces that show the importance of their families and how family members interact with their outdoor environment. They also shared ideas on things they are doing to protect that environment.

# Your Assignment

## Review the art

Look at the first piece from Kenya and guess what is going on and who the people are in the scene. Then read the description written by the artist named Mwandwa to check out your guess. Review each of remaining pieces in the same way. *Art can be found at the end of the lesson.*

## Locate each of the five countries on a world map



1. Guatemala
2. The Gambia
3. Cyprus
4. Uganda
5. Kenya

## Answer these questions

1. Find the piece that shows a brother and sister working together.
  - a. What country are they from?
  - b. What task is the sister doing?
  - c. What task is the brother doing?
2. Find the two pieces that include animals.
  - a. Which animals are they?

3. Find the piece featuring an outdoor ceremony where the parents are giving their babies something very important.

a. What are they giving them?

b. What are these names?

4. Find the piece that shows a crop being harvested by the whole family.

a. What is this crop?

5. Each of the artist shared ideas for what they wanted to do when they were older.

*Match each artist with their career dreams*

Elvis (Uganda)	Doctor
Jainaba (The Gambia)	Engineer
Gabriela (Cyprus)	Working with kindergarteners
Karlyn (Guatemala)	Lawyer
Mwandwa (Kenya)	Bank Manager

6. Each of the artists shared a way they were protecting the environment.

*Match each artist to what they are doing*

Elvis (Uganda)	Building nests
Jainaba (The Gambia)	Planting trees to control soil erosion
Gabriela (Cyprus)	Planting trees and transplant fruit trees
Karlyn (Guatemala)	Clear bushes
Mwandwa (Kenya)	Make pictures

7. Think of the ways you and your family interact with the natural environment.

*Describe with words or draw in a sketch one of these ways.*



### Questions to think about

- a. Compared to the cultures of the artists of these pieces, how important is our natural environment to our daily lives?
  
- b. What are we doing to preserve our environment? What more could we do?



**Title:** Swallows

**Artist:** Gabriela

**School:** Engomi B Primary School

**Medium:** Monotype print, pastels

**Age:** 9

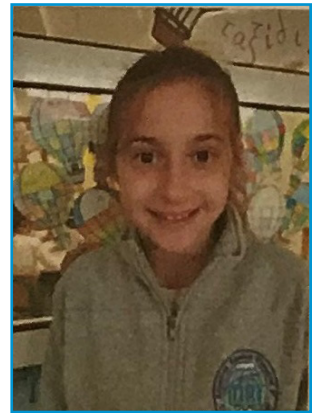
**Country:** Cyprus

**Description of Piece:**

Me and my mum watching the arrival of swallows every spring in Cyprus. The value I am illustrating is admiring the habits of birds changing places according to the weather. The nature is very wise and we admire it. I help preserve the environment with my family. We help the swallows build their nests on our house roof.

**More about the Artist:**

My family is my dad, mum and me. In my free time I like reading and dancing. I like reading books, pasta and peace! I don't like being mocked, geography and beans. When I grow up I want to be a doctor.



**Title:** Harvesting Coffee

**Artist:** Karlyn Xiomara

**School:** Instituto Nacional Diversificado

**Medium:** Marker

**Age:** 17

**Country:** Guatemala

**Description of Piece:**

This is the coffee harvest in which all family members can work. This harvest represents cooperative work for the whole family and the importance of the land and taking care of the land. It also gives us some financial support. I am depicting the values of family, team work and the harvest.

**More about the Artist:**

We are a united family. I have 4 sisters and we like to spend time with other people. I read and go out with my family. To help conserve the environment, I plant trees and transplant fruit trees. When I grow up, I would like to graduate and work with kindergarten kids, and later go to college.





**Title:** Naming Ceremony

**Artist:** Jainaba

**School:** Marina International School

**Medium:** Pencil and crayons

**Age:** 11

**Country:** The Gambia

**Description of Piece:**

My art piece is of my Mum, Dad, twin babies, children and villagers in Jarra Sutukung [village in The Gambia]. It is a naming ceremony of Adama and Awa Jabbie. People are cooking. The value I am illustrating in my piece is the name of a new born baby. The individual can identify the child by her name. I can preserve the environment by making pictures of what the environment looks like.

**More about the Artist:**

I live with my mum, dad, younger brother and three sisters. In my free time, I watch movies, make Tik Tok videos and read. I like strawberry, orange juice and Domoda [Gambian peanut stew]. I dislike cabbage, salad and volleyball. I want to be a lawyer and work with kindergarten kids, and later go to college.



**Title:** Farming

**Artist:** Elvis

**School:** Veronica Junior School

**Medium:** Coloured pencils

**Age:** 11

**Country:** Uganda

**Description of Piece:**

In my piece, my sister is peeling a paw paw [fruit] and I am coming from the well fetching water. It is taking place at home. I am showing the importance of growing trees and crops. Trees help in rain formation which makes the soil fertile and soft. I can help preserve the environment by planting trees to control soil erosion. I am depicting the values of family and nature.

**More about the Artist:**

Our family is a nuclear family, and I have six siblings. In my free time I like watching cartoons. I like eating apples and I dislike washing utensils. When I grow up I want to be a bank manager.





**Title:** Grazing

**Artist:** Mwendwa

**School:** Kituiu Primary School

**Medium:** Coloured pencils

**Age:** 13

**Country:** Kenya

**Description of Piece:**

In my piece there is my brother and me. It takes place in the forest. We are helping the grazing cattle. The value that I am illustrating is the importance of animal grazing. What affects the natural environment is rainfall. What I can do to help preserve the environment is clear the bushes.

**More about the Artist:**

In our family we are six -- three sisters and two parents and me. In my free time I like playing football. I dislike playing volleyball. My goals are playing football. When I grow up I'd like to be an engineer.

