

Marvellous Maasai



Key Words

Maasai tribe

culture

tradition

jumping dance

warriors

competitive

mud huts



Match It!

savannah

migrate

Big Five

habitat

national park

game reserve

endangered

A protected area of land, but humans can live there and carry out other activities such as fishing, road building, mining and gathering wood.

A protected area of land where only tourism and research is allowed. No humans live there.

The natural home of a plant or animal.

Grassland with shrubs and trees.
Not much rain falls.

A species of animal or plant that is at risk of becoming extinct because their habitat is being destroyed, hunting or climate change.

To move from one place to another.

A group of animals – African lion, African elephant, Cape buffalo, African leopard and white/black rhinoceros.

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The Marvellous Maasai

- The most popular reserve in Kenya is the Maasai Mara National Reserve, which can be found in the south west of the country. It is named in honour of the Maasai tribe who live in the area.
- The Maasai Mara National reserve is famous world over for its large amount of wildlife, including all members of the 'Big Five'.
- The name 'Mara' means 'spotted', which is what the land looks like from a distance with trees, clouds and grass!



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The Marvellous Maasai

What is culture? Can you describe some things about your own culture?

We are going to look at what the Maasai culture is like...



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All About the Maasai

Who are the Maasai people?

The Maasai tribe live in the African savannahs.

The Maasai tribe share the same ideas and way of life.

They use the land as their home and all live together.



All About the Maasai

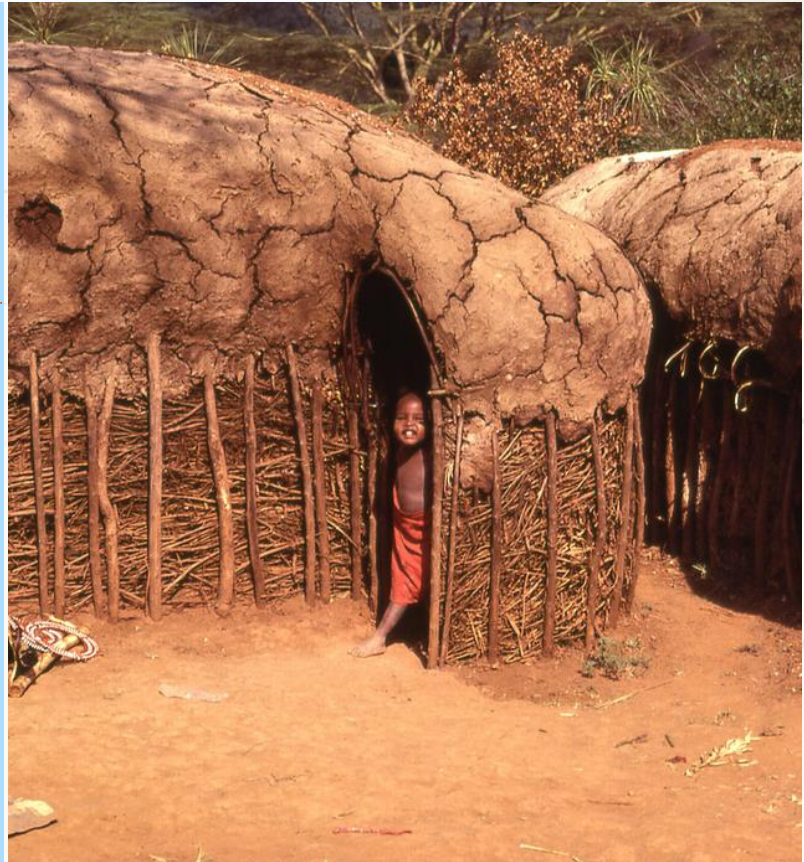
Where do they live?

The Maasai live in the Maasai Mara, which is a very large savannah and home to many of the great species of wildlife and plants.

The Maasai people live in mud huts made by the Maasai women.

They are made from mud, sticks, grass and cow dung.

The Maasai families live with their animals too. They are very careful to protect them from the big predators that roam the savannah.



All About the Maasai

Ways of Life: Farming

The Maasai people own large herds of cows, goats and sheep.

Animals are very important to the Maasai people. They drink the blood and milk from the animals and use them for meat too.



All About the Maasai

Ways of Life: Leading the Tribe

Maasai men are traditionally in charge of their tribe.

They wear bright red clothes. Red is their favourite colour.

The Maasai men go out to hunt animals to provide food for their families.



All About the Maasai

Ways of Life: Maasai Women and Children

Maasai women traditionally look after the children in their families.

They wear lots of jewellery, such as beads. The more beads that they wear, the richer they look.



All About the Maasai

Ways of Life: The Jumping Dance

The Maasai tribe love music and dance; both are very special in the Maasai culture. They sing lots of songs together and wear their best clothes.

The Maasai men perform a special dance, called the jumping dance, when they are showing off to women!

Tourists that visit the reserve often enjoy watching the jumping dance.



All About the Maasai

Watch this video clip about the jumping dance.



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Jump to It!

You are going to try the Maasai jumping dance. How high can you jump?



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