



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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"We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him"
(Matthew 2:2 NIV).

*". . . , children of God, . . . you shine like stars in the universe
as you hold out the word of life"* (Philippians 2:15-16 NIV).

"Merry Christmas" from all of us Rafiki Stars in Ghana!!!

Our group tie-dye project was compliments of a MiniMissionary's church youth group. Each of us designed then created our shirts with dyes of purple, blue, red, and yellow. We Rafiki stars hear God's Word on a daily basis, and we have seen the results this year.



OUR UNIQUE TIE DYE SHIRTS

God has supplied three new Rafiki mothers: Constance, Elizabeth, and Sussie. We now have eight Rafiki Mothers and seven cottages with children. Our Resident Hall Building (for our boys ten years and up) is almost finished.



Our newest teacher is ROS (Rafiki Overseas Staff) star Amy Ketcham, former high school English teacher, now teaching junior high and second-grade Bible class. Our teaching staff now numbers eleven teachers: nine nationals and two Americans.

Among our newest stars is Mr. Nelson Mintah, assistant to the Village Director, Cathy. Mr Mintah has been traveling throughout Ghana promoting our Rafiki Village. He helps us abide by social welfare and government rules and regulations. His assistance with the paper work for our newest children made the government process go smoothly and quickly.

Our newest children—brothers, John and Mathias—just arrived from Northern Ghana.



JOHN AND MATHIAS WITH THEIR NEW MOM

Though malnourished, they can eat our Southern food without problems. Thankfully they are learning the English and Ga languages quickly because no one at our Village spoke their language.

Agbeko celebrated his sixth birthday in September. He began his life at Korlebu Teaching Hospital and just now spent a month there with a leg infection. Before his discharge he had become the "star" of the children's ward, visiting every bed bound child with his antics.



AGBEKO BEFORE COMING TO THE RAFIKI VILLAGE



AGBEKO AND MAMA ELIZABETH COLORING

Our closest commercial farmer occasionally brings donations of food. At their last trip they donated one hundred and eighty yams plus hot peppers and tiny eggplants. We all ate lots of yam: yam soup, pounded yam, yam with cabbage stew, yam with tomato soup, yam with palm nut soup. And we still love yam!



AUNTIE ELIZABETH AND I WITH A YAM

In early November our Rafiki stars from second grade through junior high treated "Nana" Rosemary and the Home Office staff to a choral concert and piano recital. We overheard Nana Rosemary say, "These children have sweet voices." That is quite a compliment since the vocal and piano lessons just started in March this year.



PRIMARY AND JSS (JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL) CHOIR

During an impromptu recital while seeing Nurse Nancy, three small stars sang their "sweet voice" version of the New Testament books, ending with the youngest star, age two-and-a-half, singing the last book alone, "Rev. . .E. . .la. . .tion".

Ahead, there will be more challenges but more children; more trials but more times of celebration. I thank God for each of you and your partnership in this adventure of challenges and celebrations. May we all shine like His stars now and this coming year.

With His Love,

Nancy

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