



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

19001 Huebner Road #2 • San Antonio TX 78258 • 210-244-2600 • FAX 210-244-2605

September 2007

“Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?”
(Isaiah 43:19).



FIRST CHILDREN AT RAFIKI VILLAGE ZAMBIA AS THEY COMPLETE THEIR FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

Greetings from the Rafiki Village Zambia!

Isn't it thrilling to see God's promises in action? That has been our feeling here at the Rafiki Village Zambia as we have started to take children into the Rafiki ChildCare Program (RCCP). The differences are obvious in the eyes and smiles of the first five children here. They came from homes where they were tended by aged grandmothers or teenage school-going relatives, from houses where there was never enough food or hugs or prayers. Now they live with their Rafiki Mothers in homes that are well-furnished, enjoy three nutritious meals every day, and are flourishing in school.

We plan to have over 180 children eventually living at the RCCP. We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of eleven of them from Lusaka area. *Please continue to pray that all legal requirements will be quickly met so the other identified children may move to the RCCP very soon.*

When children move to the RCCP, we know they face many, many new things, including new Rafiki Mothers, new brothers and sisters, new diets, new behavior expectations, and new schedules. We are deeply aware of the changes many of them face and always pray for their adjustment. Here are two examples we've seen that God answers those prayers. On the second morning here one of the three-year-olds got up and said, "Mama, where did you get the money to buy my bed?" Knowing that he had called her "mama" showed us God was

helping him to adjust. We were also touched that it meant a lot to him to have his own bed, and not a mat on the floor on which to sleep. We saw another example of God's helping children adjust when after the children had been here for two weeks, one of the Rafiki Mothers left the Village for the day to attend to personal business in Lusaka. She took special care to prepare her new three-year-old for her absence that day. When she returned that afternoon, the little boy ran as fast as he could to greet and hug her, and to tell her all he had done that day. His smile showed how he had bonded already with her.

Thank you to all of you who, through your donations and prayers, have helped the children adjust and have provided their beds, as well as their sitting rooms, their dining room, and their school.

Another new thing for many children when they move to a Rafiki Village is attending school. In our Rafiki Village Zambia, we have begun preschool classes in two not-yet-occupied cottages as we await the construction of the school building. Another Rafiki Overseas Staff (ROS) and I are currently teaching the children and are blessed to get to see them adjust to this new experience. Madam Vicky teaches the three-year-old children while I teach the five-year-olds. None of these children had been in school before, so school routines and expectations were new to them. None of them had experience with English before moving to Rafiki Village either,

so that was something new also. But joy, learning, and fun still abound. The second week of school, one of the Rafiki Mothers asked one of the three-year-olds what he had learned in school that day. His answer: "Nothing. My teacher plays with me." Little did he know that his "play" was teaching him many, many things.

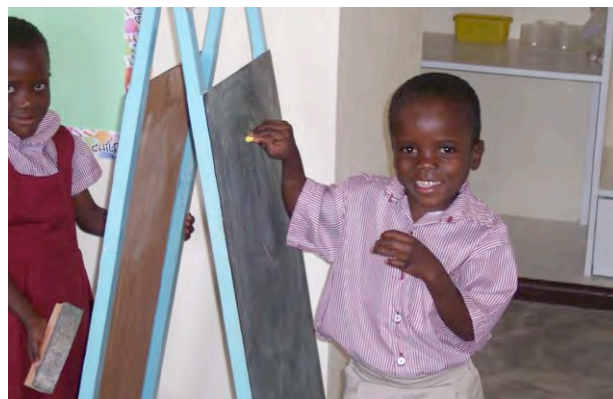
Learning about Noah through playing



The five-year-old children are astounding in how quickly they are adjusting to their new circumstances. By the second week of school, they were trying to say the days of the week, singing the A-B-C song, and reveling in the many books we go through each day to help them become more familiar with English.

Of all the things we teach in school, Madam Vicky and I know that the most important are those that lead the children to a love for God and all He has done in their lives. We include a Bible lesson each school day and spend a lot of time teaching Bible verse and songs. We also, throughout all the school activities, seek to teach about God and His attributes.

Please pray that every Rafiki teacher is enabled by God to present His Word with truth, understanding, and power. Please pray also that each child has a growing love for God and His Word.



FIRST STEPS TO WRITING

As you read about all these new things at the Rafiki Village Zambia, you may find yourself interested in doing something new with Rafiki. Perhaps you'd like to sponsor one of the children, start or participate in a prayer group, or come see a Village as a MiniMissionary. You may find out more information on all these at the Rafiki website, www.rafiki-foundation.org. I can promise you that any new thing you do with Rafiki will bring you new joys and delights.

As you receive this newsletter, I will be completing the last quarter of my third two-year term with Rafiki. It has been a great privilege to be involved with Rafiki, first in Ghana, then in Kenya, and now in Zambia. It would never have been possible without the financial donations, prayers, and encouragement of all of you. Thank you very much!! I look forward to beginning a new two-year term with Rafiki in January 2008. My prayer is that I will be fully funded for that entire term before January. Thank you for your prayers for this.

In God's love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rose".

Rose Allinder

Post Net Box 232
P/Bag E891
Lusaka, Zambia

ROS #: 123

Telephone: 260 099 948.942

E-mail: rallinder@gmail.com