



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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Dear family and friends,

As we mentioned before, the weather here is beautiful, seldom hot and always cool at night. We have exactly twelve hours of sunlight and just a little less than thirteen hours of daylight. When the sun goes down in the evening we have about ten minutes of dusk and then it is dark. Another interesting phenomenon is the light that the moon gives. When the moon is full or almost full, it is so bright that it casts shadows. Maybe that is true in other places, but we have not seen it like this before.

Nancy is teaching art to the P3 class this term. They are the "cutest" group of children. There are six girls and twelve boys in the class. Trying to direct them or lead them is very much like herding cats. However, once they start to draw, their behavior is excellent. They love art and are good, too. Sometimes when we are walking to class there will be a couple of children looking out the window with huge grins. We recently did a mural of our Rafiki Village. We went out to different locations to sketch. We went to our backyard twice. The girls happily sketched our yard and duplex, but the boys went immediately to our 1995 Honda and drew it from many angles. These boys, like boys everywhere, love cars. When we did the mural, there were many cars and pickups, a river with boats, two airplanes, and a few Rafiki buildings. We were the only people represented, so we felt privileged. The only difficult part of this class is finding good ideas. Nancy is not willing to give them paints (you can guess why) but they do great with our good colored pencils. Nancy will have this art class only two days a week next term, but with her dear partner, national teacher Winnie, will teach them music three days a week. We would appreciate your prayers as neither of us are music teachers.



P3 CLASS SKETCHING IN OUR BACK YARD



THE BOYS DRAWING OUR CAR

God has taught us this term that we are training these children in righteousness as much as we are teaching them language arts. This knowledge does mean we teach from a different perspective. In China, those dear folks paid for our class; consequently discipline was never an issue. Also, we were teaching adults. At Rafiki we have the responsibility of training children to be godly contributors to their nations. We are learning about the Ugandan culture every day and are not trying to make them little Americans. Nancy has two new mantras: "Obey right all the way, right away, with a good attitude every day" and "delayed obedience is disobedience."

Ten of the eleven family cottages have now come to us for cookies and crafts. Each time is a real treat and blessing as they display thankfulness to us and to God. Even if we forget to pray for the snacks, they never do and God must be pleased by their sincerely given prayers.

Although we leave the compound only three or four times each month, there isn't the feeling of being confined. We are truly "at home." As we look out of our windows, through the wire fence about a hundred yards away, we see the neighbors carrying water in large gerry cans on their heads and smaller ones being carried by little children, some of our students among them. They often stop and stare in our direction for a glimpse of us or call out "muzungo" (foreigner). Each day several noisy long horned cows are pastured just outside the fence and they too join in the chorus of welcome.

We continually thank God for keeping our students and our Rafiki personnel safe and healthy. Travel, especially after a heavy rain, is difficult with the mud causing vehicles to slide on the dirt roads much like snow-covered roads in your winter. When the rain comes early in the morning the national teachers and the day-students, many of whom must walk a mile or more, must dry their clothes, as few have any protection from the downpours. We are thankful that most of the rains have held off until the students have arrived for breakfast. During the three-week term break, we pray that they will have enough food and stay healthy until the next term starts. For many of the day-students, the two meals at Rafiki comprise the bulk of their diet.

Here are some prayer requests:

- That the secondary school can be registered for the National Advancement Test and for success in preparing our P7 students for the National PLE, the exam which allows them to continue their education.
 - For our teaching as we have had to relearn all of the many grammar rules that we haven't had to remember for many years.
 - For more reference material, ie: a current set of encyclopedias as there is limited access to the Encarta program on the computers, since we have only ten for teachers and students.
- For our continued spiritual growth for the whole Rafiki community.
 - For another ROS (Rafiki Overseas Staff), family or single, as this year we added two class levels and have one less ROS teacher.
 - For more MiniMissionaries who help us more than we can say, especially a dentist and an eye doctor.
 - For rain—we are in a desperate need for rain. Our neighbors are mostly subsistence farmers, who rely completely on rain for their crops. There is a great deal of talk about drought.

We want to thank you very much for your prayers and your continued support.

In His love and service,



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ROS #194