



# The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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*"It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night" (Psalm 92:1-2).*



OUR FAMILY OF SIXTEEN CHILDREN AND THREE RAFIKI MOTHERS

Dearest family and friends,

God's love and faithfulness are very evident to me as I look into the beautiful faces of our sixteen Rafiki children. My heart overflows with so much love for each of these children every time I look at them or see them come running to greet me shouting: "Auntie Crickety, Aunty Crickety!" All else fades away as I get wrapped up in hugs and squeals. A child's unconditional love surely must be a little bit of "heaven on earth."

These last two months have been a wonderful learning experience for our eight three-year-olds and for me, their teacher. It has been so rewarding to watch them as they learn new English words and see how excited they get when they can remember their colors or shapes. Now, I can understand that some of you may be wondering why that should be

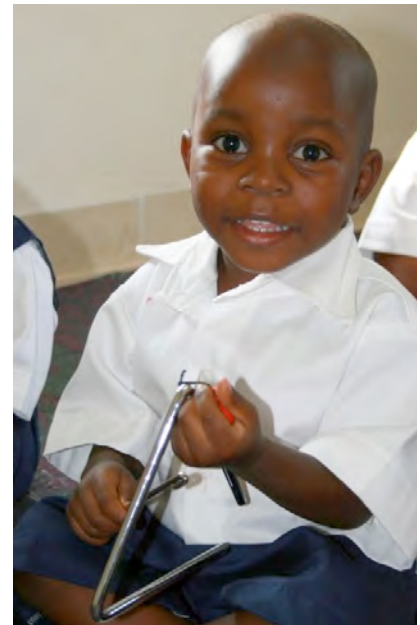


DADI ENJOYS NAMING THE COLORS ON HIS PUZZLE

a learning experience for me. NO, it's not that I am only now learning the difference between red, yellow, and blue or between a circle, square, and triangle. I promise I learned those a number of years

ago. It's just that teaching three-year-olds who do not speak any English is a learning experience. When do they truly not understand, and when are they just exerting their own little wills?

I wonder how many people know of any three-year-olds who would be as disciplined as these eight little ones are when it comes to sitting with "quiet hands" with their music instruments next to them, while they wait for further instructions from their teacher. It is still challenging for the children to play their instruments and sing along at the same time. A few of them are slowly-slowly mastering that art.



JANVIER IS GETTING VERY GOOD AT PLAYING THE TRIANGLE



THE CHILDREN LOVE MUSIC TIME AT SCHOOL



USING A PAIR OF SCISSORS LOOKS EASIER THAN IT IS

Everything is new to our children. Many things that one might take for granted that a child would have seen or done are totally new adventures for our Rafiki children. From playing with Play-Doh or Legos to learning to use a pair of scissors or gluing a piece of paper, it's all fun and exciting and NEW, and the children love it.



RICK TEACHING DONATA MUKABERA (HIS SPONSORED CHILD) TO THROW A BEACH BALL

Another really wonderful experience is watching the interaction between a sponsor and a child. One of our Rafiki children has a sponsor who happens to have business in Rwanda. Every time he comes to the country, he makes time to come out to the Village to play with the children. With Uncle Rick comes another huge adventure as the children watch him fly a kite or blow giant bubbles. As for playing with beach balls for the first time, you can only imagine the squeals of delight.



WHO KNEW THAT A BEACH BALL IN THE MIDDLE OF AFRICA COULD BE SO MUCH FUN?

**Praises:**

- For our sixteen healthy children
- For the bond of love that is shared between the Rafiki Mothers and the children.
- For those who are sponsoring some of our children.
- For continued health and safety

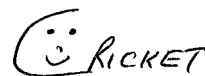
**Prayer Requests:**

- For the children to learn to speak English
- For sponsors for the remaining children who are without a sponsor
- For the health and protection of those children who are still waiting to come to Rafiki

Thank you for praying for me and for our children. I am blessed to be here in Rwanda loving these children and serving the Lord. Your faithful love, prayers, and financial support help make that possible. Thank you for giving to the Lord's work in this way.

If you feel led to sponsor one of our children please refer to the Rafiki web site for more information.

As always in Jesus' love and for His glory,

 CRICKET

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