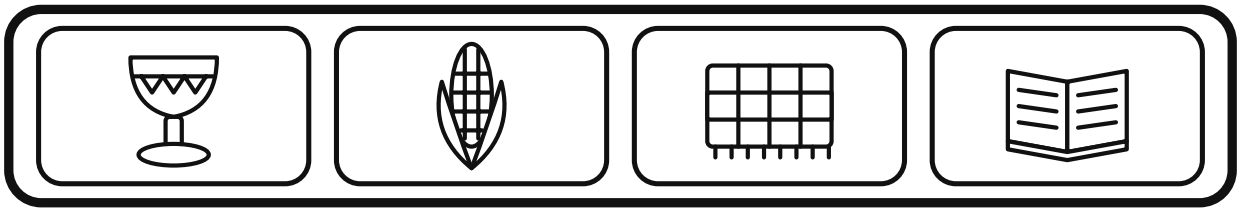
What is Kwanzaa?

Read the book, then answer the questions.



Words: Swahili | principle | unity | kinara | mkeka

1. **How many days does Kwanzaa last?**

2. **Who started Kwanzaa?**

3. **What colours are the candles on a kinara?**

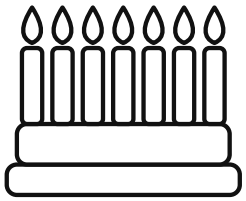
4. **What is the Kwanzaa feast called?**

5. **Why do you think books and handmade things are good Kwanzaa gifts?**

Name _____ **Date** _____ colouringnest.com

Colour online, answer key and more:
colouringnest.com/readers/what-is-kwanzaa
Colouring Nest – free for personal & classroom use

What is Kwanzaa?



A Colouring Nest reader

Name _____

Colour online, answer key and more:
colouringnest.com/readers/what-is-kwanzaa
Colouring Nest – free for personal & classroom use

Words to know

Swahili
a language spoken in East Africa

principle
an idea about how to live well

unity
being together as one

kinara
a candle holder for seven candles

mkeka
a straw mat

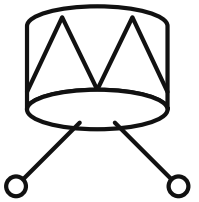


On 31 December, many families share a big feast called Karamu. Some give small gifts, often books or handmade things.

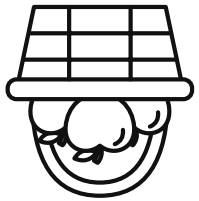


The kinara sits on a straw mat called a mkeka, with ears of corn and a unity cup. The corn stands for children, and the cup stands for unity.

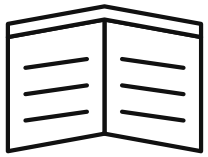
cut



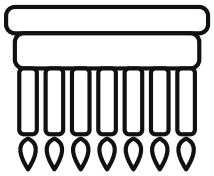
Kwanzaa is a celebration of African American family, community and culture. It lasts for seven days, from 26 December to 1 January.



Kwanzaa was started in 1966 by Dr Maulana Karenga, a teacher in the United States. Its name comes from Swahili words that mean first fruits of the harvest.

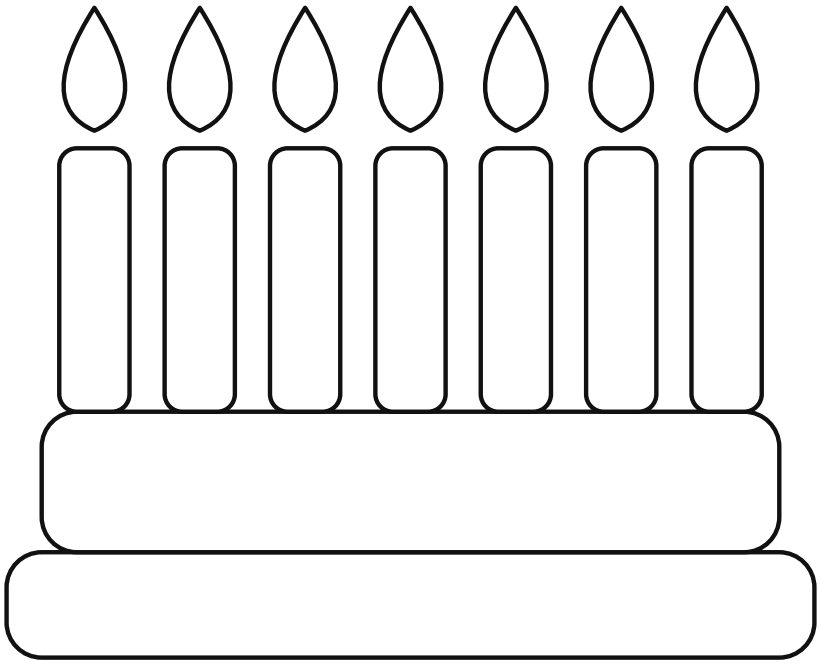


Each day has one of seven principles. A principle is an idea about how to live well. The principles include unity, working together, purpose, creativity and faith.



Families light a candle holder called a kinara. It holds seven candles: three red, three green and one black in the middle. One more candle is lit each day.

What is Kwanzaa?



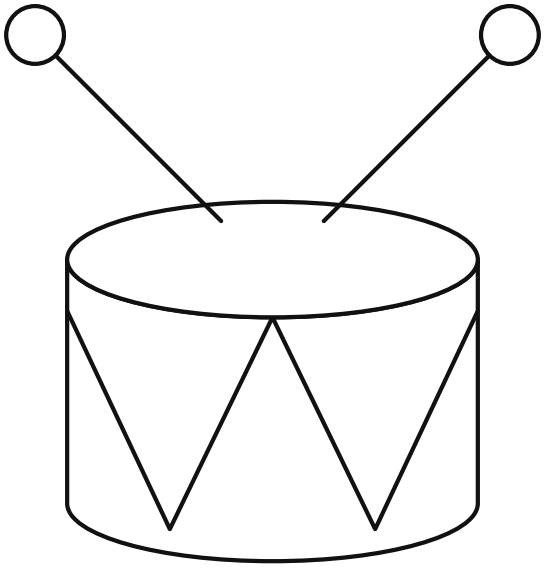
A Colouring Nest reader

Read it, colour it, then answer the questions.

Name _____ colouringnest.com

Colour online, answer key and more:
colouringnest.com/readers/what-is-kwanzaa
Colouring Nest – free for personal & classroom use

What is Kwanzaa?

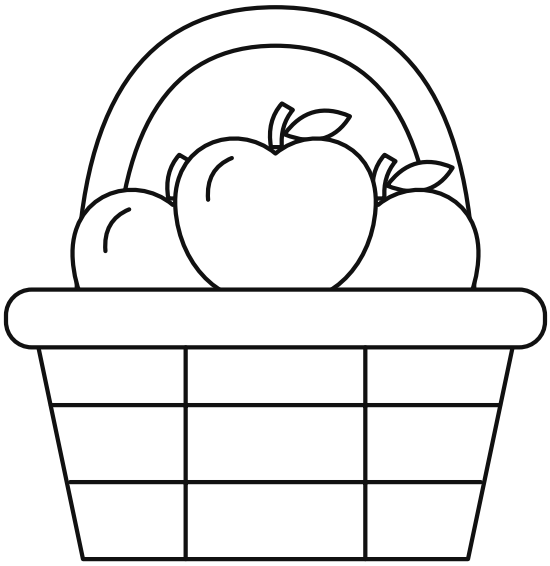


Kwanzaa is a celebration of African American family, community and culture. It lasts for seven days, from 26 December to 1 January.

colouringnest.com - free printable

Colour online, answer key and more:
colouringnest.com/readers/what-is-kwanzaa
Colouring Nest – free for personal & classroom use

What is Kwanzaa?

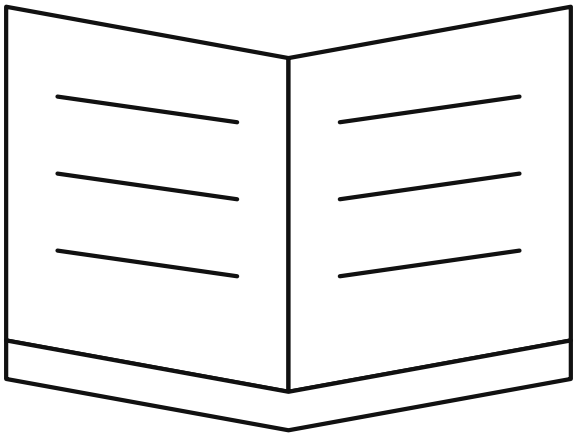


Kwanzaa was started in 1966 by Dr Maulana Karenga, a teacher in the United States. Its name comes from Swahili words that mean first fruits of the harvest.

colouringnest.com - free printable

Colour online, answer key and more:
colouringnest.com/readers/what-is-kwanzaa
Colouring Nest – free for personal & classroom use

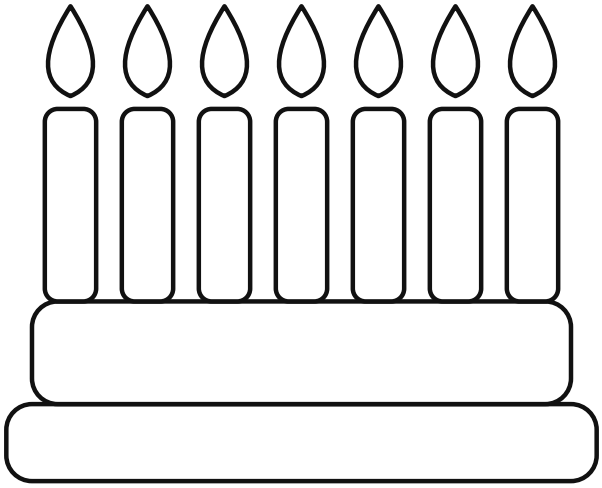
What is Kwanzaa?



Each day has one of seven principles. A principle is an idea about how to live well. The principles include unity, working together, purpose, creativity and faith.

Colour online, answer key and more:
colouringnest.com/readers/what-is-kwanzaa
Colouring Nest – free for personal & classroom use

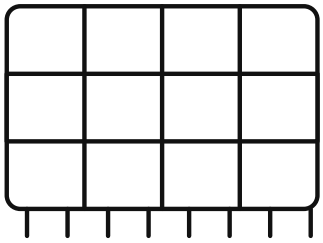
What is Kwanzaa?

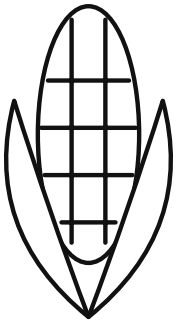


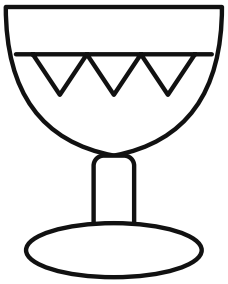
Families light a candle holder called a kinara. It holds seven candles: three red, three green and one black in the middle. One more candle is lit each day.

Colour online, answer key and more:
colouringnest.com/readers/what-is-kwanzaa
Colouring Nest – free for personal & classroom use

What is Kwanzaa?





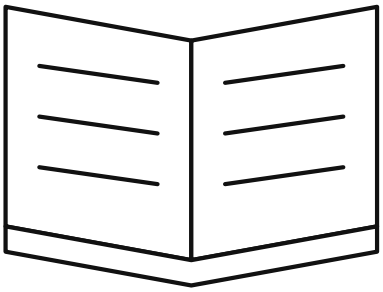


The kinara sits on a straw mat called a mkeka, with ears of corn and a unity cup. The corn stands for children, and the cup stands for unity.

Colour online, answer key and more:
colouringnest.com/readers/what-is-kwanzaa
Colouring Nest – free for personal & classroom use

What is Kwanzaa?





On 31 December, many families share a big feast called Karamu. Some give small gifts, often books or handmade things.

colouringnest.com - free printable

Colour online, answer key and more:
colouringnest.com/readers/what-is-kwanzaa
Colouring Nest – free for personal & classroom use

Words to know

Swahili

a language spoken in East Africa

principle

an idea about how to live well

unity

being together as one

kinara

a candle holder for seven candles

mkeka

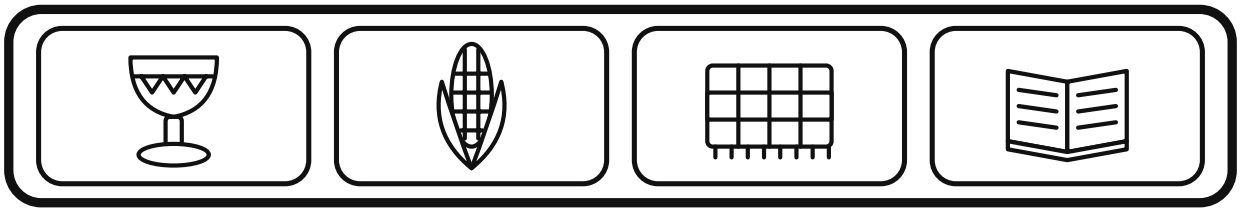
a straw mat

colouringnest.com - free printable

Colour online, answer key and more:
colouringnest.com/readers/what-is-kwanzaa
Colouring Nest – free for personal & classroom use

Answers

Answer key: What is Kwanzaa?



Words: Swahili | principle | unity | kinara | mkeka

1. How many days does Kwanzaa last?

   Seven days

2. Who started Kwanzaa?

   Dr Maulana Karenga

3. What colours are the candles on a kinara?

   Red, green and black

4. What is the Kwanzaa feast called?

   Karamu

5. Why do you think books and handmade things are good Kwanzaa gifts?

   Possible answer: they help people learn and be creative, like the principles

Colour online, answer key and more:
colouringnest.com/readers/what-is-kwanzaa
Colouring Nest – free for personal & classroom use