



# Kwanzaa!

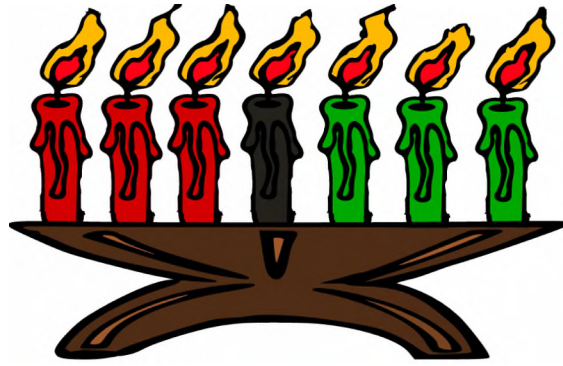


*Accessing learning & communication, together*

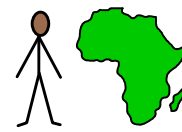
This symbolized article is created by Bridges Canada Inc. [www.bridges-canada.com](http://www.bridges-canada.com).  
It was created in Communicate: In Print by Widgit.

For more information on Kwanzaa visit <http://www.officialkwanzaawebsite.org/>  
Image of Mkeka (mat), Kinara (candle holder), Mishumaa Saba (seven candles), Mazao (crops),  
Muhindi (corn) above from [www.officialkwanzaawebsite.org](http://www.officialkwanzaawebsite.org).

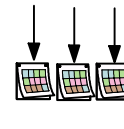
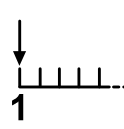
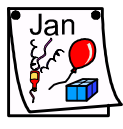
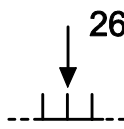
Image of Kinara used for Kwanzaa symbol from <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kwanzaa>.



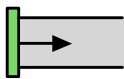
Kwanzaa is a celebration of family, community and culture.



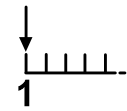
Kwanzaa is a holiday celebrated by the world African community



from December 26th to January 1st, every year.



Kwanzaa originated in the African - American community in the

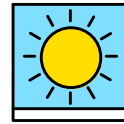
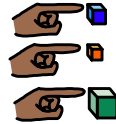
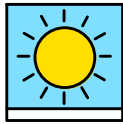


United States. Kwanzaa is a word that means " first fruits " in



the African language, Swahili.

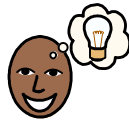
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There are Seven Days of Kwanzaa. Each day is dedicated to

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one of "The Seven Principles of Kwanzaa."

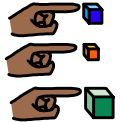
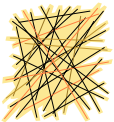


A family who celebrates Kwanzaa has a special candlestick, the

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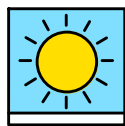
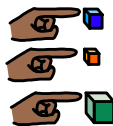
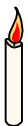
"kimara," with seven candles. The "kimara" is placed on a "mkeka,"



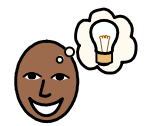
a straw mat. One ear of corn is placed on the mat for each



child in the family.



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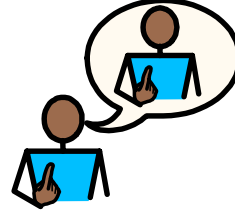
A candle is lit each day to represent the seven principles.

# Kwanzaa Principles

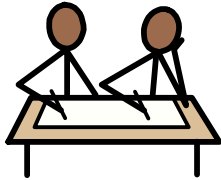
Umoja  
Unity



Kujichagulia  
Self-Determination



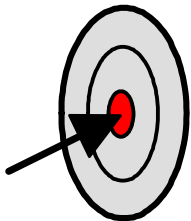
Ujima  
Collective work & Responsibility



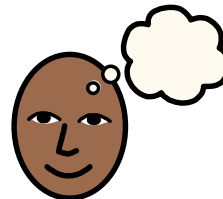
Ujamaa  
Cooperative Economics



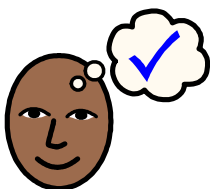
Nia  
Purpose

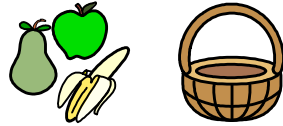


Kuumba  
Creativity

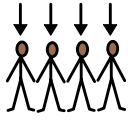


Imani  
Faith

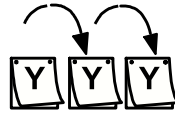
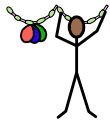




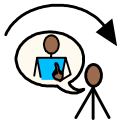
On the mat there is also a fruit basket, called a "mazao"



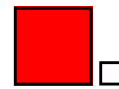
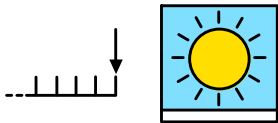
and a special cup which everyone drinks.



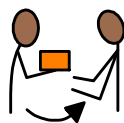
Families decorate their homes with traditional African crafts and



colours representing the African flag red, green and black.



On the last day of Kwanzaa there is a big feast and



gifts are given.