

Books to Treasure—Floyd Cooper

Faraway Drums
By Virginia Kroll
Illustrated by Floyd Cooper

Lesson plan by Linda Troutt

Summary: Jamila Jefferson, her little sister Zakiya, and their mom have just moved to a new neighborhood. When Jamila is left to care for her sister while their mom works, she quiets their fears of the neighborhood noises by recalling stories from Africa that her great-gramma told her. Jamila associates each loud city noise with something from Africa.

Reading/Literature. Standard 7: Research and Information – The student will conduct research and organize information.

Activities:

- 1) Using available resources, research the different African items mentioned in Faraway Drums and write down 3 facts about each one:
 - Wildebeests
 - Foods of Africa
 - Hyenas
 - Elephants
 - Red ants
 - Monkeys
 - Kente cloth
 - Zambezi River
 - Lions
 - Zebras
- 2) Make a class African mural with drawings or pictures of the items researched.