

Kwanzaa Celebration 2021

At-Home Activities, Online Resources, and more!

Happy Kwanzaa!



Kwanzaa is an annual celebration of African-American culture that is held from **December 26 to January 1**, culminating in a communal feast called **Karamu**, usually held on the 6th day. Kwanzaa celebrates the seven principles of Kwanzaa, or **Nguzo Saba**. Each of the seven days of Kwanzaa is dedicated to one of the principles. These principles are:

Umoja (Unity); Kujichagulia (Self-Determination); Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility); Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics); Nia (Purpose); Kuumba (Creativity) and Imani (Faith).

Kwanzaa Engagement Activities

Watch the documentary, **The Black Candle** on youtube narrated by Maya Angelou and directed by filmmaker MK Asante. Reflect on what parts of the film that resonated with you about the Kwanzaa holiday.



Practice and dance the **Kwanzaa Slide** with your family or friends while watching the [Kwanzaa Slide Party Video](#) by Culture Queen and Fytch. Create a tiktok video of your version of the Kwanzaa Slide.

Create one of the dishes from the **Karamu feast** created by chefs David and Tonya Thomas from the H3irloom Food Group. Check out some online recipes for some sample dishes.



Sample Online Recipes

Jollof Rice

<https://food52.com/recipes/61557-classic-nigerian-jollof-rice>



What You'll Need:

- 1/3 cup oil (vegetable/canola/coconut, not olive oil)
- 6 medium-sized fresh plum/Roma tomatoes, chopped, OR a 400-gram tin of tomatoes
- 6 fresh, red poblano peppers (or 4 large red bell peppers), seeds discarded
- 3 medium-sized red onions (1 sliced thinly, 2 roughly chopped), divided
- 1/2 to 1 hot pepper, or to taste (yellow Scotch bonnets are my favourite)
- 3 tablespoons tomato paste
- 2 teaspoons (Caribbean/Jamaican-style) curry powder
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 2 dried bay leaves
- 5 to 6 cups stock (vegetable, chicken, or beef) or water, divided
- 2 teaspoons unsalted butter (optional), divided
- 4 cups uncooked converted long-grain rice or golden sella basmati, rinsed
- Salt, to taste
- Black and white pepper, to taste

Jerk Duck

http://www.walkerswood.com/recipes/jerk_duck.php

<https://www.foodfidelity.com/smoked-duck/>

What You'll Need:

- 2 Duck Legs or Duck Breast
- 1 cup Jerk Marinade
- 3 cups Water
- 1 cup Vinegar
- 1/4 cup Salt



Sweet Potato Cornbread

<https://www.blackfoodie.co/recipe/sweet-potato-cornbread/>

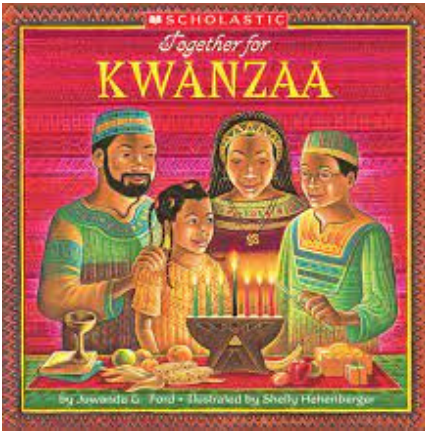


What You'll Need:

- 1 cup flour
- 2 cups cornmeal
- 2 cups buttermilk
- 1 cup sweet potato (mashed)
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- nutmeg
- 1/4 cup butter (melted)
- 1 cup butter
- 5 tbs honey

Kwanzaa Children Activities

Learn about the Kwanzaa holiday and its traditions with one of these online read alouds and craft activity.



Together for Kwanzaa by Juwanda G. Ford

Kwanzaa is Kayla's favorite time of year. But this year, it looks as if a heavy snowstorm will keep her big brother, Khari, from getting home in time for the festivities! Will Khari miss the celebration completely? Or will Kayla and her brother somehow find a way to be together for Kwanzaa? A perfect introduction to Kwanzaa, this book will teach children all about the traditions and practices that make it a special winter holiday.

[Click here to view this online read aloud:](#)

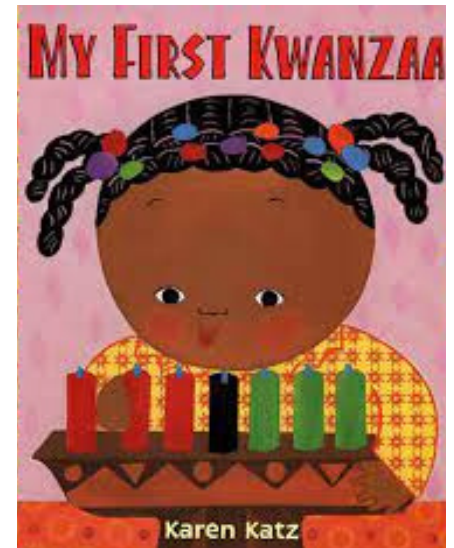
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z--ZnK8BAkA>

My First Kwanzaa by Karen Katz

Follow along as a little girl celebrates her very first Kwanzaa and learns about the traditions associated with the holiday. As each of the seven days goes by, she learns about the Seven Principles including the importance of unity, community, helping others, and family. On the very last day, it's finally time for a celebration including music, dancing, and a feast of delicious African food.

[Click here to view this online read aloud:](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jTI69V7eHks&t=42s>



Make a Paper Kinara

What You Need:

- 1 Paper Plate
- 7 craft sticks
- Markers (red, black and green)
- Yellow Paper (tissue or construction)
- Scissors, tape and glue

[Click here to view the craft activity:](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1kqOUGXO_Q