



#8835

NAZINGA GAME RESERVE

Grade Levels: 9-13+

26 minutes

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DESCRIPTION

Nazinga Game Reserve is the success story of one man's determination to restore indigenous wildlife to a dying savannah. Clark Lungren's innovative message to the local tribes in Burkina Faso resulted in increased wildlife and native hunting. Features baboon, hartebeest, antelope, elephant, waterbuck, and warthog. The government and resident natives help protect the sanctuary from poachers.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Life Sciences

- ◆ Standard: Understands relationships among organisms and their physical environment
 - Benchmark: Knows that all organisms (including humans) cause changes in their environments, and these changes can be beneficial or detrimental
 - Benchmark: Knows ways in which humans can alter the equilibrium of ecosystems, causing potentially irreversible effects (e.g., human population growth, technology, and consumption; human destruction of habitats through direct harvesting, pollution, and atmospheric changes)

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To locate Burkina Faso and to describe its characteristics.
2. To study how Lungren rejuvenated the Nazinga savannah from near extinction.

BEFORE SHOWING

1. Locate Burkina Faso on a map and research some basic facts about the country. What is the population? Is it growing rapidly?
2. Find some of the more common animals native to the country. Are they endangered?



AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Two keys to the Nazinga project's success are: an increased water supply, and the cooperation of the villagers. Damming involves changes to the natural world, and allowing a hunt runs counter to the beliefs of many conservationists. Do you think these compromises were worthwhile? Could the project have succeeded without them?

2. Is the Nazinga experiment sustainable? Do you think this kind of project could succeed elsewhere?

SUMMARY

Clark Lungren moved to Burkina Faso with his family when he was just a toddler. They lived in villages where malnourishment was a way of life and where drought caused great hardship. But Lungren loved the land and the wild animals that roamed there.



By the time he grew up, his beloved animals had all but disappeared. In the 1960s poachers had discovered Nazinga—a vast swath of once-thriving savannah—and had killed many of the elephants, antelopes and other wildlife.

Lungren hatched a plan to rejuvenate the savannah, save the animals, and provide an income for villagers. International aid agencies scoffed. But Lungren knew that local culture was suffering: people once hunted for a living and for spiritual sustenance, but now there were not enough animals left to sustain body or spirit.

He got the enthusiastic support of the locals for his plan, and ten years after the project began, wildlife had increased ten-fold.

RELATED RESOURCES



Captioned Media Program

- Elephants #8708
- Kenyan Wildlife Vet #8789



World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and “kid-safe” sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **BURKINA FASO**

<http://www.ontheline.org.uk/explore/journey/burkina/guidebk.htm>

Gives background information on the history, geography, environment, society, and more on this West African republic.

- **AFRICAN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION**

<http://www.awf.org/wildlives/71>

Presents a chart fact file on the elephant. Explains its physical characteristics, habitat, behavior, and others. Provides a link to “Take Action!” and using AWF’s search, discover facts about other animals.