

# UZIMA

## THE GIFT OF A GOAT



### FUN FACTS ABOUT GOATS

- A GOAT CAN BE TAUGHT ITS NAME AND WILL COME WHEN IT IS CALLED
- A GROUP OF GOATS CAN BE CALLED A TRIBE, A TRIP, A DROVE, A HERD, OR A FLOCK!
- GOATS HAVE ACCENTS! THEIR BLEAT SOUNDS DIFFERENT DEPENDING ON WHERE THEY LIVE

### UDDERLY AWESOME

When we think of milk, many of us think of cows. But did you know that the most consumed milk worldwide is actually from goats?! There are over 1 billion goats worldwide. Maybe that's because **goats make an excellent addition to a farm or household**. They're easy to care for, need much less food and water than cows, have lots of babies ( a mother goat -- called a nanny -- might have up to 40!), and produce 4 litres of milk a day -- plenty for a family that needs nutrition.

In Kenya, some farmers have struggled to keep their cows alive as grazing land becomes less available and recurring droughts make water scarce. Mrs. Wangui Kinna was one

of those farmers and, when her cow died, she was very worried.

Her family relied on its milk for nutrition and extra income (they sold the extra milk for money to spend on things like food and medicine and school books). So when World Renew offered Mrs. Kinna a goat she accepted -- all she had to do was give back its first kid (that's the actual name of a baby goat) to World Renew, who could then give that to one of Mrs. Kinna's neighbors.

Since goats don't need as much water or food as a cow (and they can subsist on sparse and low-quality vegetation just fine), owning a goat has given Mrs. Kinna lots of time she would have spent hauling water and looking for cow food to spend on her household and her family. That is *udderly* awesome.



**GOATS' MILK IS HIGHER IN CALCIUM AND VITAMIN A THAN COW'S MILK.**





# YOU GOAT THIS!

**At \$62 each, even a small class can give a big gift!**

The gift of a goat is a great place to start if you have a small group. If you meet your goal of one goat, you can know that your gift will have a truly life-giving impact on a family. And if you have time (and think your young fundraisers have the energy), you can adjust your goal without over-committing. Give a goat or try for a tribe!

If you're working with older kids, consider a **"Nanny Night"** where they offer babysitting services to parents at church or school. Mother goats are called nannies and a parents' night out is always a win-win: service opportunity for kids and time-out for parents from their little kids....

For more ideas, visit [www.worldrenew.net/kidsfundraisingideas](http://www.worldrenew.net/kidsfundraisingideas)



## DOMESTICATED

**Domestication** is the process of adapting wild plants and animals for human use. Goats were probably the first animals to be domesticated for their meat, milk, and hides about 10,000 years ago in what are now the modern countries of Iran, Iraq, Turkey, and Syria. Their usefulness for humans continues today, with almost 1 billion of them worldwide. Their domestication feeds millions of people — *India alone produced 5 million metric tons of goat's milk last year!*

Etymologically, the word **domesticate** means "to cause to be attached to home and family," and stems from the Latin root **domus**, meaning *house*. Word-nerds will know that the word **dominion** comes from the same root. Many of us are familiar with this word from English translations of the Bible, where it appears in our creation story. God created the world and then said to humans "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have **dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."

In these translations, dominion certainly does seem to have a familiar

implication: ruling. We are God's image bearers on earth and therefore the kings over all creation. But the *root* of that word might allow us a layer to our understanding, some nuance about how we care for God's gift.

What if **domestication** is as much a part of God's plan for us as *dominion*? What if, by going back to the root word *domus*, or home, we thought about God's creation not so much as something over which we rule but something we should treat as a home? What if the world was not our kingdom as much as our *household*, that all of creation is attached to us?

For those of us who live in cities, who buy our food in stores, whose only animal interaction is without our household pet, this can seem like a foreign concept. But when you look at the photo on the front of this sheet, you can get a glimpse of how **a goat is domesticated — or attached to home and family — in Kenya**. The goat provides a family with milk, meat, and extra income security and is, in turn, attached to its family. You can see that in the photo — not rulers and subjects but members of a household, attached to each other as God intended.

## FOR THE KIDS

**Add some fun to your lesson with a good goat book, an eating "experiment," or two minutes of goat hilarity.**

Children of many ages will love **The Goat Lady** by Jane Bregoli, a true story about the author's neighbour and her goats. This beautiful tale of taking the time to know someone promises to spark good conversation among children.

**A goat milk and cheese "tasting"** offers your human kids the chance to see what much of the world prefers. Both are widely available in stores throughout North America now or, if you have a farm nearby, perhaps a field trip or a classroom visit from Billy the Kid is in order.

And if you and your charges just need a 2-minute laugh, search for **"Funny Goats Screaming Like Humans"** on YouTube. You can't not laugh.

