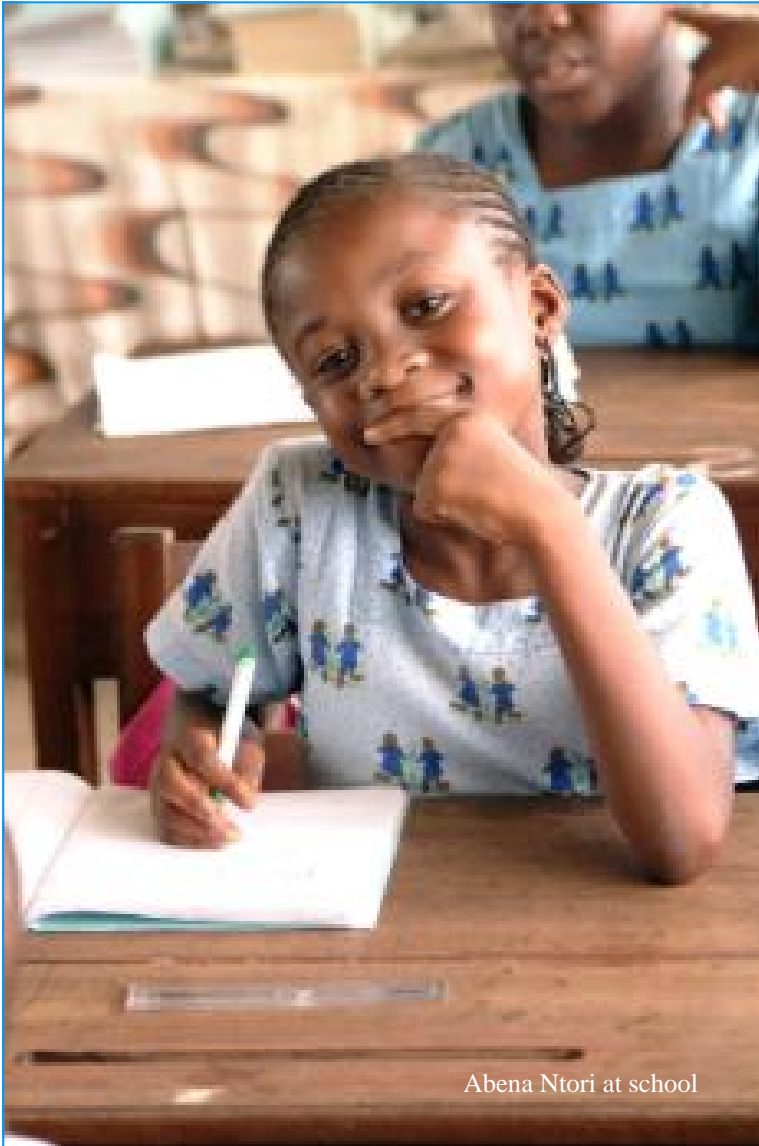


GHANA



Abena Ntori at school



Abena Ntori is eight years old. She lives in Tema. Tema is a sea port about 25 miles from the capital city Accra. Abena Ntori lives with her mother Comfort, father Steven, grandma Ama, brother Kofi and Cousin Vanessa Kessa. They live in a concrete house owned by the shipping company who employs Abena's Father. The house is all on one level. There is a front room and three bedrooms in the main house. Abena shares a room with her grandma and cousin Vanessa. The cooking area is outside in the courtyard. The family share the courtyard with the six other families who live in the block. The family mainly cook on a coal stove. Comfort also owns an electric cooker but the electricity sometimes does not work so she does not use it much. The family wash their dishes and clothes in plastic basins out in the courtyard. The shower room is on the side of the house and has a tap. There is another tap by the cooking area.

Can you draw a plan of Abena's house? Can you then draw a plan of your own house? What are the similarities and differences between the two houses?



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Abena Ntori's School Day.

The sound of the cockerels crowing wakes me up at 6.00 a.m. I sweep the front porch and courtyard with Vanessa. If the water is running I fill a red basin with water and wash in a small concrete shower room at the side of the house. Sometimes the water is not running so I collect water from the large water bucket we always keep full at the back of our house. I put on my blue SOS school uniform and walk to school. On the way I buy an omelette and cup of sweet coffee made with condensed milk from a street vendor.

School starts at 8.00 a.m. with the whole school singing the national anthem as we raise the flag of Ghana. In the morning we have two lessons. I am good at English and Music. At break time I go and buy plantain chips and a Fanta with my friend Kojo. We have more lessons after break, until lunch at 12.30 p.m. For lunch we eat fofo, which is a white paste made from cassava flour, and a stew with lots of chilli. After eating I play netball. After lunch we have two more lessons before choir practice. I really love singing in the choir.

I get home about 4.00 p.m. I help my mother with chores. Often I will help her with washing clothes. We wash our clothes by hand in big buckets and hang them all on the bushes around our house to dry. While doing this I listening to highlife, my favourite kind of music, on the radio. In the evening I do my homework.

Questions:

- What lessons is Abena good at?
- What colour is Abena's school uniform?
- What is Fofo made from?
- What is Abena's favourite music?

Can you write about your school day?

What are the similarities and differences between your day and Abena's day?

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