



THE NAMING ROAD MAP

By E. Kagendo - A remembering, not a test



☀️ For the parent, teacher, or guide
This workbook isn't about right answers. It's about curiosity, connection, and tending the fire. In Chapter 1: The Naming Fire, Mwangi receives two names — Mwangi (morning) and Odhiambo (night). The elders say: "A name is not a word. It is a road."

🕒 Tip: You don't need to know everything. Saying "Let's find out together" teaches children that learning is a lifelong fire. The activities here take about 45-60 minutes total. Go at your own pace.



Before you begin — read Chapter 1 together, then talk:

1. Why do you think both families wanted to name the child?
2. What does the elder mean when he says: "A name is not a word. It is a road"?
3. Have you ever felt "between" two worlds — like Mwangi? What helped you?

💬 No wrong answers. Just listening and wondering.



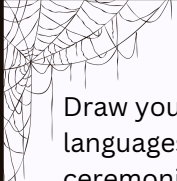
🔥 Activity 1 · My name story

Write your full name below, then explore each part. Ask a parent or elder if you don't know a meaning yet. It's okay to leave blanks — you can always come back.

My full name: _____

Part of my name	Who gave it to me?	What does it mean? (language / story / ancestor)
First name / given name		
Middle name(s)		
Surname / family name		

☀️ In many African traditions, names can describe time of birth (Mwangi = morning, Odhiambo = night), ancestors, or hopes. Does your name hold a prayer or a memory?



Activity 2 · The threads that made you

Draw your identity web. Write your name in the centre, then add threads like: languages spoken at home, family foods, songs, places, traditions, proverbs, ceremonies, stories your grandmother tells.

Reflect: Which thread feels strongest right now? Which one do you want to learn more about?



Activity 3 · Interview an elder

Ask a grandparent, parent, or older relative these three questions. Write their favourite answer below.

1. Why was my name chosen for me? (Is there a story behind it?)
2. Who had this name before me? (An ancestor? A beloved aunt?)
3. What hopes did the family have for me when I was born?

♥ If you can, record their voice on your phone. Those sounds will become treasure.

Closing fire · what I carry forward
Complete these sentences honestly – there's power in naming what you feel.

One thing I learned about my family is:

A question I still have is:

One tradition I want to protect is:

Something beautiful about carrying many identities is:



Read this aloud together ✨



“I come from many stories. I carry many voices.
My roots are not confusion – they are strength.
I will learn where I come from. I will remember.
I will carry the fire forward.”

– from *The Boy Between Two Fires*

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

Bonus · Heritage threads (optional)


Fill what you know. It’s okay to have spaces – that’s where your story grows.


Side of family	One thing I already know	One thing I want to discover
Mother’s side		
Father’s side		

Continue the journey


The Naming Road Map is just the first step. In *The Boy Between Two Fires*, Mwangi grows up navigating two cultures, colonial pressure, and the fight to remember.

 Own the full story |  Join the Fireside Circle for weekly workbooks, audio passages & community.


 **Buy the book**
(KES 1,000)

 **Join Fireside Circle**

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 Share your Naming Fire – post a photo of your identity web or a sentence from your reflection.

Tag @elsy_kagendo & use #TwoFires

 Your story may inspire another family.
(always ask a parent before sharing online)