Folklife Festival 2014

Kenya: Mambo Poa
Festivals are celebrations where groups of people go to have fun together with others.
The Folklife Festival happens every year on the National Mall and celebrates a different country or culture.
This year, the Folklife Festival is about Kenya. Kenya is a country in Africa.
I may see many people from Kenya at the festival. Some may be wearing special clothes, or costumes, from their country. These people may want to share information about special things in Kenya with me.
The languages in Kenya sound very different from English. Many people in Kenya speak Swahili. I may hear many people speaking Swahili at the Festival. It is OK if I do not understand what they say, but I may learn some new words.

Habari!

Means

Hello!
I may hear music and see people dancing at the Festival. Kenyan music may sound different from most music I have heard. The musicians may play many different kinds of drums.
The music may be loud and I may not like it. It is OK to move away and find a quite space with my adult.
There may be Kenyan dancers performing special dances from their country. The dances have lots of stomping.
There may be Chinese food and drinks to try. They may taste different from foods and drinks I have had before. It can be fun to try new things. I may find a new taste that I like. I may not like these different foods and that is OK.
There may be people making things. I might see people carving wood. I might see people cooking food. I might even see people weaving baskets.
There might be things I can touch. I should wait for the Festival participant to tell me that this is OK before I touch anything. Some things may be fragile or sharp. The Festival Participant can tell me which things I may touch and which things I should not touch.
The Folklife Festival will be outside on the National Mall. It is important to wear clothes that are comfortable for the weather.
There might be crowds of people who also want to see the Folklife Festival. If it is too crowded, I may want to go to a quiet place like the “Take A Break Tent”/Participant Hospitality or the first aid tent.
There are many things about the country Kenya that I may see and learn at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival.