

## **Arts and Culture**

What are some of your favourite songs? Who is your favourite singer? The songs we listen to and the music videos we watch make up a part of our culture. The words in a song - the lyrics- tell a story or give some information. The singer gives a message to the public. Songs can be about many things such as love, war, peace, friendship, or holidays. In this module, you will learn about K'Naan, a Somali-Canadian whose song "Wavin Flag" became world famous.

### **Here is a list of activities you will work on:**

- KWL Chart
- Reading
- Listening / Video
- Summary

Look at the KWL chart below. What do you already know about K'Naan and Wavin Flag? Write what you already know in the "K" column. What do you want to know about K'Naan and Wavin Flag? Write down what you want to know in the "W" column of the chart.

**KWL Chart**

<b>K</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>
What I know about K'Naan and Wavin Flag?	What I want to know about K'Naan and Wavin Flag?	What I learned about K'Naan and Wavin Flag?

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### **READING**

Wavin' Flag is a famous song written by a Somali- Canadian artist known as K'Naan. The song was so popular when it was first released that it reached #2 on Canadian Hot 100. The song was originally written for Somalis who were struggling with war. In 2010, the song was remade and sung by a group of Canadian artists known as Young Artists for Haiti. The Young Artists for Haiti got together to help raise money for Haiti. A strong earthquake hit Haiti in 2010 and left many people in need of help. Money raised from the sales of Wavin' Flag was given to aid organizations such as World Vision Canada and War Child Canada. War Child Canada is an organization that provides help to children who live in countries where there is war or conflict. World Vision Canada is an organization that gives emergency supplies, education, and healthcare to people around the world.

This famous song went even further than that. Another version of it was made and recorded to be used by the company Coca-Cola. Coca-Cola used Wavin' Flag as its promotional anthem for the 2010 FIFA World Cup which was held in South Africa. The FIFA World Cup is an international competition where football / soccer teams

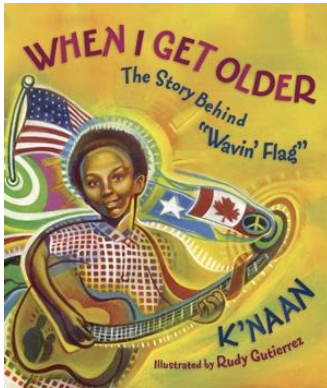
from around the world play matches against each other. Football, also known as soccer, is very popular worldwide. The version of the song that was made for the 2010 FIFA World Cup was so popular that it reached number one in other countries such as Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. It reached the number 2 spot in Italy, the United Kingdom, and Ireland.



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wavin%27\\_Flag](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wavin%27_Flag)

K'Naan's book

K'Naan wrote a children's book called "When I get older - The story behind Wavin' Flag" . The book describes the challenges that K'Naan faced as child when he left Somalia to come to the United States and then to Canada. He felt like an outsider in his new home. K'Naan's grandfather was a well known poet who passed on his love for poetry to his grandson.



<http://www.cbc.ca/news/arts/k-naan-s-book-when-i-get-older-shares-life-story-for-kids-1.1274409>

### About K'Naan

K'Naan was born on May 30, 1978 in Mogadishu in Somalia. His name at birth was Keinan Warsame. He is a poet, rap artist, and songwriter. He came to Toronto, Canada in 1991.



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K%27naan>

### **LISTENING/VIDEO**

Information from the videos and audios will also be included in the quiz.

Listen to the song Wavin Flag for the 2010 FIFA World Cup at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTJSt4wP2ME>

Listen to the version that was sung by Young Artists Canada at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3lZuCkvi5lU>

### **Question**

How are the versions similar? How are they different?

### **Summary**

What have you learned about the song Wavin Flag? Write what you have learned in the "W" column of the KWL chart.

### **References**

The references are for additional information. You do not have to study them for the quiz.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wavin%27\\_Flag](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wavin%27_Flag)

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTJSt4wP2ME>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3lZuCkvi5lU>

