Station Follow-up

1. How does the artwork demonstrate the social, political, economic and religious values of Western Africans?

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2. Legends of Africa: Searching for Gold

A chief who had to make a long journey was concerned about leaving his daughter alone. So he met with Gold, his most trusted friend. “I shall be gone for several months,” he said. “I need you to watch over my daughter. If young men come hoping to marry her, turn them away. I will speak to them when I return.”

Gold replied, “I will look after your daughter as if she were my own.”

The chief felt confident that his daughter was safe and went off on his journey.

Many months passed and he did not return. Young men came seeking the young girl’s hand in marriage, but Gold turned them away. However, he became worried that something terrible had happened to the chief. When another young man asked for the chief’s daughter’s hand, Gold agreed, saying, “Since I am watching over her, you must make the marriage settlement with me.” Gold received great riches in exchange for the young girl.

A while later, Gold heard that the chief was on his way home. He was terrified. “How will I ever be able to face my friend?” he wondered. Gold grabbed everything he owned and moved to the grasslands.

When the chief returned, he asked, “Where are Gold and my daughter?” The people told him about the marriage and Gold fleeing. The chief was furious! “You must bring Gold back,” he declared. The people asked, “but where shall we look?” He responded, “Everywhere! I will not rest until I see him.”

So the people searched, they asked every trader, “Have you seen Gold?” No one knew where gold was hiding. The search still goes on and that is why, even today, the people are still searching for Gold.

What is the moral of the story and the exaggerations?

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3. Write two interesting facts about the daily life of Africans


4. Using the illustrations on pg. 119-120 of *Across the Centuries* textbook, identify three things Mansa Musa did for Western Africa.


