

Surf Soup® Plays Soccer Around the World – Reader & Activity Guide

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Book & Teacher Note (Top of Guide):

Surf Soup®, Koa, and friends travel across the globe playing soccer, learning teamwork, and exploring mindfulness with Prana the Piranha. Guided by Grandma and Grandpa, this story is perfect for grandparents, homeschoolers, librarians, and classroom teachers who want to engage children in reading, global awareness, STEAM skills, and social-emotional learning.

This guide includes discussion prompts, activities, and exercises to enhance literacy, geography, science, arts, math, mindfulness, and empathy while encouraging intergenerational reading and playful learning.

Reader Guide / Discussion Questions

Comprehension & Reflection

What countries and beaches did Koa and friends visit?

How did Prana the Piranha help the kids on the beach?

What is the difference between soccer and football?

How do Grandma and Grandpa guide Koa and friends during their adventures?

Connection & Empathy

5. Which character do you relate to the most – Koa, Surf Soup, or a local child? Why?

6. How do the kids show teamwork, kindness, and respect on the beaches?

7. How can you be a good teammate in your games, classroom, or at home?

Critical Thinking & STEAM Connections

8. What new skills did Koa learn from playing soccer with kids in other countries?

9. How do geography, weather, and ocean waves affect how soccer is played on different beaches?
10. Prana teaches yoga and mindfulness – why is balance important in sports and in life?
11. How could you use math or measurement to plan a soccer game on the beach?

Mindfulness & Movement

12. Try a Prana yoga pose – how does it make you feel?
13. How can breathing and stretching help you focus before playing a game or learning a new skill?

Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Spotlight: Prana the Piranha

Prana the Piranha is a mindfulness and yoga mascot in the Surf Soup® universe. She helps children:

Recognize and manage emotions

Practice focus and self-control

Build empathy and teamwork

Strengthen patience and resilience

SEL Activities with Prana:

Mindful Breathing: Inhale like a wave coming in, exhale like it flowing out. Notice how your body feels calmer.

Balance and Focus: Try a “Wave Pose” yoga move like Prana. Imagine you are balancing on a surfboard.

Name Your Feeling: Ask: “What is Koa feeling? What is Prana feeling? What am I feeling?”

Reflection Journal: Draw or write one way you were kind, patient, or mindful today.

Activity Guide / Teachers Pay Teachers

Grades: Pre-K – 2nd / Ages 4-8

1. Coloring & Creativity Pages

Surf Soup, Koa, Prana, Grandma & Grandpa on beaches

Holo Holo flying above the waves

Flags of the 12 countries visited

STEAM tie-in: Research one fact about each country while coloring

2. Soccer / Football Skill Worksheets

Dribble, pass, and shoot exercises

“Teamwork Challenges”: work in pairs or small groups to pass or move the ball creatively

“Flag Hunt”: match the flag to the country Koa visits

STEAM tie-in: Measure distances on the beach or draw the path of the ball (math + spatial reasoning)

3. Mindfulness / Yoga Pages

Illustrated Prana yoga poses with step-by-step instructions

Breathing exercises before games or learning activities

“Balance Challenge”: draw or act out a soccer-yoga move

STEAM tie-in: Explore the science of stretching and balance in the human body

4. Writing & Creative Thinking

Draw your own beach soccer team

Write a short story about a soccer adventure in your favorite country

Reflection prompts: How do you play fair, cheer, and include others?

STEAM tie-in: Map out your soccer adventure using a simple coordinate system (geography + math)

5. Classroom / Group Games

Mini “World Cup”: small groups pick a country and play short games

“Travel the World with Koa”: roleplay flying in Holo Holo to different beaches, exploring geography, culture, and math (counting goals, tracking distances)

STEAM tie-in: Discuss weather patterns, tides, or ocean currents that might affect play

Notes for Teachers, Librarians, and Grandparents

Supports literacy, STEAM, social-emotional learning, geography, mindfulness, and cross-cultural awareness

Ideal for storytime, grandparents reading with grandchildren, homeschool activities, or classroom integration

Printable PDF ready for multiple copies in classrooms or home use

Activities are designed to encourage curiosity, teamwork, and intergenerational learning