

HISTORY:

Early farmers settled in small villages. They planted crops and grazed cattle.



Millet and sorghum were the most common crops

The people and livestock in a farming village had to be fed every day. Looking after the crops was the work of women. Without successful **agriculture**, no village would have been able to exist. When the soil was no longer **fertile** and farmers could not grow enough food for themselves and their livestock, they moved and set up another village.

The **location** of a village was chosen on the basis of the climate and the soil. The temperature and the rainfall had to be just right to grow crops. Sorghum and millet were the main crops of early African farmers. There had to be good rainfall in the summer months to grow sorghum and millet.

1. What TWO things did farmers look for when relocating?

2. Who looked after the crops?

HISTORY:

The role of the chief

Chiefs were very important as it was believed that they were closer than ordinary people to the ancestors and they looked after their people.

The chief's *kgotla* was where people from the village met. It was in the chief's homestead between the households of his wives and his cattle kraal. The chief's cattle enclosure could hold about 500 head of cattle. The *kgotla* was very large so that all the men of the village could attend the meetings. The older men were leaders who helped the chief to settle arguments between people.

What is a kgotla?

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