Where in the World - Haiti

Teachers: When the massive earthquake hit Haiti on 12 January, 2010, it destroyed cities, leaving people without shelter and food. After disasters like this, hunger is the first emergency. Within 24 hours, the World Food Programme started to deliver food to the victims.

The quake, Haiti’s worst in two centuries, registered a 7.2 on the Richter scale, and it compromised resources like water and electricity. Two million people now need food, especially ready-to-eat food like WFP’s High-Energy Biscuits.

Staying informed about current events and social issues is an educational necessity. Teach and learn about the hunger crisis in Haiti by promoting students’ interest in current events and integrating them into the curriculum. “Where in the World – Haiti” incorporates geography, social studies, and writing into the information about the earthquake and its aftermath.

How do the students get involved?

Tell them about “Students Helping Haiti” and encourage them to reach out to those in need through the fundraising program.

Share these videos with your students (http://www.wfp.org/videos/help-haiti) and discuss what happened in Haiti and the challenges faced by the survivors and those trying to assist them.

Extension work

Ask your students to research stories about the current situation in Haiti have them make a presentation based on their findings.

Why not have your class present their work to the whole school?

Stay informed

For the latest on our operations in Haiti, see: http://www.wfp.org/stories/latest-haiti-operation


Add a banner to your site: http://www.wfp.org/how-to-help/community/link-us/haitistudents
Where in the World - Haiti
Subject: Social Studies
Developed by the WFP Youth Outreach Team

Overview

Map skills, coordinates, relative and absolute location, critical thinking, research, writing to inform.

This research activity is part of a geography-themed series: “Where in the World.” The activities are designed to be covered over a series of lessons. The end result will be an understanding of hunger issues in a particular country, as well as an understanding that hunger is a global issue which affects countries in all areas of the planet.

In addition students will gain an understanding of the current situation in Haiti after the devastating earthquake of 12 January, 2010.

Through research and the application of mapping skills, students will gain an understanding of the problems of hunger and poverty around the world, the strategies being employed to combat the effects of these problems, and the efforts being made to create sustainable solutions.

Aims & Objectives

• To inform students of the current situation in Haiti
• To inform students of the absolute and relative locations of countries
• To raise awareness of hunger issues and reinforce the point that hunger is a global problem
• To teach about the economic profiles of countries around the world, and encourage comparisons.
• To educate students on the impact of natural disasters and how to deal with food emergencies.

Preparation

• Make copies of the Where in the World activity sheets (3 total)
• Access to the Internet (www.wfp.org/countries/haiti)

Instructions

1. Pass out activity sheets. Allow students time to fill in the map.
2. Using information on WFP’s Countries pages, ask students to complete the worksheet.
3. Divide students into four groups, assigning each one a different discussion question.
4. Have each group present its solution, and conduct a class discussion on each group’s ideas.
Answer Key:

United States of America

Mexico

The Bahamas

Dominican Republic

Cuba

Jamaica

Haiti

Puerto Rico

Guatemala

El Salvador

Nicaragua

Panama

Belize

Cuba

Trinidad & Tobago

Costa Rica

Venezuela

Colombia

Haiti

The Bahamas

Port-au-Prince
Name: _______________________________

Label the map using the list of countries. Find the capital of Haiti, and label it on the pull-out map.

Haiti

The Bahamas  Honduras
Belize  Jamaica
Colombia  Nicaragua
Costa Rica  Panama
Cuba  Trinidad & Tobago
Dominican Republic  United States of America
El Salvador  Venezuela
Guatemala  Haiti

Port-au-Prince
Name: _______________________________

Complete the fact sheet about Haiti using WFP’s web site and other online resources.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Country</th>
<th>Capital</th>
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<th>Population</th>
<th>Official Language</th>
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<th>Climate</th>
<th>Religions</th>
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<tr>
<th>GDP</th>
<th>Life Expectancy</th>
<th>Global Hunger Index</th>
<th>Percent Undernourished</th>
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<th>Threats to food security</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Absolute Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Latitude</td>
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<td>Longitude</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relative Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My hometown</td>
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<td>Haiti is</td>
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<tr>
<td>from my hometown.</td>
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<th>WFP Activities</th>
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<th>Chief Exports</th>
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Name: _______________________________

Geography questions

Answer the following questions about Haiti.

1. Which countries share boundaries with Haiti? Give relative locations.

__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

2. How does the Global Hunger Index of the neighboring countries compare to Haiti?

__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

Discussion questions

With your team, discuss possible resolutions to your assigned question based on Haiti: 10 Hunger Facts. Write a summary of your ideas.

A. Define malnutrition, and describe its presence in Haiti. How could health problems from malnutrition be reduced?

B. How could countries be better prepared for disasters like the earthquake or hurricanes so they don’t result in a crisis?

C. The earthquake cut off electricity and water supplies to Haiti. Without these resources, what is the best way to feed the victims?

D. Describe three ways students can assist the earthquake victims in Haiti. Write a short summary of today’s situation in Haiti and what WFP is doing to help.

Want to know what it feels like to manage an emergency food assistance operation? Play Food Force and direct the fight against world hunger! Visit food-force.com to download and start playing.