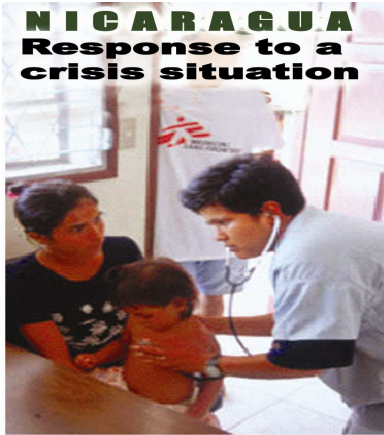


TEACHER'S GUIDE



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| Suggested Level | Secondary 1-2 (7 th -8 th grade) |
| Length | Approximately 55 minutes (1 period) |
| Subjects | English, language of instruction |
| Broad Areas of Learning | Citizenship and community life |
| Focuses of Development | Culture of peace |
| Educational Aim | To make students aware of international initiatives in humanitarian aid related to a crisis situation through finding pertinent information in a text. |
| Subject-Specific Competencies | To read and listen to literary, popular and information-based texts |
| Cross-Curricular Competencies | To use information |



Background Information

To respond to the growing demand for humanitarian aid during natural disasters and to better channel its efforts in assisting during times of crisis, the Canadian International Development Agency finances projects for organizations such as Médecins sans frontières (MSF). MSF Canada's mission is to step in and provide assistance to populations in developing countries, during war-time or in dangerous situations in order to maintain health care and to prevent disease. This organization involves itself by providing food and drinking water, vaccinations, as well as raising awareness for these populations and providing all kinds of medical assistance (childbirth, surgery, family health, etc).



Instructions

Students are asked to find out what actions are taken following a natural disaster.



Answers to the Questions

- The effects of Hurricane Mitch in 1998 (clue: letter dated April 1, 1999, and the text reads: "since Hurricane Mitch passed through last autumn.")
- Three answers among the following:
 - Almost everything is destroyed;
 - Farming areas are devastated;
 - Industries are destroyed;
 - The difficulty in finding food;
 - The scarcity of drinking water.
- Médecins sans frontières Canada
- Water pumps were installed and Maria's parents started to sow their fields.
- Managua (clue: the letter header "Managua, April 1st", and "here, in the capital").
- When children fell sick in another region of the country (undesirable situation), MSF set up a vaccination center (precautions) and started vaccinating children to prevent them from falling sick (preventive measures).
- She works with members of MSF Canada as a volunteer.
- Ask the students to think about the relationship between a natural disaster and disease. Possible answers are:
 - The lack of access to drinking water (broken infrastructures);
 - The lack of access to health care (blocked roads);
 - Water unfit for consumption (waste carried by heavy rains into rivers and streams);
 - Malnutrition (devastated crops, destroyed roads prevent the delivery of food).
- Student's personal answer.

▶▶▶ To learn more about the subject, you may wish to consult the following sources and propose them to your students:

In-Terre-Actif Network: www.in-terre-actif.com/english

Canadian International Development Agency: www.acdi-cida.gc.ca

AN INITIATIVE OF THE
In-Terre-Actif Network of the Comité de Solidarité/Trois-Rivières



PRODUCED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA
THROUGH THE



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