
HAITI

ELEMENTARY LEVEL

Country Mapping

- **Purpose:** the purpose of this activity is to allow students to work through the events of the earthquake, providing them with a greater understanding of the struggles of the Haitian people.
- **Instructional method(s):** group work, guided instruction.
- **Differentiated Instruction:**
 - Teacher demonstrates, as students follow along.
- **Estimated time:** 45 minutes
- **Steps:**
 1. Divide the class into groups of four.
 2. Explain to students that they are going to create a visual simulation of the Haiti earthquake in order to understand the series of events that took place. Students will work together through the following steps using symbols, pictures and words to represent the events of the earthquake.
 3. Distribute chart paper and drawing materials to each group.
 4. Guide students through the following steps:
 - On one end of the chart paper, create the village (black marker):
 - There are two families that live in the village. Each family has one home.
 - Each family has five family members living in the home.
 - Each family has one goat.
 - Due to extensive deforestation, there are few trees.
 - There is no running water in the houses; rather, there is a stream near-by.
 - There is no electricity in the village.
 - There is no doctor or hospital in the village.
 - There is only one school in the area.
 - On the other end of the chart paper, create the city (green marker):
 - The city is located a far distance from the village.
 - The city is dense with poorly made structures.
 - There are one hundred people that live in this small area.
 - There are two hospitals.
 - There are two schools.
 - Due to extensive deforestation, there are no trees.
 - The roads are in very bad shape.
 - The earthquake strikes (red marker):
 - There are minor damages in the small village, structures remain intact and there is no loss of life.
 - There are major damages in the city. Structures collapsed causing fifty people to lose their lives.
 - There is no longer safe shelter in the city and the buildings are continuing to crumble in the after effects.
 - There is only one hospital left standing in the area and it is full due to the high degree of need for medical help.

- Both schools in the city were destroyed.
 - Now there are 50 people without places to live, without adequate medical care and with limited access to food and water supplies.
 - Internally displaced people (orange marker):
 - Explain that in search of their basic needs and safer conditions, forty people left the city and migrated to the rural countryside.
 - The families in the village welcomed five people each into their houses, sharing their basic supplies and helping them in any ways they could.
 - Of the remaining thirty people who retreated to the village, they were given one tent between five people; forming what is known as an Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp in the rural area.
 - All of the people in Haiti remain in these positions, in need of international aid and medical help.
5. Ask each group to look at their maps and answer the following suggested questions:
- Where do you see areas of need? Encourage students to point to these areas on their maps.
 - What do you think needs to be done to help the people of Haiti?
 - What do the people in the IDP camp need?
 - What do the people living in the rural village need?
 - What do the people remaining in the city need?
 - What needs to be done to the physical structures in the city?
 - What needs to be done to the physical structures in the rural village?
6. Following this discussion, in a sensitive manner, address students' feelings. Explain that they are going to learn about the many ways they can lend a helping hand to the people of Haiti.