Global Food Equity

Program Support Notes by:

Produced by:
VEA Pty Ltd

Commissioning Editor:
Sandra Frerichs B.Ed, M.Ed.

Executive Producers:
Sandra Frerichs B.Ed, M.Ed.
Edwina Baden-Powell B.A, CVP.

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For Teachers

Introduction

Did you know that enough food is produced on the earth to comfortably feed every single person? Or that obesity is just as much a form of malnutrition as being underweight as a result of eating too little? Or that there are practical ways in which you can help others around the world? Global Food Equity looks at the very real and very complex issues that surround food distribution and consumption around the world. It addresses several areas that contribute to the uneven sharing of food globally and demonstrates how both individuals and organizations can help alleviate this human global problem.

Timeline

00:00:00 What is food equity?
00:03:55 Who is affected by food inequity?
00:07:44 What factors affect food equity?
00:11:59 Malnutrition: The cost of food inequity
00:15:35 Can we solve food inequity?
00:19:24 Credits
00:19:58 End program

Related Titles

Global Cuisine – Indian and Japanese
Global Health and Human Development
Adult Health and Development

Recommended Resources

www.globalrichlist.com
http://www.fairtraderesource.org/learn-up/teaching-tools/
Student Worksheet

Initiate Prior Learning

1. List the countries that come to mind when you think of food shortages, starvation, hunger, etc.

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2. What types of countries have you listed? Where are they located on a world map? Describe the images that come to mind when you think of people from these regions.

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3. List the countries that come to mind when you think of obesity, over-consumption, diabetes, etc.

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4. What types of countries have you listed? Where are they located on a world map? Describe the images that come to mind when you think of people from these regions.

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5. Conclude, from the above tasks, where food inequity is most likely to occur. Why do you think this is?

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6. What are some practical ways in which you could have a positive impact on the hungry in our world?

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Active Viewing Guide

1. According to Oxfam, what is food equity defined as?
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2. Identify what food shortages are often caused by.
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3. Fill in the blanks to complete the following sentences.
   a) Aid organizations want greater action from ____________________ and ____________________ to ease the suffering.

   b) It is estimated that _________ percentage of the global population goes hungry.

4. Identify some of the population groups affected by food inequity.
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5. How might someone who is disabled suffer?
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6. Which two groups do Oxfam focus their resources on?
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7. Identify three of the factors influencing food availability.
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8. In the developing world, why is almost 30% of food thrown out?
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10. Complete the following questions.
    a) How many children aged 5 or under are overweight?
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    b) How many of these live in developing nations?
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11. Identify the three key ways individuals can try and fix the food equity system.
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12. List six of the common fair trade commodities.

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13. How does buying fair trade help food inequity?

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Extension Activities

1. Now that you have watched the program, brainstorm more practical ways in which you could have a positive impact on the hungry in our world. (Add to the list from the pre-program questions if completed already.)

2. Go to www.globalrichlist.com and determine just how wealthy you really are, compared to the rest of the world. Does this make you feel like you can make a difference in this world? How?

3. Ask your teachers, parents, and school to support small scale producers by buying Fair Trade products such as tea and coffee. Go to http://www.fta.org.au/resources/au-promotional-materials and view the posters. Create your own to distribute around your local community to raise Fair Trade awareness.

4. If possible, go to your local supermarket and note if fair trade options exist for tea, coffee and chocolate. Are they as prominently located as other brands? How do the prices compare? Do the labels look similar or different?

5. Compare the cost of 3 food items that come as fair trade and normal (Can be from a catalogue or from online shopping such as coles.com, etc). Why do you believe there is a price difference between the two products? Would that make a difference to people's decisions to buy it or not?

6. Analyze some of the positive and negative aspects that globalization has brought to the global food supply.
Suggested Student Responses

Initiate Prior Learning

1. List the countries that come to mind when you think of food shortages, starvation, hunger, etc.
   - Ethiopia
   - Kenya
   - Thailand
   - Bangladesh

2. What types of countries have you listed? Where are they located on a world map? Describe the images that come to mind when you think of people from these regions.
   - Poor countries, need aid, on the TV ads with starving children, fat tummies, etc

3. List the countries that come to mind when you think of obesity, over-consumption, diabetes, etc.
   - America
   - Australia
   - UK

4. What types of countries have you listed? Where are they located on a world map? Describe the images that come to mind when you think of people from these regions.
   - Wealthy countries, no real problems like war, etc

5. Conclude, from the above tasks, where food inequity is most likely to occur. Why do you think this is?
   - Poor nations, third world and emerging countries. Their money is invested elsewhere such as wars, defense, etc

6. What are some practical ways in which you could have a positive impact on the hungry in our world?
   - Answers will vary considerably.
Active Viewing Guide

1. According to Oxfam, what is food equity defined as?  
   Food is a human right. A right for all people, every man, woman and child; to have access to safe and nutritious food to eat; either enough to buy or enough to grow themselves.

2. Identify what food shortages are often caused by.  
   - Lack of access to water  
   - Non-availability of safe, nutritious food  
   - Insufficient financial means  
   - Poor knowledge of nutritional principles;  
   - Distribution issues

3. Fill in the blanks to complete the following sentences:
   a) Aid organizations want greater action from governments and corporations to ease the suffering.
   b) It is estimated that 4% percentage of the global population go hungry.

4. Identify some of the population groups affected by food inequity.  
   - Rural  
   - Isolated  
   - Low incomes  
   - Unemployed  
   - Disabled  
   - Elderly  
   - Chronically ill  
   - Indigenous  
   - Alcohol and drug users  
   - Homeless  
   - Children

5. How might someone who is disabled suffer?  
   By struggling to simply get to the shops.

6. Which two groups do Oxfam focus their resources on?  
   Small scale producers and women

7. Identify three of the factors influencing food availability.  
   - Geography and climate  
   - Natural disasters  
   - War and conflict  
   - Government policies  
   - Multinational and economic trends  
   - Education and employment opportunities  
   - Socioeconomic status  
   - Religious beliefs  
   - Technological developments

8. In the developing world, why is almost 30% of food thrown out?  
   Don’t have the ability to store it or to transport it to market in time
   Over or under consumption of food.

10. Complete the following questions.

   a) How many children aged 5 or under are overweight?
      42 million

   b) How many of these live in developing nations?
      35 million

11. Identify the three key ways individuals can try and fix the food equity system.
    Support small scale food producers.
    Acknowledge that we are slowly running out of land and water and we need to create more environmentally friendly ways to produce food.
    We need to work together, globally.

12. List six of the common fair trade commodities.
    Coffee
    Tea
    Sugar
    Fruit
    Wine
    Chocolate

13. How does buying fair trade help food inequity?
    Gives power back to individual producers and their communities, rather than large corporations.