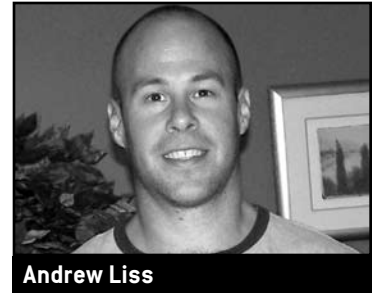


Organizing a Group Effort

World Hunger and Food Aid

This lesson plan relates to the world hunger article and map in this issue (pp. 6-9). It is by Andrew Liss, a seventh-grade social studies teacher at Thomas Jefferson Middle School in Edison, New Jersey.

NOTE: If you would like to contribute a lesson plan related to one of the upcoming *JS* features (see our updated planning guide at scholastic.com/juniorscholastic), please e-mail a brief summary of what it would entail to junior@scholastic.com.



Andrew Liss

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDREW LISS

OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the causes of world hunger by using the article in this issue of *JS* to comprehend and analyze text, pictures, and maps.
2. Plan and take action to help combat world hunger by raising money or other resources to contribute to a reputable aid organization. Skills will include researching, prioritizing, organizing, investigating, following through, and then assessing what was and was not achieved.

DO FIRST

After reading the article, students will think about and be able to discuss: Why do nearly 925 million people around the world go hungry every day?

PROCEDURE

1. Students will share results by creating a class web on a chalkboard.
2. Read the article “World Hunger” with your class. Create a short organizer that will allow students to list the reasons given in the “Global Food Crisis” section for rising food prices. Also, list the three steps to ease food shortages outlined in the “Two Types of Hunger” section.
3. Complete the article and discuss and answer the “Think About It” questions. Focus on the photographs and discuss how kids who are starving look and how it might feel to be in their situation.
4. Ask students to review the three steps to ease food shortages. (See the “Two Types of Hunger” section on p. 7.) Ask students if they think that they can help to increase food production

worldwide and, if so, how they would go about doing it.

5. Have students research aid organizations, including those mentioned in the article (the World Food Programme and Mercy Corps). Other organizations include Heifer International, Oxfam, and Kiva (see below). To get started, check out the “Web Links” box on p. T-3 and the “Useful URLs” area of *JS*’s Web site.
6. Introduce, discuss, and develop ideas for raising funds or other resources (canned foods, blankets, etc.) to contribute to the organization chosen. (Note: Ensure that students always check with the aid organization *before* raising funds or equipment, to find out what is most needed, how it should be donated, and any other requirements.)
7. Once plans have been made and vetted—and you and your students have been given administrative approval—students can raise money by holding a student-faculty sporting event, conducting a raffle or a car wash, or soliciting contributions from local businesses and community members.

A note about Kiva

My students and I support Kiva, a nonprofit venture that facilitates loans through micro-finance institutions. To get started, we reviewed Kiva’s Web site and chose an entrepreneur in need of funding. Our class then conducted a fund-raiser and used the proceeds to make a loan. We now check our lending page to see how our entrepreneur is doing. In two years, my classes have loaned more than \$7,000 to 204 businesses. You may view our lending page at www.kiva.org/lender/andrew9411.