



Disaster Strikes!

Scenario

Every year we strongly support World Vision's 40 hour famine. World Vision has been providing disaster relief to the earthquake stricken state of Gujarat in India and the city of Bam in Iran. Anyone giving money should be well informed on how their money is being used and if it is being used effectively. To make this judgement you need to know the best way to spend the money. Make a well-founded judgement, which three areas should take the highest priority in an earthquake disaster?



Exploratory Environment

Dear Parents

We are about to start a new social studies Quest called 'Disaster Strikes!' This unit of work has been developed here at Birkdale Intermediate with the assistance of World Vision. Our students work in pairs to answer the question posed in the scenario. They search a multimedia resource called a Quest, listening to video interviews, reading articles and studying photographs. The Quest is used to teach the Social Organisation section of the National Social Studies Curriculum. Our students look in depth at, 'How people organise themselves in response to challenge and crisis.' in this case, when facing the effects of a major earthquake.

Ways in which you could support your child during this study:

- Keep an eye out on the News, Discovery and History Channels for any suitable programmes.
- Explore the following web sites:

World Vision

<http://www.worldvision.org.nz/>

Red Cross

http://www.redcross.org.nz/index.php?page=home_content.php

Oxfam

<http://www.oxfam.org.uk/>

UNICEF

<http://www.unicef.org/>

- Share any memories you, a family member or friend have about their experience of a major disaster.
- Discuss how well your family is prepared for a major disaster. Check this against the Civil Defence pages inside the back cover of the Yellow Pages phone book.
- Together complete the Household Emergency Checklist at <http://www.getthru.govt.nz/>



Distribution of cooking oil in Gujarat, India after a major earthquake.

Quest Awards



Presented at the Sino-Foreign Basic Education Conference and the Western Academy of Beijing, China



Online Learning Award
Recognizing creative teachers for their pioneering use of telecommunication networks to provide innovative learning opportunities for school-age students.



Presented at the National Education Computing Conference, New Orleans, United States of America.



Finalist Computerworld Excellence Awards.

Yours sincerely

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