

Global Kids' Ayiti: The Cost of Life A Game-based Lesson Plan Addressing Poverty as an Obstacle to Education in Haiti

Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Use an online game to understand conditions in contemporary Haiti and how poverty is an obstacle to education.
- Develop problem-solving, critical thinking and such life skills as resource management, budgeting, and planning for the future.
- Learn about ways in which they can advocate for action to confront poverty and increase access to education in Haiti.

Time: 45 Minutes

Materials/Resources Needed:

- Computers with Internet access
- Ayiti: The Cost of Life URL: www.thecostoflife.org
- Map of Haiti
- Country Profile Sheet

Main Activity - Game Play: (25 Minutes)

Ayiti: The Cost of Life is a role-playing video game in which the player assumes the roles of family members living in rural Haiti. At the start of the game, the player chooses a primary goal for his/her family: achieve education, make money, stay healthy, or maintain happiness. During the course of the game, the player encounters unexpected events and must make decisions that contribute to or detract from achieving the chosen goal.

Take the students online to play Ayiti: The Cost of Life. Have students, either individually or in pairs, play the game for approximately 20-25 minutes. It will not be necessary to give them further instructions on game-play because sufficient instructions are included in the game. If some students complete the game faster than others, encourage them to play again.

Discussion: (20 minutes)

Key Points:

After students have played the game they will need to reflect upon as well as share their experiences. The discussion questions are designed to explore:

- The correlation between choices made, their respective outcomes, and the constraints faced within the game.
- How the students' own lives and situations compare and contrast with those of the family members in the game.

Processing Questions:

- I. What was it like playing the game?
- 2. What was the game about and how would you describe it to a friend?
- 3. Which primary objective did you select, and why? (Get several answers.)
- 4. What types of decisions did you have to make about the family members while playing the game and trying to achieve your objective?
- 5. What strategies did you use? For example, did you combine work and school, or did you send everyone to work? Which worked? Which did not?
- 6. Why would parents choose to devote so much effort to sending their children to school?
- 7. How many of you were able to keep the children in school?
- 8. What obstacles did you face in trying to keep them in school?
- 9. How do the situations and options in the game compare with those in your own community?
- 10. Why might access to education be a challenge in another country?
- II. What factors would make it easier for the children in the game to gain access to education? What conditions could be changed and how?
- 12. Distribute and review copies of the Haiti Country Profile Sheet and the Country Map. At the bottom of the Haiti Country Profile sheet you will find optional links to additional information about Haiti. You are welcome to use them at your discretion. Inform students that they will now have an opportunity to take action aimed at addressing the challenges faced by children in Haiti.

Background Information for Educators

Rationale: This section will provide you with general background information about the international norms and regulations outlining the rights and entitlements of all children around the world, with particular emphasis on the right to education. It will also give you a snapshot into the prevailing social, political and economic realities in Haiti.

Overview:

The right to education is a fundamental human right. Every individual, irrespective of race, gender, nationality, ethnic or social origin, religion or political preference, age or disability, is entitled to a free elementary education.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR):

The right to education is explicitly stated in the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), adopted in 1948¹:

"Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at

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¹ http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html

least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit. ..." (Article 26)

Ensuring access to education is a precondition for full realization of the right to education. Without access, it is not possible to guarantee the right to education.²

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC):

The United Nations defines a child as anyone under the age of 18. Every young person has rights and responsibilities protected by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The Convention has been ratified by Haiti and every other country in the world except for the United States and Somalia. (http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/k2crc.htm)

The CRC makes nation states accountable for their actions towards children and calls on nations to create the conditions in which children may take an active and creative part in the social and political life of their countries. The CRC explicitly codifies the child's right to education in articles 28 and 29.

Access to Education in Haiti:

In Haiti only fifty-five percent of school age children receive an education; only two percent finish the U.S. equivalent of high school; and roughly one-third of youths between 15 and 24 are illiterate.

There are many factors that prevent children from attaining their right to basic education. Poverty is one of the biggest obstacles. In Haiti poverty is more widespread in rural areas than in the cities. Seventy-seven percent of Haiti's extremely poor live in rural areas. The level of education of the main provider in a Haitian household has a clear impact on the risk of being poor.³ Of those living in households where the main provider has higher education, only seven percent are extremely poor compared to seventy percent of those living in households where the main provider has no education.⁴

Economic Inequality:

In Haiti, often described as the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, 80% of the population lives in abject poverty. Haiti's most serious underlying social problem, the huge wealth gap between the impoverished Creole-speaking black majority and the French-speaking mulattos, 1% of whom own nearly half the country's wealth, remains unaddressed. Two-thirds of all Haitians depend on the agriculture sector, mainly small-

² http://www.hrea.org/learn/guides/right-to-education.html

³ Poverty in Haiti, Pål Sletten and Willy Egset, Fafo Foundation, Norway (2004) http://www.fafo.no/pub/rapp/755/755.pdf

⁴ Poverty in Haiti, Pål Sletten and Willy Egset, Fafo Foundation, Norway (2004) http://www.fafo.no/pub/rapp/755/755.pdf

scale subsistence farming, and remain vulnerable to damage from frequent natural disasters, exacerbated by the country's widespread deforestation. Persons with education in Haiti tend to live in the metropolitan areas and are salaried rather than self employed.

Political Instability:

After gaining independence in 1804, Haiti has experienced significant political upheavals. Years of misrule by dictators and a series of armed rebellions have led to the collapse of the Haitian economy, degeneration of infrastructure, and exacerbated the government's inability to provide desperately needed social services such as healthcare, clean water and education.⁵ With a new democratically elected president, Rene Preval, (February, 2006), the government faces huge challenges - such as improving social and economic conditions. President Rene Preval said Haiti was on the path to recovering its sovereignty, but said it needed the help of the international community. A UN peacekeeping force is deployed in Haiti⁶, which remains deeply divided between rival political factions.

Because of poverty, children are often faced with many challenging conditions and responsibilities, including:

- Having to work in their homes to keep the household running.
- Caring for their younger siblings instead of going to school.
- Lacking money needed to pay for school fees, transportations, uniforms and supplies, and food.
- Lacking medical resources needed to stay healthy and attend school.

Resources:

- UNICEF Child Alert Haiti http://www.unicef.org/childalert/haiti/
- **USAID** (United States Agency for International Development) programs in Haiti: http://www.usaid.gov/ht/education.htm
- World Bank http://www.worldbank.org
- United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/missions/minustah/index.html
- Global Campaign for Education http://www.campaignforeducation.org/
 Action Assignment

Rationale: This section will suggest possible actions your students can undertake to make a difference.

What You Can Do:

⁵ For further reading on the Haitian politics go to: http://www.latinamericanstudies.org/haiti-politics.htm

⁶ United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/missions/minustah/

Inform students that there are many ways to take action:

- I. Write a letter to your Congressional or Senate Representatives to find out what they are doing to improve access to education for children in Haiti. http://www.vote-smart.org/index.htm
- 2. Create a petition, collect signatures, and send them to any of the following U.S. government offices or agencies calling for programs that increase access to education for Haitian children:
 - The Embassy of the United States in Haiti
 U.S. Ambassador to Haiti
 Ms. Janet A. Sanderson
 Boulevard Harry Truman no. 5
 Bicentenaire—Port-au-Prince, Haiti
 http://haiti.usembassy.gov/
 - USAID/Port-Au-Prince
 Department of State
 Washington, DC 20521-3400
 Tel: 509-223-3805Fax: 509-223-9603

URL: www.usaid.gov/ht

Write a letter of inquiry to the Haitian Ambassador to the United States or United Nations to find out about the current status on access to education in Haiti:

His Excellency Ambassador, Raymond Joseph
 2311 Massachusetts Avenue,
 NW, Washington DC 20008
 Telephone: (202) 332-4090Fax: (202) 745-7215

E-mail: embassy@haiti.org

URL: www.haiti.org/

Ambassador Leo Merores
 Permanent Representative of the Republic of Haiti to the UN 801 Second Avenue, Suite 600

 New York, NY 10017

Tel: 212-370-4840 Fax: 212-661-8698

Email: Haiti@un.int URL: www.un.int/haiti

- 3. Introduce your peers to the game and educate them about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, (http://www.unicef.org/crc/).
- 4. Raise funds to support a local organization in Haiti such as the Maison Fortuné Orphanage in Hinche which is working to provide food, shelter, clothing and education to orphaned Haitian children. http://www.maisonfortune.org/

- 5. Write a few paragraphs about what you learned playing the game and send it to Global Kids to post on its website. Email to: info@globalkids.org with "Ayiti Action" in the subject line.
- 6. Educate your peers and members of your community by writing an article on poverty as an obstacle to education in Haiti in your school or community newspaper.

Organizational Contacts in Haiti:

1. Haitian Coalition for the Defense of Children's Rights

Ms. Colette Larose Lamothe

10, Babiole, Turgeau,

Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Tel / Fax: 245-4357

2. United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

UNESCO Office Port au Prince

Mr. Paul-Antoine Bien-Aimé

Education Expert

19, Delmas 60, Musseau par Bourdon, Petion Ville,

Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Email: unescohaiti@hainet.net

3. Centre for Specialized Education

73, rue Enterrement, Port-au-Prince

Phone: 509-222 21 54 257

E-mail: magloirenicole@hotmail.com

4. Association Women Sun of Haiti (AFASDA)

Cap Haitian, rue 21, I-K, # 145

Haiti

Phone 509-431 40 89

E-mail: afasdacap@yahoo.fr

5. Fanm Yo La Strengthening leadership/capacity building

9, rue Cheriez, Canapé Vert, Port-au-Prince

Phone: 509-244 54 28 or 403 92 29

E-mail: fanmyola@yahoo.fr



Haiti Country Profile Sheet http://news.bbc.co.uk

 Haiti is the world's first black-led republic and the first Caribbean state to achieve independence, Haiti's pride has been dented by decades of poverty, environmental degradation,

violence, instability and dictatorship which have left it as the poorest nation in the Americas

- 2. Haiti achieved notoriety during the brutal dictatorships of the voodoo physician, Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier, and his son, Jean-Claude, or "Baby Doc". Hopes that the election in 1990 of Jean-Bertrand Aristide, a former priest, would herald a brighter future were dashed when he was overthrown by the military a short time later.
- 3. Although economic sanctions and US-led military intervention forced a return to constitutional government in 1994, Haiti's fortunes did not pick up, with allegations of electoral irregularities, ongoing extra-judicial killings, torture and brutality.
- 4. A bloody rebellion, and pressure from the US and France, forced Mr. Aristide out of the country in 2004. Since then, an elected leadership has taken over from an interim government and a UN stabilization force has been deployed. But Haiti is still plagued by violent confrontations between rival gangs and political groups and the UN has described the human rights situation as "catastrophic".
- 5. **Politics:** Democratic rule was restored in 2006, two years after a violent revolt ousted former leader Jean-Bertrand Aristide; bitter political divisions persist.
- 6. **Economy:** Haiti's economy is in ruins and there is chronic unemployment.
- 7. **International:** The UN has deployed peacekeepers; international aid is seen as key to recovery.

Country profile source: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country profiles/1202772.stm

Additional Articles on Haiti:

Donors Pledge \$750 million aid to Haiti. July 2006 http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/5215490.stm

Challenges Ahead for Haiti's Preval. February 2006 http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/4721510.stm

Glimmers of Hope in Cite Soleil. February 2006: http://blog.washingtonpost.com/haitisstruggle/2006/02/glimmers_of_hope_in_cite_solei_I.html

UN Envoy Urges Continuing Aid for Haiti. May 2006:

http://www.nytimes.com/2006/05/20/world/americas/20 haiti.html?ex=1160280000&en=3c762a89fbe52485&ei=5070



Children In Haiti: An Offline Lesson Plan to Support the Content in Global Kids' Ayiti: The Cost of Life Game

Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Explore the core challenges faced by children in Haiti.
- Examine the impact poverty has on access to education, nutrition, basic healthcare and child mortality.
- Identify some of the social, political and economic variables that affect Haitian children.
- Become familiar with the UNICEF Child Alert: Haiti Summary Paper.

Time: 50 Minutes

Materials:

- Newsprint
- Markers
- Copy of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child for each student: http://www.unicef.org/crc/
- Copies of the UNICEF Child Alert Summary on children in Haiti: http://www.unicef.org/childalert/haiti

Note:

This workshop can be conducted either before playing the Ayiti: The Cost of Life game, as a way to introduce students to the game's issues, or after playing the game, as a way to help them better understand the links between poverty and access to education.

The United Nations defines a child as anyone under the age of 18. Every young person has rights and responsibilities protected by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The Convention has been ratified by Haiti and every other country in the world except for the United States and Somalia. http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/k2crc.htm

The Convention on the Rights of the Child makes nation states accountable for their actions towards children and calls on nations to create the conditions in which children may take an active and creative part in the social and political life of their countries. The CRC explicitly codifies the child's right to education in articles 28 and 29.

Main Activity: (35 Minutes) Children of Haiti Summit

Rationale: This part of the workshop will explore the challenges faced by children in Haiti, using the UNICEF *Child Alert: Haiti* report as a primary reference. During this activity, students will assume the roles of community advocates/stakeholders who are concerned about the areas of: security, health, education, poverty and unemployment. The simulation exercise will help students understand the social political and economic dynamics that constitute the realities faced by children in Haiti.

This will be achieved by putting students in groups, each assigned with the task of alerting a team of representatives from the United Nations to the status of one of the following issues in Haiti: education; health; security; and unemployment and poverty. One group will be the United Nations Special Representatives who will interview the groups then report their findings to a panel of experts (teacher/s) at the "Children of Haiti Summit."

Procedure:

- I. Distribute copies of the UNICEF *Child Alert: Haiti* report.
- 2. Divide students into five groups:
 - Group I: UN Special Representatives
 - Group 2: Education Advocates
 - Group 3: Health Advocates
 - Group 4: Poverty and Unemployment Experts
 - Group 5: Security Experts
- 3. Provide each group with newsprint and marker.
- 4. Explain that each group except group Group I will read the *Child Alert: Haiti* Report. As advocates or experts on a specific issue (e.g., education or health, etc.), each group must summarize the challenges children face in relation to that issue, and list their findings and recommendations. Each group has a set of guiding questions to help them generate the information they need (see below). Give groups 15 minutes to do this.
- 5. The UN Special Representatives' Group, (Group I), is a team traveling to Haiti on a fact-finding mission. In the interest of time, the group should divide up and send members of the team to groups 2, 3, 4, and 5 to conduct simultaneous interviews. Their assignment is to collect information on the issues so they can prepare a presentation at the "UN Children of Haiti" Summit. Give the group 5 minutes to gather the information.
- 6. Once the UN Special Representatives have gathered their information, suggest that they take themselves aside for five minutes to prepare their presentation.
- 7. While the Special Representatives are working, re-arrange the room and explain that they all will now participate in the 'Children of Haiti Summit' at the United Nations.
- 8. Call all participants to order and tell them they are about to listen to a presentation from a team of international experts on the status of children in Haiti. Direct the Special Representatives to present their report.

- 9. Tell them that you (teacher/facilitator) will act as the chair of the summit and facilitate a brief conversation after the presentations about the information presented (or left out).
- 10. After the group has made the presentation, lead the class in a discussion about the activity and what they learned using the following questions:

Processing of the Main activity (10 Minutes):

- I. What did you think of this activity?
- 2. What are some of the major challenges faced by children in Haiti?
- 3. What information in the UNICEF Child Alert: Haiti report surprised you?
- 4. What do you consider to be the biggest obstacle to accessing education in Haiti? Why?
- 5. What do you think is the most urgent need for a child in Haiti today?
- 6. What role can the Haitian government play in meeting the needs of Haitian children?
- 7. What role can the international community play to support Haitian children?
- 8. What role should the United States government play to support Haitian children?
- 9. What role can youth play to make a difference here and in Haiti?

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Ensuring access to education is a precondition for full realization of the right to education. Without access, it is not possible to guarantee the right to education.⁸

7

⁷ http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html

⁸ http://www.hrea.org/learn/guides/right-to-education.html

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There are many factors that prevent children from attaining their right to basic education. Poverty is one of the biggest obstacles. In Haiti poverty is more widespread in rural areas than in the cities. Seventy-seven percent of Haiti's extremely poor live in rural areas. The level of education of the main provider in a Haitian household has a clear impact on the risk of being poor. Of those living in households where the main provider has higher education, only seven percent are extremely poor compared to seventy percent of those living in households where the main provider has no education. Of

Economic Inequality:

In Haiti, often described as the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, 80% of the population lives in abject poverty. Haiti's most serious underlying social problem, the huge wealth gap between the impoverished Creole-speaking black majority and the French-speaking mulattos, 1% of whom own nearly half the country's wealth, remains unaddressed. Two-thirds of all Haitians depend on the agriculture sector, mainly small-scale subsistence farming, and remain vulnerable to damage from frequent natural disasters, exacerbated by the country's widespread deforestation. Persons with education in Haiti tend to live in the metropolitan areas and are salaried rather than self employed.

Political Instability:

After gaining independence in 1804, Haiti has experienced significant political upheavals. Years of misrule by dictators and a series of armed rebellions have led to the collapse of the Haitian economy, degeneration of infrastructure, and exacerbated the government's

⁹ Poverty in Haiti, Pål Sletten and Willy Egset, Fafo Foundation, Norway (2004) http://www.fafo.no/pub/rapp/755/755.pdf

¹⁰ Poverty in Haiti, Pål Sletten and Willy Egset, Fafo Foundation, Norway (2004) http://www.fafo.no/pub/rapp/755/755.pdf

inability to provide desperately needed social services such as healthcare, clean water and education. With a new democratically elected president, Rene Preval, (February, 2006), the government faces huge challenges - such as improving social and economic conditions. President Rene Preval said Haiti was on the path to recovering its sovereignty, but said it needed the help of the international community. A UN peacekeeping force is deployed in Haiti¹², which remains deeply divided between rival political factions.

Because of poverty, children are often faced with many challenging conditions and responsibilities, including:

- Having to work in their homes to keep the household running.
- Caring for their younger siblings instead of going to school.
- Lacking money needed to pay for school fees, transportations, uniforms and supplies, and food.
- Lacking medical resources needed to stay healthy and attend school.

Resources:

- UNICEF Child Alert Haiti http://www.unicef.org/childalert/haiti/
- **USAID** (United States Agency for International Development) programs in Haiti: http://www.usaid.gov/ht/education.htm
- World Bank www.worldbank.org
- United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/missions/minustah/index.html
- Global Campaign for Education http://www.campaignforeducation.org/

Ayiti: The Cost of Life. Copyright Global Kids Inc. 2006

 $^{^{11}}$ For further reading on the Haitian politics go to: http://www.latinamericanstudies.org/haiti-politics.htm

¹² United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/missions/minustah/

Action Assignment

Rationale: This section will suggest possible actions your students can undertake to make a difference.

What You Can Do:

Inform students that there are many ways to take action:

- Write a letter to your Congressional or Senate Representatives to find out what they are doing to improve access to education for children in Haiti. http://www.votesmart.org/index.htm
- Create a petition, collect signatures, and send them to any of the following U.S. government offices or agencies calling for programs that increase access to education for Haitian children:
- The Embassy of the United States in Haiti
 U.S. Ambassador to Haiti
 Ms. Janet A. Sanderson
 Boulevard Harry Truman no. 5
 Bicentenaire—Port-au-Prince, Haiti
 http://haiti.usembassy.gov/
- USAID/Port-Au-Prince
 Department of State
 Washington, DC 20521-3400
 Tel: 509-223-3805Fax: 509-223-9603

URL: www.usaid.gov/ht

Write a letter of inquiry to the Haitian Ambassador to the United States or United Nations to find out about the current status on access to education in Haiti:

 His Excellency Ambassador Raymond Joseph 2311 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20008 Telephone: (202) 332-4090Fax: (202) 745-7215

E-mail: embassy@haiti.org

URL: www.haiti.org/

 His Excellency Ambassador Leo Merores
 Permanent Representative of the Republic of Haiti to the UN 801 Second Avenue, Suite 600

New York, NY 10017

Tel: 212-370-4840 Fax: 212-661-8698

Email: Haiti@un.int URL: www.un.int/haiti

- 3. Introduce your peers to the game and educate them about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, (http://www.unicef.org/crc/).
- 4. Raise funds to support a local organization in Haiti such as the Maison Fortuné Orphanage in Hinche which is working to provide food, shelter, clothing and education to orphaned Haitian children. http://www.maisonfortune.org/
- 5. Write a few paragraphs about what you learned playing the game and send it to Global Kids to post on its website. Email to: info@globalkids.org with the 'Ayiti Action' in the subject line.
- 6. Educate your peers and members of your community by writing an article on poverty as an obstacle to education in Haiti in your school or community newspaper.

Organizations Working in Haiti:

1. Haitian Coalition for the Defense of Children's Rights

Ms. Colette Larose Lamothe 10, Babiole, Turgeau, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Tel / Fax: 245-4357

2. UNESCO Office Port au Prince

Mr. Paul-Antoine Bien-Aimé

Education Expert

United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

19, Delmas 60, Musseau par Bourdon, Petion Ville,

Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Email: unescohaiti@hainet.net

3. Centre for Specialized Education

73, rue Enterrement, Port-au-Prince

Phone: 509-222 21 54 257

E-mail: magloirenicole@hotmail.com

4. Association Women Sun of Haiti (AFASDA)

Cap Haitian, rue 21, J-K, # 145

Haiti

Phone 509-431 40 89

E-mail: afasdacap@yahoo.fr

5. **Fanm Yo La** Strengthening leadership/capacity building

9, rue Cheriez, Canapé Vert, Port-au-Prince Phone: 509-244 54 28 or 403 92 29

E-mail: fanmyola@yahoo.fr

6. Yele Haiti Foundation

P.O. Box 2345 New York, NY 10108

Tel: 212-352-0552 (voicemail only)

www.yele.org



Haiti Country Profile Sheet http://news.bbc.co.uk

 Haiti is the world's first black-led republic and the first Caribbean state to achieve independence, Haiti's pride has been dented by decades of poverty, environmental degradation, violence, instability and dictatorship which have

left it as the poorest nation in the Americas.

- 2. Haiti achieved notoriety during the brutal dictatorships of the voodoo physician, Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier, and his son, Jean-Claude, or "Baby Doc". Hopes that the election in 1990 of Jean-Bertrand Aristide, a former priest, would herald a brighter future were dashed when he was overthrown by the military a short time later.
- 3. Although economic sanctions and US-led military intervention forced a return to constitutional government in 1994, Haiti's fortunes did not pick up, with allegations of electoral irregularities, ongoing extra-judicial killings, torture and brutality.
- 4. A bloody rebellion, and pressure from the US and France, forced Mr. Aristide out of the country in 2004. Since then, an elected leadership has taken over from an interim government and a UN stabilization force has been deployed. But Haiti is still plagued by violent confrontations between rival gangs and political groups and the UN has described the human rights situation as "catastrophic".
- 5. **Politics:** Democratic rule was restored in 2006, two years after a violent revolt ousted former leader Jean-Bertrand Aristide; bitter political divisions persist.
- 6. **Economy:** Haiti's economy is in ruins and there is chronic unemployment.
- 7. **International:** The UN has deployed peacekeepers; international aid is seen as key to recovery.

Country profile source: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country profiles/1202772.stm

Additional Articles on Haiti:

Donors Pledge \$750 million aid to Haiti. July 2006 http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/5215490.stm

Challenges Ahead for Haiti's Preval. February 2006 http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/4721510.stm

Glimmers of Hope in Cite Soleil. February 2006: http://blog.washingtonpost.com/haitisstruggle/2006/02/glimmers_of_hope_in_cite_solei_I.html

UN Envoy Urges Continuing Aid for Haiti. May 2006: http://www.nytimes.com/2006/05/20/world/americas/20haiti.html?ex=1160280000&en=3c762a89 fbe52485&ei=5070

The Council on Foreign Relations. http://www.cfr.org/region/223/haiti.html

Group I: UN Special Representatives

Your group is on a fact-finding mission. You must visit each of the other groups and gather information about the challenges they face in the areas of Security, Education, Poverty/Unemployment and Health.

At least one member of this group must get the following information from each of the other groups:

- I. What is the group's issue, or primary area of concern?
- 2. Who is involved and what are the challenges? Collect at least three facts and/or statistics.
- 3. How are Haitian children affected?
- 4. What are your recommendations?

Group 2: Education Advocates

There are several factors that limit Haitian children's access to basic education. Your group must identify and outline the factors that prevent Haitian children from going to school. (For example, poverty forces many children to work at the home. See page 2).

- 1. What is the group's issue, or primary area of concern?
- 2. Who is involved and what are the challenges? What are the facts and statistics, if any?
- 3. How are Haitian children affected?
- 4. What recommendations/demands do you have for the Haitian government and international community?

Group 3: Health Advocates

Many Haitian children have no access to basic health services. Your group must identify and outline the health related facts and challenges affecting Haitian children as outlined in the Child Alert: Haiti Report. (An example would be inadequate immunization services for infants. See page I).

- I. What is the group's issue, or primary area of concern?
- 2. Who is involved and what are the challenges? What are the facts and statistics, if any?
- 3. How are Haitian children affected?
- 4. What recommendations/demands do you have for the Haitian government and international community?

Group 4: Poverty and Unemployment

Poverty is a major obstacle education access in Haiti. Your group must identify and outline the ways in which poverty makes it difficult for the children in Haiti to go to school. (An example would be that families often send their children away from home to do domestic-work, and this exposes them to exploitation and abuse. See page 3).

- I. What is the group's issue, or primary area of concern?
- 2. Who is involved and what are the challenges? What are the facts and statistics, if any?
- 3. How are Haitian children affected?
- 4. What recommendations/demands do you have for the Haitian government and international community?

Group 5: Security

In Port-au-Prince alone an estimated 2,000 street children are living and working on its roads and squares. Many of these children are unprotected from abuse and violence on the streets. Your group must identify and outline the challenges faced by children living on the streets.

- 1. What is the group's issue, or primary area of concern?
- 2. Who is involved and what are the challenges? What are the facts and statistics, if any?
- 3. How are Haitian children affected?
- 4. What recommendations/demands do you have for the Haitian government and international community?