



Teachers notes

Please use the following lesson plan to mark world food day on 16.10.09. Students will learn about Hsa Thoo Lei Learning Centre in Mae Sot Thailand. This school supports 47 satellite schools for refugees in the area. Hsa Thoo Lei school provides a free education for 700 children, and is home to about 200: these are children whose parents are dead or who are still inside Burma. Whether the children live in Hsa Thoo Lei or with family or friends outside, they are all in desperate poverty. The school tries to provide two free lunches a week when funds permit, because for some children it is the only proper meal they ever eat.

*The Thai children's Trust aims to ameliorate this situation by promoting the introduction of **mushroom houses**.*

A mushroom house grows mushrooms in pre-prepared spore bags, regularly tended; the spore bags will produce mushrooms over a 3 month cycle. There will be mushrooms available to supplement the diet of the children in the school. At the peak of the cycle there will be mushrooms for the school to sell.

The lesson is designed to be used in conjunction with a PowerPoint slide show, to be shown on a classroom interactive whiteboard

For more information please see:

<http://www.thaichildrenstrust.org.uk/projects/Refugee/mushroom-appeal>

Objectives:

- Begin to understand that all humans have basic needs.
- To learn The World Food Day motto 'Achieving food security in times of crisis'.
- Contribute to group and class discussions.
- Develop skills of empathy and learn to respect diversity.

Introduction

Tell students they will be marking World Food day by learning about students at Hsa Thoo Lei School in Thailand. The school tries to provide two free lunches a week, for some children this is the only proper meal they will have.

Slide1.

The children we are learning about live in Thailand. Who can locate Thailand on the world map?

Slide 2

Introduce the photograph of students from Hsa Thoo Lei, explain that they are refugees. –Who can explain/ define the term ‘refugee’

Slide 3

Show the picture of a Hsa Thoo Lei student at his home in the refugee camp. They are so poor they have very little food to eat. Some students will share what little rice they have with their friends.

Slide 4

Ask students how they would feel if they were always hungry at school. Have your students write their answers on the interactive whiteboard. -

Tired, grumpy, weak, not able to concentrate etc

Slide 5

Ask students whether they think the boy on the slide looks hungry. Students to explain their answers.

Slide 6

This boy at Hsa Thoo Lei school will not be hungry. Explain he is holding a basket of mushrooms he has collected from the shed behind him.

Slide 7

Show the picture of the mushroom shed that has been funded by The Thai Childrens Trust and a London School.

Slide 8

Show the picture of the inside of a mushroom shed. Ask students -What can Hsa Thoo Lei school do with these mushrooms?

Supplement their diet (mushrooms contain protein)

Sell surplus mushrooms to buy school equipment

Slide 9

As a task ask students to design an allotment patch where more food can be grown to provide fresh and healthy lunches for the school children at Hsa Thoo Lei..

Students designs may include typical Thai food staple such as: Chilli, aubergine, basil, courgettes. A fish pond, chicken shed and of course mushroom shed can also be added.

Younger students may use collage.

Please send designs to enter our competition. The winner will receive a certificate presented by Joe Swift from Gardener’s World at your school.

Slide 10

Thank you!

Discuss how students donating their lunch money will help the children at Hsa Thoo Lei. –they will be able to farm more vegetables and have chickens as designed in the allotment task.

Secondary extension activity:

Discuss in relation to Hsa Thoo Lei School the importance of The World Food Day Motto "Achieving food security in times of crisis"

For example; Cyclone Nagris devastated many homes and crops in 2008.

Please send allotment design entries to

The Thai Children's Trust

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Fitzjames Avenue,

London

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