



KATINE LESSONS – SECONDARY KS3 – Water

Water

People in Katine cannot just turn on a tap to get a glass of water. Instead, they have to walk for miles to collect water from boreholes, wells and springs. But many of these are contaminated, and dirty water is one of the main causes of illness and death in the region.

Part One – Introduction

Human rights are those rights which are essential to life. Access to water and sanitation is a fundamental human right but people in Katine are denied this.

Working with a partner, make a list of 10 things that you think are basic human rights – the things that people need to survive. Use the links below to compare your list with the Human Rights Act (1998). What are the differences?

As a class, discuss what you think the three most important human rights are. Can you reach an agreement? If not, why?

Lesson objectives

- < to understand that human rights are fundamental rights
- < to know that human rights play a part in everyday life
- < to know that every human being is entitled to certain basic rights
- < to know that basic human rights in Britain are set out in the Human Rights Act (1998) and that these rights are different from other rights
- < to recognise that rights can compete and/or conflict and so need to be balanced

National Curriculum links

Citizenship at KS3 (Year 7-9)

Unit 3: Human rights

Section 2: What are human rights?

Scottish Curriculum links

Environmental Studies – People in Society: Level E/F; Rules, rights and responsibilities in society

Useful websites

Human rights:

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/RightsAndResponsibilities/Citizensandgovernment/DG_4002951

More about human rights: <http://www.justice.gov.uk/whatwedo/humanrights.htm>

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child:

<http://www.unicef.org/crc/index.html>



Part Two – Group task

Not having access to running water affects the lives of people in Katine in many ways. Working in a group, list these effects under the following headings: health, education and daily routine. Why does contaminated water affect a child's school attendance or a farmer's ability to go to work and earn money? And why don't women have time to plant crops?

One of the organisations working to improve access to clean water for people in Katine is Amref, the leading health development organisation in Africa. Using the link below, take notes about what Amref is doing to provide safe water and basic sanitation. In particular, read about the difference that access to clean water has made to the life of Ester Nzomo.

Use what you have learned to put together a group presentation about the lack of clean water in Katine including information on: the scale of the problem; the impact it has on people's lives; and the efforts being made to improve the situation.

Lesson objectives

- < to know and justify their own viewpoint and recognise the viewpoints of others
- < to know how the rights and responsibilities of different groups may conflict
- < to identify ways of balancing competing viewpoints
- < to know that not all countries recognise human rights in the same way
- < to know that people may be denied their rights
- < to demonstrate awareness of the roles of local, national and international government and voluntary organisations in upholding human rights

National Curriculum links

Citizenship at KS3

Unit 3: Human rights

Section 3: What happens when human rights are denied?

Unit 21: People and the environment

Section 3: Why is it important to weigh up the arguments?

Scottish Curriculum links

Environmental Studies – People in Society: Level E/F; People and needs in society; Rules, rights and responsibilities in society

Useful websites

Amref projects: <http://www.amref.org/index.asp?PageID=50&PiaID=6>

Children and water: http://www.unicef.org/wes/index_31600.html

Oxfam – Water for all:

http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/water_for_all/water/gettingstarted.htm



Part Three – Extension task

Over half of all rural households in Katine do not boil or filter their water for cooking or drinking. But unclean water is the world's single largest cause of illness, according to UNICEF, the world-wide aid organisation.

Using the links below and research of your own, start by finding out about some of the illnesses caused by unclean water. What are micro-organisms and what effect can they have on the body? Why is water so important to human health, and are there any steps that can be taken to make contaminated water safe to drink?

Use your research to produce a leaflet about avoiding water-borne illnesses. You could design a text-based leaflet for visitors to the area and a picture-based leaflet for anyone with reading difficulties.

Lesson objectives

- < to know that some micro-organisms can cause disease, e.g. food poisoning
- < to describe a range of mechanisms by which micro-organisms enter the body, e.g. food- and water-borne
- < to produce a leaflet giving advice on avoiding infection

National Curriculum links

Science at KS3

Unit 8C: Microbes and disease

Section 4A: Can micro-organisms be harmful?

Scottish Curriculum links

Science: Level E/F; Variety and characteristic features

Useful websites

Micro-organisms: http://www.biology4kids.com/files/micro_main.html

Water and health: <http://www.freedrinkingwater.com/water-education/water-health.htm>

Preventing water-related disease: http://www.unicef.org/voy/explore/wes/explore_wes.php

Katine's water lottery: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/katine/2007/nov/02/water>