

Famine: Survival

History/ Geography

Questions:

What is famine? What is drought? Why does famine happen? Why is there famine today when the world is so rich? Is there enough to go around? What are the main causes of famine? Water – cleanser or killer? How is politics involved in famine? Will people dying in famines be a thing of the past one day?

Concepts: survival inequality cause and effect
vulnerability corruption

Key text:

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind
by William Kamkwamba
The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind
abridged version by Bryan Mealer
The Return of the Buffaloes
by Paul Goble

Key vocabulary:

famine survival
cause and effect
inequality war greed
profit haves/have nots
malnutrition politics
starvation migration

English:

The children will explore the story of William Kamkwamba; a boy who used the only resources available to him to build a windmill and elevate the lives of his community. It's a model of what one person, with an inspired idea, can do to tackle a crises.

RE:

The children will look at the needs of countries that suffer from famine and will explore how these needs are met through charities. They will explore how many of these charities have their roots in religious belief.

Learning Journey:

We will be contemplating the whole issues around famine. We will be asking many of the questions highlighted and seeking to understand some of the answers.

Science:

We will be investigating how electricity is generated, how it is used and how electrical circuits are constructed. We will look at how much electricity impacts upon our lives.

And wherever our journey takes us...