

Critical Issues - Lesson Plan

<p>Unit: Interactions and Interdependence of Nations; Dynamic Relationships; Power and Authority; Resources and Wealth</p>	<p>Specific Topic: HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Disease</p>
<p>URL: http://www.gng.org/pulse/Malaria_2A.doc</p>	
<p>Lesson Description: This lesson explores the malaria virus through the story of Kofi, a five year old boy whose parents discover he has the disease. The story details the parents' struggle to obtain medical help, and the difficulties faced by others in their village. The lesson goes on to describe how mosquitoes transmit malaria, the life cycle of mosquitoes, and methods that have been used to lessen the effects of these insects.</p>	
<p>Curriculum Outcomes: Grade 6</p> <p>Outcome - IN6.3: Develop an understanding that global interdependence impacts individual daily life in Canada and a selection of countries bordering the Atlantic Ocean.</p> <p>Outcome - DR6.1: Analyze the impact of the diversity of natural environments on the ways of life in Canada and a selection of countries bordering the Atlantic Ocean.</p> <p>Outcome - DR6.2: Analyze ways in which the land affects human settlement patterns and social organization, and ways in which human habitation affects land.</p> <p>Outcome - PA6.2: Analyze the distribution of power and privilege in Canada and a selection of countries bordering the Atlantic Ocean.</p> <p>Outcome - RW6.1: Examine and analyze factors that contribute to quality of life, including material and non-material factors.</p> <p>Additional Cross-Curricular Connections: Health, Science</p>	
<p>Assessment: An exit or entrance slip.</p>	<p>Materials: - Survivor story handout</p>

Procedure:

Part # 1: Introduction (5 minutes)

- Ask the group, "What do you know about Malaria? What have you seen or heard about this topic?"

- It's not necessary to comment on students' contributions at this point. If one says something that is clearly not true and might be misleading, you can mention that this might not be accurate and that it's something the class will look into as they learn about malaria.

Part # 2: Malaria

- Definition: A human disease that is caused by sporozoan parasites (genus Plasmodium) in the red blood cells, is transmitted by the bite of anopheline mosquitoes, and is characterized by periodic attacks of chills and fever.

- Context: Malaria, a disease spread by mosquitoes, kills more than two million people every year

Part #3: Survivor Story Handout (read together)

Kofi's Story

Kofi is a five year old boy who lives in a small village in Africa. He goes to school in a one-room schoolhouse and then returns home to help his family work in the fields so that they will have something to eat. One hot August morning, Kofi woke up feeling very sick. The sickness made him shake with fever and sweat furiously. He was so weak he could not get out of bed. He had a headache and abdominal pain, and he was throwing up almost every hour. He did not go to school that day or the next day. His mother continued to work in the fields and prepare meals for the family, but she was very worried about Kofi and made plans to travel to the health centre to get some medicine. She has seen this sickness before in her other children - three of them had died from this same sickness - so she was very upset.

The Search for Help

The next day, Kofi and his mother departed for their long walk to the health centre. There is a medicine man in their village, but Kofi's mother knew that this man did not have the medicine that Kofi needs to survive the sickness. They walked for a long time, and Kofi became so weak that he could no longer walk. They were both exhausted. Kofi's mother knew that she had to be strong and get her son to the health center or he was sure to die from the sickness. She carried Kofi for a while and then begged for a ride on a mule cart. Finally, they had to take a canoe across the river and walk two more miles to the only health center available to help them. When they arrived at the health center, more than a hundred people were in line ahead of them. By this time Kofi had been sick for three days and had fallen into a coma. His mother was very worried and tears rolled down her cheeks. Most of the people in line ahead of them were also mothers with sick children, or pregnant women who looked very sick and weak.

Kofi and the Doctor

Finally, the doctor came to see Kofi. He asked his mother for payment before he would treat her child. Kofi's mother was able to pay the doctor, but it cost her all of money she had earned over the past two months. The doctor took some of Kofi's blood to determine why he was so sick. Under a microscope the doctor could see hundreds of tiny organisms in Kofi's blood. Kofi had Malaria! He immediately gave Kofi quinine, a medicine that was his only chance for survival. His mother sat by his side and waited to see if he would survive - even with the medicine, Kofi's chances were low. Another child was carried in to see the doctor. The doctor hoped it was not too late to save this child.

When Kofi first became ill, his parents were disappointed, but not surprised. All of Kofi's brothers and sisters have been sick with Malaria and three of them have died of the disease. Even Kofi's parents have had the disease several times, but managed to survive. In fact, everyone in Kofi's village knows someone who has died of Malaria. In this village, as in many other villages around the world, Malaria is a fact of life.

Malaria is one of the planet's deadliest diseases and one of the leading causes of sickness in villages and big cities around the world. Malaria has been referred to as the worst health problem in the world, even worse than AIDS! Young children are the most likely to catch and then die from the disease. Many children under the age of five die from Malaria and the ones that do survive usually feel tired and sick through

Extension Resource: For further information on Global Citizenship Education (GCE) and additional resources, see **SCIC's Global Citizenship Education Modules**.