Students Rebuild
Youth Uplift Challenge

Learning Resources

students
rebuild

Save the Children

GLOBAL NOMADS GROUP

An important part of participating in any service project is understanding the root causes of the issue you're addressing. To make a sustainable impact, governments and aid organizations need to explore and address the complex origins and relationships that create an inequality or global threat—otherwise they attempt to repair damage that simply continues. Being an active global citizen requires the same attention to the issues and depth of knowledge to understand the complexities of our connected world.

Poverty is a complex issue; the way it looks, its origins, and its solutions can be quite different from place to place based on geography, politics, social and cultural history, and personal story. No matter the location or causes, young people living in poverty too often miss out on the educational opportunities they need to achieve their dreams. Poverty can become fixed, intergenerational, and the cycle continues.

To fully engage with the Youth Uplift Challenge, we hope you'll use the below links and tools to help broaden what you and your students know about global poverty and poverty in the United States. These lessons bring better understanding to many of the causes, relationships, and financial and social realities that people living in poverty experience globally. We encourage you to adapt each to your own age groups and learning goals; additionally creating and seeking out others that align most closely with your student's educational needs.

Through combinations of activities, student research, discussion, and reflection these lessons touch on:

- **Multiple causes and solutions to poverty**

- **Poverty, education, and childhood**

- **Human rights**

- **The U.N's Millennium Development Goals**

- **Statistics and the cycle of poverty**

- **Youth agency and entrepreneurship**

- **Natural disasters and poverty**

- **Basic needs such as sanitation, health care, food, and shelter**

Finally, because poverty exists everywhere—from Los Angeles to Cape Town—students in any classroom may be experiencing or have past experience living below the poverty line. Remember to approach learning about the topic with sensitivity to student's personal experiences. Despite distance and situation, poverty can affect anyone. And despite distance and situation, students can still understand and uplift one another—while connecting as peers. To find even more depth, stay tuned into the Students Rebuild blog and social media channels to hear directly from the awesome young people who are benefiting from and participating in the Youth Uplift Challenge!

UNICEF and Teaching Tolerance

Teach UNICEF—Global Poverty Unit: Focused in Haiti, this unit explores a young student's personal story to illustrate the impact of living in poverty. Additionally, explore global statistics related to poverty, the Millennium Development Goals, and possible solutions. Comprised of three lessons which include handouts, activities, videos, and discussion and reflection prompts, these units align with several National Content and Common Core State Standards.

UNICEF Global Poverty Unit Grade 6-8   UNICEF Global Poverty Unit Grade 9-12

Teaching Tolerance—Issues of Poverty Unit: Focuses on United States history and the economic, political, and discriminatory origins of poverty in America. Through activities, discussion, writing prompts, and worksheets—four lessons address the definition of poverty in the U.S., the working poor, the cycle of poverty, and race and poverty. Adaptable for middle and high school students, or alternatively lower and upper secondary, these lessons align with several Common Core State Standards in English, history, and social studies.

What is Poverty?   Poverty and Unemployment   The Cycle of Poverty   Race and Poverty

TED-Ed Lessons

For the first time, Students Rebuild is also offering TED-Ed lessons related to the Youth Uplift Challenge! These are interactive lesson pages based around YouTube video content. TED-Ed lessons can also be customized to meet your unique classroom or program needs, and can be done by individual students or in a group setting.

The William Kamkwamba story: Despite circumstances many experience as a result of poverty, the resilience of young people can be seen in their creativity and innovation to imagine new possibilities. The story of William Kamkwamba is a powerful illustration of just that—the power of possibility in the hands of young people. This lesson is adaptable for all student levels.

Poverty and Hunger—Kids Respond: While poverty touches many, oftentimes we are unaware of how many people around us experience its impact. In this video by SoulPancake, see what children learn about one impact of poverty—hunger—and the feeling and action it inspires for them. Viewers will be invited to reflect on their own reactions and create solutions to challenge poverty. This lesson is targeted at a primary or elementary school student audience.

What is Poverty?: Poverty is complex and its causes may be difficult to understand. This video from Tearfund offers a different way to think about the causes of poverty, as well as a simple solution. Participants will be invited to engage the concepts presented in the short animation and engage in reflective discussions on the implications of poverty—both on a local and global scale. This lesson is targeted at a secondary or high school student audience.

Learn more about TEDEdClubs

In TED-Ed Clubs, students work together to discuss and celebrate their creative ideas. Club leaders receive TED-Ed's flexible public speaking curriculum to guide their school's club and help inspire public speaking and leadership. Students following the TED-Ed Clubs curriculum will research and develop their own "ideas worth spreading" and learn how to present it in the form of a short, TED-style talk. TED-Ed Clubs are designed to support students between 8-18 years old all over the world.

As your team takes the Youth Uplift Challenge, the TED-Ed Club curriculum will enhance your team's ability to consider, discuss, and speak about the impacts of poverty, youth empowerment, and youth resiliency, plus other topics your team might be passionate about.

Learn more about TED-Ed Clubs at http://ed.ted.com/clubs and register using the Students Rebuild referral code: #StudentsRebuild