

Lesson Plan Outline: Elementary School

Part 1: Who lives in Haiti? (Reading Comprehension)

Sélavi, That is Life: A Haitian Story of Hope

The short illustrated story used in this portion of the curriculum can be directed at multiple grade levels, 1-5. The main story is supplemented by notes and pictures depicting the true story behind the book, a great resource for advanced elementary students. *Sélavi* chronicles the life of an orphaned street child and his quest to survive on the streets of Port-Au-Prince. The book deals with multiple complex themes, including the lives of street children, death, perseverance, and community service. *Sélavi* deals honestly with the hardships facing Haiti, while offering hope for change.

Reading Questions:

- How did Sélavi end up alone? Who found him?
- How did each of the children end up joining their group?
- List 2 things the children did to earn money.
- What did the people promise to do for the children?
- Why did they decide to start a radio station?

Tap-Tap

This short illustrated story is perhaps more appropriate for grades 1-3. It depicts rural life in Haiti, detailing a trip to the market by a young girl and her mother. It leaves out many details of the hardships of living in Haiti, but gives great detailed description of transportation, goods and services, and the communal nature of Haitian culture.

Reading Questions:

- List the different ways that people were using to get to the market.
- What is a tap-tap?
- What gift did Mama get Sasifi?
- List 3 things that people carried onto the tap-tap. How many people got on?

Part 2: Where is Haiti? (Geography)

Essential Questions:

- Where do we live? Where does [name of character in children's story] live?
- How does location affect the way we live?
 - Does the weather change based on where we live?
 - Does geographic features change the way we live?
- What are the similarities and differences between Haiti and [locality]?

Materials:

- Globe or Map of the World
- US map
- Map of locality
- Map of Caribbean
- Map of Haiti (and maybe Port-Au-Prince)

Part 3: What can we do to help Haiti?

Show Haiti Partners school introductory “walk-through” video. Also, there will be other, very recent video updates from schools in Haiti on Haiti Partners blog. Discuss ways that students can raise money (doing odd jobs for parents and neighbors, etc), and the positive impact this money can have on students in Haiti.