

Moving Food

A lesson examining the importance of making the right choices for transportation of food assistance in emergency situations.

Age Range: Grades 4-6, Ages 10-12

Subject: Math

Adapted from "Fighting Hunger the Rights Way" - CBU Children's Rights Centre

Overview

Addition & subtraction of decimals, critical thinking

Students will consider the different speeds of transportation used for delivering food assistance, and make choices as to which mode of transportation is best suited to different situations.

Aims & Objectives

- Represent generalizations arising from number relationships using equations with letter variables
- Work effectively in groups
- Discuss the importance of considering modes of travel in food assistance

Preparation

- Make copies of the Moving Food activity sheet
- Watch the video "WFP - Logistics" at <http://www.wfp.org/videos/wfp-logistics>

Instructions

1. Students should watch the video "WFP - Logistics"
2. Discuss with the class the various situations which would dictate a particular means of transport being chosen. Questions like: "In what sort of areas might a helicopter be the best option for food delivery?"
3. Pass out activity sheets.
4. Allow students to begin working on the activity sheet.
5. Once they have completed the activity sheet, go over the answers and discuss the importance of considering modes of travel in food assistance.

Answer Key

1. a. 2.74 hrs.
b. 47 hrs.
c. 1.68 hrs.
d. 1.96 hrs.
2. 2.38 hrs.
3. 13.46 hrs.
4. The long-haul truck, the helicopter or the train





Name: _____

Using the following information answer the questions below:

A long-haul truck travels at 80 km/hr

A camel travels at 5 km/hr

A helicopter travels at 140 km/hr

A train travels at 120 km/hr

1. A WFP ship carrying food has just docked on the west side of Sheylan. The Food Force team must bring the food to the east side of the island. The distance between the west and east side of Sheylan is approximately 235 km. How long would it take to cross the island for each of the following:

a. long-haul truck = _____

b. camel = _____

c. helicopter = _____

d. train = _____

2. If a truck could only go 130 km across the island and a helicopter was needed to travel the remaining distance of 105 km, how long would the journey take?

Answer: _____

3. If a train could only travel for 175 km across the island and a camel was needed to travel the remaining distance of 60 km, how long would the journey take?

Answer: _____

4. If people needed emergency food assistance within 15 hours, and the Food Force team was 1200 km away, what options in travel does the team have (using only one type of transportation)?

Answer: _____

5. In your groups, explore the Logistics section of the WFP web site: <http://www.wfp.org/logistics>, and discuss the importance of choosing the right method of travel for food assistance. Think of other variables that may impact the choice (e.g., a helicopter may not be able to fly in poor weather conditions).