

Introduction to Food Force

Age Range: Grades 4 - 7, Ages 9 - 13

Subject: Social Studies

Adapted from "Fighting Hunger the Rights Way" - [CBU Children's Rights Centre](#)

Overview

Collaboration, critical thinking, note taking, presentation skills

In groups, students will play the [Food Force](#) game, each group focusing on a particular mission. Each group will make a brief presentation to the class describing the mission they were assigned, focusing on the particular needs each mission fulfills.

Aims & Objectives

- To enable students to work in groups effectively
- To encourage students to become familiar with the work of the World Food Programme via the *Food Force* game
- To teach students to use technology effectively
- To let students practice note taking
- To enable students to practice presenting to their peers

Preparation

- Students should visit [WFP's Hunger Hotspots](#) page, and read about the situations in countries around the world prior to playing Food Force. Each group should pick a country, and write a short description of the problems being faced by the country at this moment in time.
- Students should have access to copies of the mission descriptions on the following page.
- Discuss the mission descriptions with students to ensure understanding.
- Students will need access to computers and [Food Force](#) (free download in 16 languages, PC and Mac versions).

Instructions

1. Divide students into six groups. Assign each group one of the six *Food Force* missions.
 - Students should take turns playing the missions, the members not playing at any given time will take notes of what the characters in the game tell them, what their mission involves and any relevant information they feel they would need to share with the class; if time permits, all students in each group will complete their assigned mission.
(Students should be reminded not to skip the videos and instructions between each mission!)
2. Once all groups have completed the game, they will compile their notes into a brief presentation for the class. Each group will describe the country situation they chose to research, and their assigned mission.



Explanation of *Food Force* Missions

Mission 1 - Air Surveillance

Rapid response to an emergency often means the difference between life and death. A successful emergency operation requires locating the hungry and identifying the fastest route to get food assistance to them.

Mission one challenges you to do exactly this. The island of Sheylan has suffered the damaging consequences of drought and civil conflict. People have had to abandon their homes in search of safety and food. Your task is to pilot a helicopter and survey the scene to locate and count how many people need feeding--all against the clock!

Mission 2 - Energy Pacs

Getting food assistance quickly to an emergency hunger zone is critical but so is understanding what kind of food assistance is necessary. It's all about nutrition.

Enter Joe Zaki, the Food Force nutritional expert. He'll talk you through the essential types of food that WFP supplies in emergency situations. It's then your challenge to find the right combination of these food items (rice, beans, vegetable oil, sugar and iodized salt) to create a nutritious and balanced diet--all at a target cost of 30 US cents per person per meal!

Mission 3 - Airdrop

In extreme emergencies and when there is no way to reach the hungry by land or water, 'airdrops' are sometimes used to deliver food directly to people in need.

Carlos Sanchez, manager of WFP's A.L.I.T.E. emergency team, will guide you in this third action packed mission. Will you manage to make the drops accurately, without risking human lives? If you have what it takes you will proceed to the next level. If not, it's back to the beginning of the mission!

Mission 4 - Locate and Dispatch

WFP relies entirely on donations in order to acquire and deliver food to people in need. Food must be located and purchased for the best value, while considering immediate and long-term needs.

This is your challenge in Mission 4, where you'll meet Miles, Food Force's director of food purchasing--he's on hand to help you with the tasks. The aim of the mission is to complete the logistics puzzle and fill up Sheylan's food supply chain for the next 6 months.

Mission 5 - The Food Run

When aid reaches its country of destination, land logistics experts make the final link in the food chain. Once the supply line is secure, food aid is loaded on trucks, trains and land transport, ready to be delivered to the hungry.

In Mission 5, you're responsible for making sure a convoy of WFP trucks arrive safely at the feeding center. The trip won't be easy, but Rachel Scott, the Food Force logistics officer is there to help. Together with her you'll have to overcome challenges--from clearing land mines to rebuilding bridges and negotiating with local rebel forces!

Mission 6 - Future Farming

Food has arrived in Sheylan and the most difficult moments of the emergency response are behind you, but that's just the start. Disaster-hit communities need support in order to get back on their feet--this is when WFP's longer-term development projects become important.

Joe Zaki, originally from Sheylan, is once again with you for the final mission where you're responsible for 'investing' food to 'grow' development projects in this Sim City style game. The projects you must manage are: 'School Feeding,' 'Food For Work,' 'Food For Training,' 'Nutritional Programs' and 'HIV/AIDS Prevention'. The aim is simple: To ensure Sheylan can provide enough food for itself, that the people are healthy, and the community has the infrastructure to grow.

