



Ron Wood, Patterson-Kennedy PK-8

Theme: Effects of Media

Grade Level: 6

Length of Lesson: 3 days

Standards

1. People in Societies (Interaction, Explain factors that foster conflict or cooperation among countries).
2. Geography (Human Environmental Interaction, Describe ways human settlement and activities are influenced by environmental factors and processes).
3. Government (Role of Government, Explain ways that countries interact with each other).

Primary Source: Photographs of Japan after March 11, 2011 Earthquake and Tsunami from “Time for Kids” March 25, 2011, Volume 1 #20. Additional photographs from <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2011/03/pictures/110315-nuclear-reactor-japan-tsunami-earthquake-world-photos-meltdown/>

Summary of Activity: During a science lesson, our discussion turned to the natural disaster that had recently taken place in Japan. During the discussion, the topic changed to news coverage. On day one, students were asked to view photographs of the devastation; they would then discuss and express the manner in which the information was conveyed. The second day, students would read random articles that coincide with the photographs from day one. They would then discuss and compare the manner in which the information was conveyed. On the third day, students will match stories with photographs, combine information gathered from both sources to compile final report.

Assessment: Students will work with a partner and review sources. Each student would submit a written report on which form of the media was most useful and why.

Outcomes: Students seemed genuinely moved over the situation of the Japanese people. If I were to do this activity again, I would have a larger selection of photos.

Spiral Questions: **Level 1**

1. What should be cleaned up first?
2. Why did some buildings survive and others not?



### **Level 2**

1. What is their biggest need?
2. Where will people sleep?

### **Level 3**

1. What can be done to prepare for this again?
2. Would you stay in this area if you were a survivor?