



SERVICE LEARNING for HAITI

AMERICAN RED CROSS INFORMATION

1. Overview of “Who Helps During a Disaster?”

- Supplies: paper, pencils/pens, American Red Cross Fact Sheet
- Federal organizations are put in place to respond to disaster situations. There are also non-profit or voluntary organizations that participate in disaster response and recovery. Girls will investigate the specific role that the Red Cross has in disaster response and recovery.

2. Activity

- Utilize the attached fact sheet about the American Red Cross and/or have the girls do research about the organization.
- Learn about the American Red Cross by answering the following questions:
 - Approximately how many disasters does the Red Cross respond to each year?
 - The majority of disaster responses are for what?
 - How long does it take for the Red Cross to take action?
 - What kinds of services does the Red Cross provide when disaster strikes?
 - What is the core of Red Cross disaster relief?
 - What other kinds of services does the organization provide?

3. Relection

- If the American Red Cross already does so much for the Haiti relief efforts, why do Girl Scouts need to help?
- What other ways can we show our support to the victims of the Haiti earthquake?





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American Red Cross Fact Sheet

The **American Red Cross** is a humanitarian organization that provides emergency assistance, disaster relief, and education inside the United States, and is the designated U.S. affiliate of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Each year, the American Red Cross responds immediately to more than 70,000 disasters, including house or apartment fires (the majority of disaster responses), hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, hazardous materials spills, transportation accidents, explosions, and other natural and man-made disasters.

American Red Cross disaster relief focuses on meeting people's immediate emergency disaster-caused needs. When a disaster threatens or strikes, the Red Cross provides shelter, food, and health and mental health services to address basic human needs. In addition to these services, the core of Red Cross disaster relief is the assistance given to individuals and families affected by disaster to enable them to resume their normal daily activities independently. The organization also provides translation and interpretation to those affected when necessary, and maintains a database of multilingual volunteers to enable this. The Red Cross also feeds emergency workers of other agencies, handles inquiries from concerned family members outside the disaster area, provides blood and blood products to disaster victims, and helps those affected by disaster to access other available resources.

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