

16 million children in need in South Asia floods

5th September, 2017



The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has warned that an estimated 16 million children are "in urgent need of life-saving support" following the torrential monsoon rains and catastrophic flooding that have

hit Bangladesh, India and Nepal. Up to a third of Bangladesh is currently under water. A total of 45 million people have been badly affected in the rains, which started several weeks ago. UNICEF said: "Millions of children have seen their lives swept away by these devastating floods. Children have lost their homes, schools and even friends and loved ones." It added: "There is a danger the worst could still be to come as rains continue and flood waters move south."

UNICEF said it is putting all its efforts into helping those who need it most. It said: "[We are] on the ground working in close coordination with respective governments and humanitarian partners in the South Asian countries to scale up [our] responses and respond to the immediate needs of affected children and their families." It added: "Massive damage to school infrastructure and supplies means hundreds of thousands of children may miss weeks or months of school. Getting children back into school is absolutely critical in establishing a sense of stability for children during times of crisis and provides a sense of normality when everything else is being turned upside down."

Sources: un.org / voanews.com / pbs.org

Writing

What can the world do to better help flood victims?

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

estimated / urgent / monsoon / catastrophic / affected / UNICEF / floods / danger / efforts / coordination / humanitarian / infrastructure / critical / crisis / normality

True / False

- UNICEF is the name of a United Nations organization. T / F
- The article described torrential flooding and catastrophic monsoon. T / F
- The article said 45 million people have been badly affected. T / F
- The article said the worst of the rains and floods are over. T / F
- UNICEF is working separately to humanitarian groups. T / F
- UNICEF said it would do more to help affected children. T / F
- Getting children back to school was not a top priority. T / F
- The article said children's worlds have been turned upside down. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. warned | a. presently |
| 2. estimated | b. disastrous |
| 3. catastrophic | c. vital |
| 4. currently | d. risk |
| 5. danger | e. reactions |
| 6. efforts | f. cautioned |
| 7. responses | g. huge |
| 8. massive | h. feeling |
| 9. critical | i. approximated |
| 10. sense | j. energy |

Discussion – Student A

- What do you know about the floods in South Asia?
- Are the South Asian floods in the news more than the Houston floods?
- How can we help those affected by the floods?
- How bad can flooding get in your country?
- What are the dangers of flooding?
- Why isn't the world doing more to help?
- How can we stop natural disasters happening?
- What could you do to help those affected by the floods?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. in urgent need | a. up our responses |
| 2. torrential | b. third of Bangladesh |
| 3. Up to a | c. infrastructure |
| 4. A total of 45 million people have | d. need it most |
| 5. There is a danger the worst could | e. upside down |
| 6. helping those who | f. of life-saving support |
| 7. scale | g. critical |
| 8. Massive damage to school | h. been badly affected |
| 9. absolutely | i. monsoon rains |
| 10. everything else is being turned | j. still be to come |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you know about UNICEF?
- What do charities do to help people affected by the floods?
- What are the immediate needs of the children?
- How can the world help with the education of the children?
- How serious is global warming?
- What would it be like for your world to be turned upside down?
- What questions would you like to ask UNICEF?

Spelling

- an dettaiesm 16 million children
- in eurgnt need of life-saving support
- noratrteli monsoon rains
- Bangladesh is lycrruten under water
- badly dcffeaet in the rains
- swept away by these itandtsgeav floods
- in close coordination with iercestpve governments
- scale up our osessrnpe
- saesvim damage
- school uiacrtnsutfrre
- establishing a sense of tyiaibtls for children
- being turned dsipeu down

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. i	3. b	4. a	5. d
6. j	7. e	8. g	9. c	10. h

Role Play

Role A – Roads

You think roads are the most important things to repair after a natural disaster. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): the Internet, schools or hospitals.

Role B – The Internet

You think the Internet is the most important thing to repair after a natural disaster. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): roads, schools or hospitals.

Role C – Schools

You think schools are the most important things to repair after a natural disaster. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): the Internet, roads or hospitals.

Role D – Hospitals

You think hospitals are the most important things to repair after a natural disaster. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): the Internet, schools or roads.

Speaking – Infrastructure

Rank these with your partner. Put the most important areas of infrastructure to get in place after a disaster at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-----------------|------------|
| • houses | • roads |
| • food delivery | • schools |
| • clean water | • Internet |
| • hospitals | • railways |

Answers – True False

a	T	b	F	c	T	d	F	e	F	f	T	g	F	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.