

Dear colleagues,

The crisis in Haiti resulting from the massive earthquake January 12th has captured the world's attention. Thank you for all your individual humanitarian contributions to provide relief in Haiti. I know many of you are discussing the issues with your students in class. Please continue to be sensitive to the fact that many of our students are experiencing personal crises at this time.

You are encouraged to explore Haiti's history and culture with students in order to help them gain a context for understanding the situation today. Following are some resources provided by the History Channel® that may be helpful. (Please note: you possibly have to copy the link and paste it into your browser.) Visit History.com to view a [map of Haiti](#). You can also view a [timeline of Haitian history](#) developed by the BBC. For students interested in the Haitian Revolution, visit "This Day in History" site (January 1, 1803) which features a short write-up about [Haitian Independence](#). You can use biographies of [Toussaint L'Ouverture](#) and [Henri Christophe](#) for teaching reading strategies.

Teachers may also be interested in the following titles for further reading about history and politics of Haiti:

Arthur, Charles. *Haiti in Focus: A Guide to the People, Politics, and Culture*. (Interlink Publishing Group, 2002).

Dubois, Laurent. *Avengers of the New World: The Story of the Haitian Revolution*. (Harvard University Press, 2005).

Kidder, Tracy. *Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World*. (Random House, 2009).

Wilentz, Amy. *The Rainy Season: Haiti Since Duvalier*. (Simon & Schuster, 1990).

If you have developed a lesson plan on Haiti and you wish to share it please contact me.

Thanks,

LC

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