

S O C I A L S T U D I E S

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THE CENTER FOR GIFTED EDUCATION



A horizontal band of an ancient Egyptian landscape. On the left, two camels are depicted. In the center, there is a dense field of papyrus plants. On the right, several fish are shown swimming in the water. The background is a light tan color with some faint hieroglyphs.

Ancient Egypt

Gift of the Nile

STUDENT GUIDE



Name: _____ Date: _____



Activity 3A

Shipwrecked! Scenario

Directions: Read through the scenario provided below. After reading, answer the questions that follow in pairs or a group, based on your teacher's instructions.

Imagine that you are part of a group of people who were sailing together in a small boat, competing in a contest to sail around the world in the fastest time. But when you were sailing across the Pacific Ocean, a big storm hit, and your boat was wrecked on an island. Your radio is not working, so you have no way of contacting any other people to help you, and there do not seem to be any other people on the island.

What does your group need to do first? What are the most important problems to try to solve?

Three months pass, and you are still stuck on the island. You tried to make a boat to sail away, but it didn't work. Your group is still hoping a ship will come by and rescue you, but you haven't seen anyone yet. Most of the people in your group are working together to make sure everyone has enough to eat and a safe shelter, but there are a few people who just want to play all the time.

What does your group need to do now? What are some important problems to try to solve?

3A Shipwrecked! Scenario (Continued)

Two years have passed. One day, a small boat carrying people from a nearby island arrives on your beach. By drawing pictures and making hand signs, you are able to communicate with them. They do not have boats big enough to sail far away or to help you get back home, but they can sail back and forth between your two islands. They are interested to see if you have any goods on your island that they would like to have. You know you have a really delicious kind of fruit, and you see that the visitors' clothes are made of some nice fabric in pretty colors.

What can your group do now? What are some important problems to try to solve?

It has now been seven years since you landed on the island. You have a good trade with nearby islands that helps you to get materials that do not grow on your own island. You have cleared some space and started farming on part of your island, and there is plenty of food for everyone. You also have more than enough people to work on the farms, so people have a lot of extra time on their hands.

What should your group do now? What are some important problems to try to solve?
