

## Activity Sheet 1.1 - Haitian Vodou and Papa Legba

Vodou\* is a traditional Haitian religion called a syncretism (a combining). It is combined of the West African Vodun religion and Roman Catholicism which was present in Haiti from when missionaries in the 16th and 17th centuries attempted to 'Christianize' enslaved peoples.

The word Vodou means "spirit" or "deity" in the Fon language of the African kingdom of Dahomey (now Benin). Vodou is a way of seeing the world that includes philosophy, medicine, justice and religion. It is founded on the belief that everything is spirit, including humans. Forms of unseen spirits exist too in the belief system, including angels and ancestors, and they exist in a cosmic land.

The main purpose and practice of Vodou is to serve the spirits. Vodou rituals such as prayer, song and dance aim to restore balance and energy, strengthening connection between people, and with the unseen world.

For centuries Vodou and its followers have been treated negatively with accusations of 'evil' and people even being killed. In the current times of danger and gang crime in parts of Haiti, Vodou is attracting more followers.

It is difficult to record accurately what percentage of Haitians practice Vodou or hold Vodou beliefs because historically identifying as a Vodou follower has been so problematic.

### Papa Legba

In the animation *Unstoppable Beat*, we see a character (04:24) and a symbol (04:15) for a particular figure in Vodou – Papa Legba. We also hear his name in the music (for example at 01:25).

Papa Legba is believed to stand at a spiritual crossroads and gives (or denies) permission to speak with the spirits of Guineé. He is believed to speak all human languages. In Haiti, he is the great elocutioner (public speaker). Legba facilitates communication, speech, and understanding.

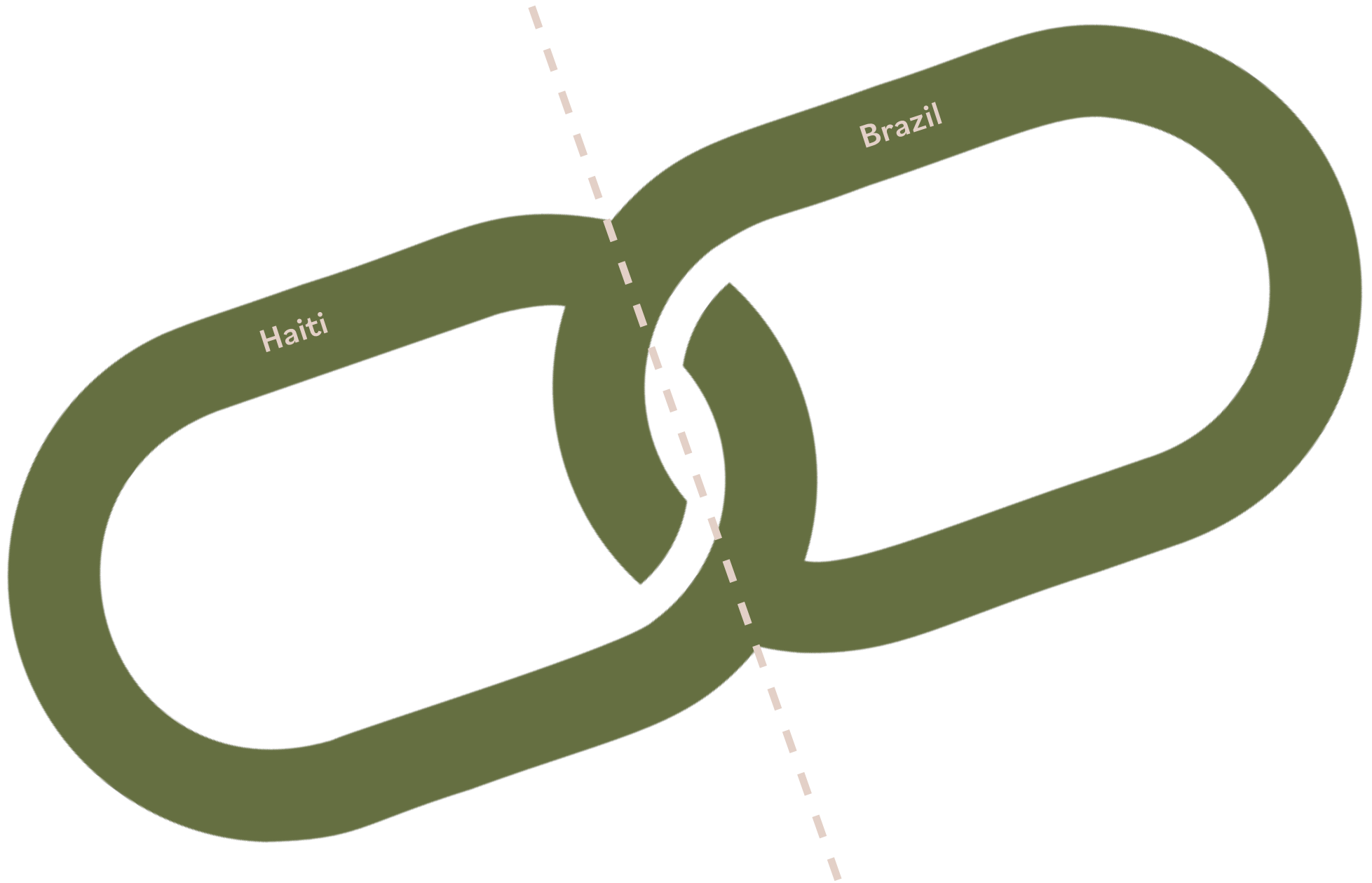
\* Also spelled: Vaudou, Vodun, Voodoo, Voudou, vodon

Source: Encyclopedia Britannica and Wikipedia



## Activity Sheet 2.1 - obstacles and opportunities

- Record obstacles to freedom inside the chains
- Record opportunities for freedom outside of the chains



## Activity Sheet 2.2 - character cards

**Politician**

**Journalist**

**Religious leader**

**Doctor**

**Reality TV star**

**Influencer**

**Sports coach**

**Teacher**

**Sports fan**

**Sales person**

**Friend**

**Thief**

**Police officer**

**Hairdresser**

**Grandparent**

**Neighbour**

## Activity Sheet 2.3 - dignity images







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### The Legacy of Slavery

*Brazil has a long and complicated migration history – which continues to affect people of African descent. An estimated 5.5 million African slaves were brought to Brazil to work in the country's sugar-based plantation economy – and when slavery was eventually abolished in 1888, far later than any other country in the Americas, the lives of Afro-Brazilians did not change drastically.*

*Many freed slaves entered into informal agreements with their former owners, exchanging free labour in return for food and shelter.*

*White Brazilian elites, concerned they could become a minority, also implemented a policy of branqueamento, or 'whitening,' through European immigration which aimed to limpar o sangue (cleanse the blood). This was justified on the grounds that Brazil could not flourish with a largely Black population, a legacy that continues today through deeply racialized institutional structures and attitudes prevalent throughout contemporary Brazilian society; reflected in widespread human rights abuses towards Afro-Brazilians and poverty rates that are twice those of white Brazilians.*

*Prof Heaven Crawley*

*Full blog available at <https://www.mideq.org/en/blog/from-despair-to-hope-securing-rights-for-haitian-migrants-in-the-new-brazil/>*



## Activity Sheet 2.6 - article A

### Amid Construction Boom, Migrants Flow Into Brazil

JUNE 26, 2013, by Lulu Garcia-Navarro

Brazil is in the midst of a building boom as it constructs stadiums across the country in preparation for the World Cup it will host next year. In Sao Paulo, hundreds of workers are building a massive arena that will take many more months to complete.

But not all of the workers are Brazilian. Marie Eveline Melous, 26, arrived from Haiti just a few months ago because life was so difficult, especially after the huge earthquake in 2010. “It’s hard to find work. I came to Brazil to help my situation,” she says.

She’s now working in the administration department at the stadium construction site, and her Haitian husband works here as a welder.

They are among the lucky ones — they have visas and jobs. But across town there are many more who are struggling to survive. There are more than 100 Haitians clustered in a dark waiting room at Our Lady of Peace Church in downtown Sao Paulo. They are the newest group of undocumented migrants to come flooding into Brazil.

The Rev. Paulo Parise, who runs the mission, says Brazil has entered a new phase. “Brazil used to export its people overseas, but now we are attracting migrants,” he says.

#### An Emerging Issue

The number of undocumented migrants here is still tiny compared with countries like the U.S., where there are millions of illegal immigrants. Such immigrants make up less than 1 percent of the Brazilian population. But the number is growing and advocates say Brazil doesn’t know how to cope. In April, a Brazilian state on the Bolivian border declared a state of emergency after only a few thousand Haitians made their way into the country.

Parisa says that’s because Brazil doesn’t have the infrastructure to actually deal with large influxes of migrants. “It’s not enough to allow people to enter and give them humanitarian visas. They need a place to stay, somewhere to get food, health care and work,” he says. “In Brazil, the church or civil society take on those tasks. But it’s no longer enough.”

In an interview with NPR, National Justice Secretary Paulo Abrao said there are three reasons why more people want to immigrate to Brazil.

“First, our economy has grown and millions have moved into the middle class,” he said. “There is record employment in Brazil these days and an economic crisis in other parts of the world.”

He also noted that Brazil has also gained international visibility in advance of the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Summer Olympics.

And third, he said, “We have a tradition of hospitality. We are a country built on migration.” Brazil’s immigration policies are considered fairly generous. All the Haitians who have made it to Brazil have been allowed to stay and have been given humanitarian visas. Hundreds of thousands of other migrants from South America are also allowed to work here under regional agreements.

#### An Ugly Underbelly

Of course, not all is perfect. Over the past two weeks, protests have broken out all over Brazil against the high cost of living here and the massive expenditure on the World Cup stadiums, among a host of other grievances.

Brazil is also having to deal with the ugly side of immigration. Franco Bergara, who is from Bolivia, is on the street looking for work. He talks about how many Bolivians are lured to Brazil and forced to work in sweatshops. The Bolivian workers are forced to hand over their identification documents, he says, and then they are made to work all day but are not paid. Recently the government closed down a number of these factories, some of which were making clothes for international brands like Gap and Zara. Many of the migrants are from Bolivia, but they are certainly not the only ones.

Not long ago, Brazilian police busted a human trafficking ring that was illegally bringing in workers from Bangladesh, according to authorities.

Back at Our Lady of Peace Church, a Haitian migrant who doesn’t want his name used says he has six siblings in the U.S. However, he says, he decided to come to Brazil because he heard it was easier to get documents and work. But it’s been almost two months now and he and his wife haven’t found jobs. “It’s not easy,” he says, “but we are here now to stay.”

## Activity Sheet 2.6 - article B, page 1

### Haitian quake survivors welcomed in Brazil's Amazon

JUNE 30, 2016, by Donna Bowater

*Despite negative media portrayals, tens of thousands of Haitians and other refugees have been received with open arms.*

**Manaus, Brazil** – Halfway through the Olympic torch relay – a spectacle designed to unite Brazil behind Rio 2016 – torchbearer No 35 lifted the flame to cheers of “Haiti! Haiti!”

Abdias Dolce, 28, was one of thousands of Haitians who arrived in the Amazonian city of Manaus after the devastating 2010 earthquake in their country that killed more than 200,000. He had been studying in Port-au-Prince when the disaster struck and said the impact of the quake led to him travelling south to build a new life and restart his studies in Brazil. Five years later, he received the Olympic flame close to where he was first welcomed and given shelter by the Sao Geraldo parish church in central Manaus, receiving a warm reception from the crowds on the street.

“I don’t just represent Haitians but all immigrants, not only those in Brazil but outside of Brazil as well,” he said afterwards. “Brazil has made a big step to include my name on the list of those who carry the Olympic torch. Because the biggest problem with immigration today is the inclusion of immigrants in society.”

As the United Nations reported an unprecedented number of people displaced from their homes – one in 113 people in the world – migration and asylum has once again come under the spotlight. And in Brazil, which has welcomed thousands of Syrians in the latest refugee crisis, there have been reports that the interim government has suspended negotiations with Europe to continue accepting asylum seekers. The Ministry of Justice denied this was the case.

Meanwhile, there remains a significant Haitian population in Manaus after a wave of immigration overwhelmed the city in the aftermath of the 2010 tragedy. “We had people waiting at the port with Kombi vans,” Valdecir added. “They didn’t even need to ask where they were going. “There were more than 100 Haitians in the main room. They took over everything. It was crazy.” He said state and local government efforts to help fell short, with many Haitians relying on the church while they found work and homes, either in Manaus or elsewhere in Brazil.

By 2015, the government said that it had granted permanent residency to almost 44,000 Haitian immigrants. “This act reaffirms Brazil as a welcoming nation, a nation open to all those who want peace and are willing to work and live with our people and share the construction of our country,” said Miguel Rossetto, then labour and welfare minister.

Abdias, who moved to Manaus in 2011 and eventually brought with him his now wife, said the biggest problem was not the Brazilian government, nor its immigration policies but its media, which reinforced prejudices against immigrants. He mentioned a clip shown before Haiti’s recent football match against Brazil, in which Brazilian presenter Luciano Huck visited a poor neighbourhood in Haiti and said: “After what I saw, I think humanity hasn’t worked.”

The 28-year-old engineering student, who was put up by the church for 10 days before he found a job and a place of his own, said such portrayals gave rise to fears that immigrants would rob, steal and even kill. “When immigrants arrive in Brazil, the media always shows us as people who will rob Brazilians of jobs. That’s where the prejudice starts,” Dolce said. “Here in Brazil, it’s the media that educates people. The media here says what it wants. It doesn’t have limits.”

Abdias said marginalising immigrants was a loss both for the settler and for the country. He cited Michaelle Jean, a Haitian immigrant who became governor-general of Canada, as an example of the value of integrating foreigners. “When you arrive in a country, you’re separated, you don’t play a part in society. This prejudices the immigrant and the country as well,” he added. But he paid tribute to Manaus for opening up to Haitians, and there was clear support for Abdias as he ran along the city’s main road with the Olympic torch.

He said there had been teachers who offered free Portuguese lessons to help immigrants to adapt. “Manaus is a nicer city in comparison with the other cities in Brazil,” he said. “People are more educated. It was really cool when we arrived, we felt at home. It’s difficult for a foreigner to manage to get a job here, but this city is the best for foreigners.” The father-of-one has also received a government loan to finish his chemical engineering studies at university.

Father Valdecir said Abdias’s inclusion in the Olympic torch relay recognised the value of the immigrant population. “It’s recognition that immigrants play a part in our story,” he said. “It gives them visibility. The Olympics are a meeting of people, they carry a sense that we can think of a universal citizenship.”



## Activity Sheet 2.6 - article B, page 2

Abdias said he intended to stay in Manaus and hoped to go on to study a master's degree, though did not rule out returning to Haiti, where his mother still lives. He said that he hoped immigration would eventually be accepted and normalised around the world.

“If the rich countries don't help the poor countries, the rich countries will sink together with the poor,” he added. “Haiti buys everything from the US, for example. We're not inferior or superior. We're different. We haven't yet learned to live with others' differences.

“Immigration will never end. What the world has to do is try to improve the impact of immigration.”

## Activity Sheet 3.1 - Challenging Circumstances Cards

### 1. Uncertainty about the future

It can take a long time for decisions to be made and the visa application process can be complicated. [In Brazil people can apply for a humanitarian visa that gives them temporary legal status if they do not qualify as asylum seekers, however the process can still be slow].

### 2. Trauma

People may suffer from trauma (shock) because of frightening things they have seen or experienced. This might include flashbacks (memories popping into your mind), difficulties concentrating, poor sleep, mood swings or up-and-down feelings. It can be harder to cope with changes and everyday tasks. [In the animation, Luc leaves following the 2010 earthquake in Haiti].

### 3. Language

Trying to get support and apply for a visa in a different language can be very challenging. [In Brazil, language barriers can make Haitians vulnerable to exploitation by others such as employers or landlords].

### 4. Poor quality housing

Migrants may have to live in homes that are overcrowded or in areas on the outskirts of cities with fewer services like shops or parks. The homes might be of poor quality with problems like damp or broken heating that can be bad for your health. [Camps have been provided for migrants arriving in some parts of Brazil].

### 5. Discrimination

Migrants may experience racism, being (or feeling) ignored, or bullying. This is normally caused by fear and a lack of understanding. It can be upsetting and even dangerous and can continue even when people are given visas and allowed to stay. [Brazil and Haiti have complicated histories with transatlantic slavery. Racist attitudes and institutions may be experienced throughout the country].

### 6. Separation from family

Migrants may have to apply for their families to join them in the host country. This process can be slow and the reunification of the family may not be guaranteed. [Brazilian law allows documented migrants and refugees to bring family members to the country after settling there themselves, however bureaucratic processes and arbitrary decision-making makes reunification more difficult in practice].

### 7. Work

It can be hard for migrants to find work that matches their level of education and skill. [Research found that Haitians are arriving in Brazil with a high level of education and qualifications, but these skills are being under-utilised in the job market].

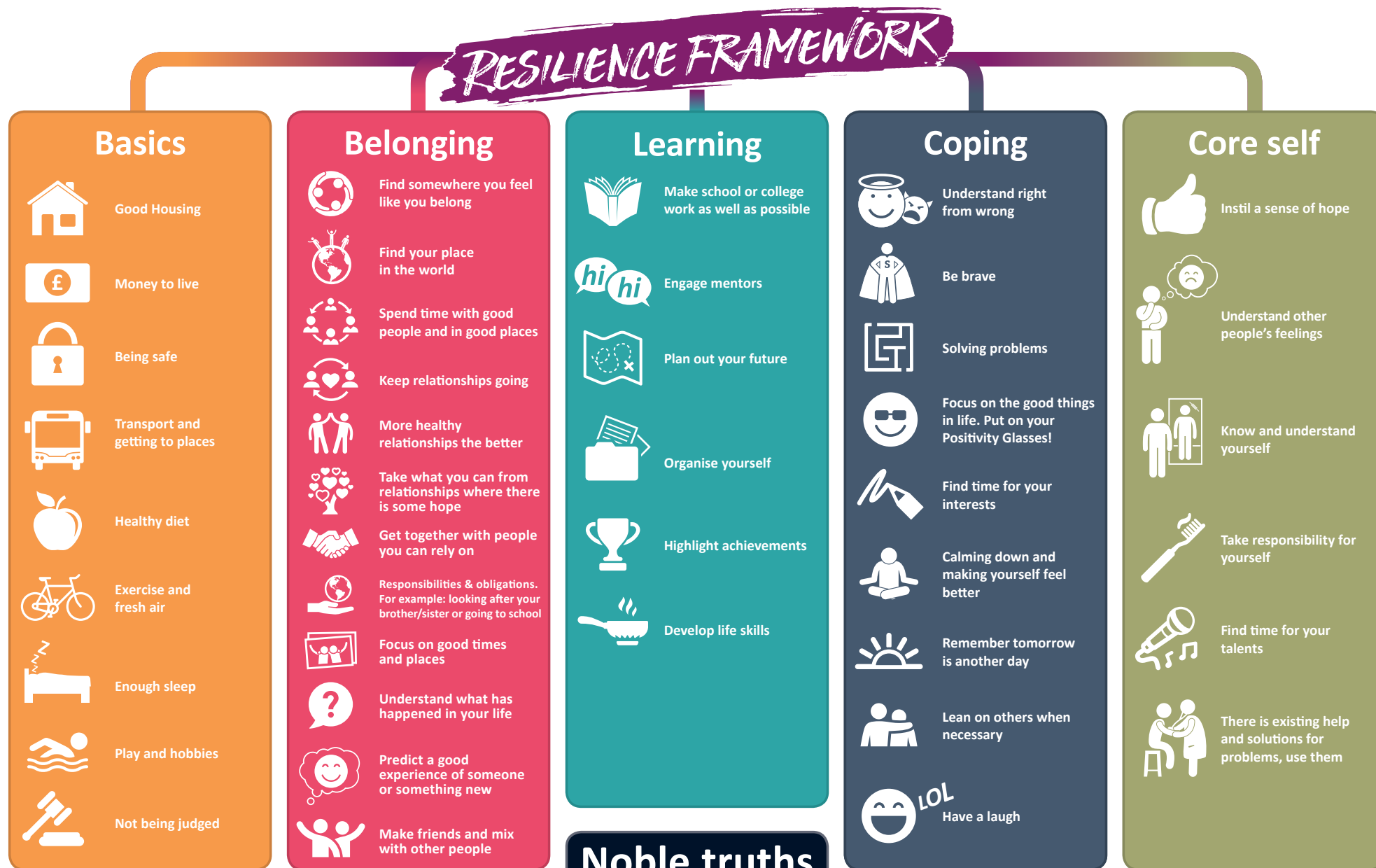
### 8. -----

Activity Sheet 3.2 - Developing Resilience

Examples of <b>Individual</b> resilience	Examples of <b>Community</b> Resilience



# Activity Sheet 3.3 - Example of a Resilience Action Framework



Activity Sheet 3.4 - Resilience Action Plan

	Basics	Belonging	Learning	Coping	Core self
I would like to develop...					
To help me do this I will...					

## Activity Sheet 3.5 - Migrasyon [Migration] lyrics (by Toby Anbakè)

Lontan e te Bahamas  
Avan kilè ou tande  
On nèg Lage naso  
Sa ki vwayaje al chèche lavi  
Repiblik dominicana  
Sityasyon peyi a fè tout  
ti jèn Ayisyen fin egzile  
Sa kap mennen kounye a se  
Lage Chili ou byen lage Brezil oh  
Kote ti Andre  
Li lage Chili  
Kote Antoinette oh eeeh  
Li lage Chili  
Kote Krem peyi  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  lage Brezil oh  
Yo lage Chili  
Yo ale ,Yo ale,Yo ale  
Yo go, yo go,yo go,yo Gooo

Ayisyen ap briye aletranje  
Laba yo pap boule Mache  
Laba malfektè pap tiye yo  
Laba zafè mache oh  
Laba fanmi pap echwe yo

Laba pa gen mechanste oh  
Laba yo pap menase yo  
Laba travay se libète yo

Before it was Bahamas  
Before you know it  
The guy is in Nassau  
Those who travel search for life  
[in] Dominican Republic  
The situation in the country has made all  
the Haitian youth exile [themselves]  
Now what's popular is  
to go to Chile or go to Brazil oh  
Where is Ti Andre  
He's in Chile  
Where's Antoinette oh eeeh  
She's in Chile  
Where's the cream of the country  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  are in Brazil oh  
They're in Chile  
They left, they left, they left  
They went, they went, they went

Haitians are shining abroad  
Abroad they don't burn [down] markets  
Abroad bad people won't kill them  
Abroad things work [out] oh  
Abroad family won't fail them

Abroad they don't find evil oh  
Abroad they won't threaten them  
Abroad work is their freedom



## Activity Sheet 4.1 - Equality and a decent life





# Activity Sheet 4.2 - Measuring a decent life

Income per person 2022/23	Human Development Index <sup>1</sup> 2022	Equality (Gini Index) <sup>2</sup> 2017-21	Happiness Index <sup>3</sup> 2022
Monaco	Switzerland	Slovak Republic	Finland
Liechtenstein	Norway	Slovenia	Denmark
Luxembourg	Iceland	Belarus	Iceland
Bermuda	Hong Kong	Ukraine	Sweden
Ireland	Sweden	Moldova	Israel
Switzerland	Denmark	Netherlands	Netherlands
Cayman Islands	Germany	Untied Arab Emirates	Norway
Isle of Man	Ireland	Iceland	Luxembourg
Norway	Singapore	Czechia (Czech Republic)	Switzerland
Qatar	Australia	Belgium	Australia
Source: World Bank Data - GDP per capita	Source: UNDP Human Development Insights	Source: World Bank Data - Gini Index	Source: World Happiness Report 2024

1. The Human Development Index calculates an average across three basic dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, knowledge, and a decent standard of living.
2. The Gini Index measures how equal or unequal a society is by looking at the distribution of income across the population. The lower the score, the more equal a society is.
3. The Happiness Index uses a global survey in which people self-evaluate their level of general happiness and assess their feelings of positive and negative emotions.

## Activity Sheet 4.3 - Universal Declaration of Human Rights: a selection

### **ARTICLE 3:**

**Everyone has the right to life (and to live in freedom and safety).**

### **ARTICLE 4:**

**Everyone has the right to be free from slavery.**

### **ARTICLE 5:**

**Everyone has the right to be free from torture.**

### **ARTICLE 13:**

**Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and to be free to leave and return to their own country.**

### **ARTICLE 22:**

**Everyone has the right to social security.**

### **ARTICLE 23:**

**Everyone has the right to work, to equal pay, to protection against unemployment and the right to form and join trade unions.**

### **ARTICLE 25:**

**Everyone has the right to a decent standard of living, including food, clothing, housing, medical care and social services.**

### **ARTICLE 27:**

**Everyone has the right to participate in and enjoy culture, art and science.**

### **ARTICLE 28:**

**Everyone has the right to a social and international order where the rights in this Declaration can be fully realized.**

### **ARTICLE 30:**

**Nobody can take away these rights and freedoms from us.**



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