

Cartoons for the Classroom

Presented by NIEonline.com and the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists (AAEC)



Courtesy David Parkins / The Guardian

So, are these the end times?

Talking points

1. When David Parkins drew this cartoon for the *Guardian* (London) in 2007, a number of the problems the world faced were different. How would you change the labels on the attacking horsemen to reflect the threats we face in today's world? Which labels would stay the same?
2. There are some interesting details to discover in Parkins drawing. Death's horse is a skeleton, Global Warming's horse is burning up, War's horse wears armor, and Disease's horse . . . uh, that's actually a cow. Why a cow? Look up Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy and see how it affected Britain by 2007.
3. Are the land masses on the globe familiar to you? Why did Parkins choose to feature that side of the globe in this drawing?

Between the lines

The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse are described in the book of Revelation, the last book in the Christian bible. The four are traditionally known as Conquest, War, Famine and Death. only Death, however, is actually named in the Bible.

Additional resources

Association of American Editorial Cartoonists
<http://editorialcartoonists.com/>

More cartoons by David Parkins: http://www.canadiancartoonists.com/cartoonist_parkins.html