

LESSON: Searching for Meaning through Jigsaw Discussions

GRADE: 3

OBJECTIVES:

Civic Literacy

SS.3-5.PSCI.1 Understand the rights and responsibilities of each citizen and demonstrate the value of lifelong civic action.

- Understand why civic responsibility is important and know examples of civic responsibility, (such as good land stewardship).
- Understand opportunities for leadership and public service in the student's own classroom, school, community, state, and the nation.

MATERIALS & RESOURCES:

- Books:
 - If You Find a Rock, Christian
 - A Seed is Sleepy by Hutts Aston
 - Compost! Growing Gardens from Your Garbage, Glaser
 - The Good Garden, Milway
 - The Pumpkin Circle by Levenson
 - Definition of “environment” on board or flipchart

PRESENTATION:

Review the definition for “Environment – the area in which we exist or live”, with the students. Show students the books they will be reading. Explain that each book has a message for us about nature and our environment.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Divide the class into 5 groups, assigning one book to each.
2. Give groups some time to read the books.
3. Explain that we'll be playing a game called "jigsaw" to share what we've learned from our book with the other groups.
4. Have one student from each group move to a new group, (i.e. one from group 1 goes to group 2; one from group 2 goes to group 3, etc.)
5. Now the new person in each group shares what his or her group read.
6. Allow time for discussion about the theme of each book.
7. Continue rotating until each group has heard about all 5 books.
8. As a follow-up, the teacher can write a few ideas from students on what they've learned next to the name of each book.

TIME:**60-80 min****PROCESSING THROUGH THE SIX PILLARS:****WHAT:**

- What was the message each book had about the environment?

SO WHAT:

- Do we have rules at school, which help make the environment a better place?
- Do we have rules in nature, which make our outdoor environment a better place?
- Who makes the rules?
- Who follows the rules?

NOW WHAT:

- What could happen to our environment if someone does not follow the rules?
- Can you think of ways in which our City government keeps the community clean and beautiful?