

**LESSON: The Lorax**

**GRADE: 5**

**OBJECTIVES:**

**Behavioral Sciences-**

**SS.3-5.BS.2 Understand the influences on individual and group behavior and group decision-making.**

- Understand that people involved in a dispute often have different points of view.
- Understand that communicating different points of view in a dispute can often help people to find a satisfactory compromise.

**MATERIALS & RESOURCES:**

- *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss
- Access to the Lorax Project website--  
<http://www.seussville.com/loraxproject/> and  
[http://www.seussville.com/activities/LORAX\\_WhatCanYourClassDo\\_0.pdf](http://www.seussville.com/activities/LORAX_WhatCanYourClassDo_0.pdf)

**PRESENTATION:**

Discuss with students the responsibility of communities to protect natural environments and the potential consequences of not doing so. By making your community aware of the effect each person has on the environment, you can help protect the Earth. Make a public pledge to be Earth-friendly.

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. Read *The Lorax* as a class. Discuss the book by relating it to any current or historic events that students would be familiar with.
  - What/who was the cause of this? Who did it effect? How could this have been avoided?
  - What would you do if this happened where you lived? What could you have done to stop the trees from disappearing?
  - What is the conflict or dispute in *The Lorax*? What are the differing viewpoints? Does the conflict get resolved? If so, was the resolution satisfactory in your opinion?
  - Additional discussion questions from The Lorax Project are available:  
[http://www.seussville.com/Educators/lorax\\_classroom/educatorlorax\\_discuss.php](http://www.seussville.com/Educators/lorax_classroom/educatorlorax_discuss.php)

2. Write a letter to members of your community. Let them know how one person's actions against the environment can impact the community as a whole. Challenge your community to take an environmental pledge. Include in your letter what your environmental pledge to be more Earth-friendly is. Submit this letter to your local paper and share with friends and family members.

**TIME:**

**30- 60 min**