

LESSON: Searching for Meaning through Jigsaw Discussions **Grade Level: 1****OBJECTIVES:**

Students will:

- Read environmental books for meaning
- Understand the importance of caring for the environment
- Communicate what was read by others in a jigsaw style format
- Draw conclusions about knowledge they've gained

MATERIALS:

Books: *The Salamander Room* by Mazer, *The Butterfly Boy* by Yep, *Roxaboxen* by McLerran, *A Fairy Went A-Marketing* by Fyleman, *The Star Maiden* by Esbensen, definition of environment on board or flip chart

PRESENTATION:

Introduce the definition of “environment—the area in which we exist or live” to students. Show students the books they will be reading. Explain that each book has a message for us about our responsibility to nature and the environment.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Divide the class into 5 groups, assigning one book to each.
2. Give groups 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 student from group 1 goes to group 2; one student from group 2 goes to group 3, etc.)
5. Once the switch is complete, the “new student” in each group shares what his or her group read.
6. Allow time for the groups to discuss what the message was about nature and the environment.
7. Continue rotating until each group has heard about all five books.
8. As a follow-up, teacher can write a few ideas from students on what they've learned next to the name of each book.

TIME: 60-80 minutes

PROCESSING THROUGH THE SIX PILLARS

Lesson: Searching through Meaning through Jig Saw Discussions

WHAT:

- Environment is defined as an area in which we exist or live. How would you describe your school 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?