

LESSON: Searching for Meaning through Jigsaw Discussions **Grade Level:** K

OBJECTIVES:

Students will:

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

MATERIALS:

Books: Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed by Pearson, When I was Young in the Mountains by Rylant, The Cat in the Hat by Seuss, Just Enough and Not Too Much by Zemach, The Wartville Wizard by Madden, definition of environment on board or flip chart and 4 additional readers besides teacher to read to groups

PRESENTATION:

Introduce the definition of "Environment—the area in which we exist or live". Show students the books that will be read to them. Explain that each book has a message for us about our responsibility to others and our environment.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Divide the class into 5 groups, assigning a book and a reader to each.
2. Allow the kids and readers time to read the books, and share what they learned.
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 1 student from each group move to a new group, (i.e. 1 from group 1 goes to group 2; one from group 2 moves to group 3, etc.)
5. Once the switch is complete, the "new one" in each group shares what his or her group read.
6. Allow time for the groups to discuss what the message was about, and how we can help others and our environment.
7. Continue rotating until each group has heard about all 5 books.
8. As a follow-up, next to the name of each book, the teacher can write a few ideas from students about what they've learned.

TIME: 60-80 minutes

PROCESSING THROUGH THE SIX PILLARS:

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WHAT:

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

SO WHAT:

- Do we have rules in place to follow to make our school environment a better place?
- Do we have rules in nature that 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?