



Engaging Students in Contemporary Issues and Civic Action Through Art

Environment: Balances and Decisions

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Through this lesson, students will meet the following learning objectives:

- Think critically about issues affecting their natural environment. Issues explored in the past include recycling, water pollution and deforestation
- Explore how they can be responsible consumers, focusing on how their personal behaviors and environmental decision-making affect the environment
- Use art to express their opinions and perspectives on environmental issues
- Explore opportunities to make a difference in addressing these environmental issues

youTHink lessons are aligned with California's Social Studies, Language Arts and Visual Arts standards.



Art Project Base: Recycled Paper Bag

This lesson is recommended as an introductory lesson, and is appropriate for students in grades 3 to 12.



Sample Student Art Project

THE YOUTHINK APPROACH

youTHink applies a critical pedagogy model that allows students to name, reflect and act on the major social issues confronting them.

Discussion: Students share their perspectives on environmental issues by interpreting works of social commentary art.

Art project: Students create their own art project expressing their opinions on an issue they have chosen.

Presentation: Students teach each other about their chosen environmental issues by presenting their art projects to the rest of the class.

Action Project: Students make a difference by identifying a hands-on community service activity with which they can become involved. Past community service has been done with Heal the Bay and TreePeople.