

Title: Rules for a Healthy Environment

Content Area:  
Social Studies

NC SCOS or Common Core Objective(s):

5.G.1.2

Explain the positive and negative effects of human activity on the physical environment of the United States, past and present.

The student will understand:

Human activity can modify the physical environment. Humans are capable of improving and/or exploiting their physical environment.

The student will learn about historical examples of positive and negative effects of human activity on the United States. For example, in 2010, a BP oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico exploded. Millions of gallons of oil gushed into the water for months. Animal habitats were destroyed, water quality was affected, and fishing grounds were devastated. As a result of human error and excessive risk, the physical environment was negatively impacted.

Note: In this objective, it is acceptable to use modern day examples along with those that fit within the time frame of the course.

Rationale/Relationship to Text:

There are a lot of references to nature in the the book (fish, guinea pigs, the lake, gardening).

Instructions/Procedures:

Students will research a human created natural disaster and write the rules (laws) that have derived because of the disaster. Students will create a presentation of their choice to share with the class their findings.

Requirements for the presentation:

Include background information on disaster, laws that were broken, and new "rules" or laws that were created to help protect the environment and people from similar disasters.

Materials: Presentation software, computers, internet, <http://www.safesearchkids.com/> search engine for kids

References:

Lord, C. (2006). *Rules*. New York: Scholastic

