Students Teaching Students about Environmental Justice

In step 10, the students teach their peers about ecological footprints, recycling, oil spills, consumer awareness, and other issues. Some advance preparation will help the students to prepare to teach one another in only one or two class periods. You will need to locate simple lesson plans for them to use and the supplies needed to teach those lessons. This handout offers suggestions to make your preparation easier.

Possible Environmental Justice Lesson Plans

The following is a list of lesson plans you can find online that are easy for students to use as they prepare to teach their peers about environmental justice:

“When the Chips Are Down” (Beyond Recycling Web site)

“Now Hear This” (Beyond Recycling Web site)

“I Buy Different” (Beyond Recycling Web site)

“Fishing for the Future” (PBS Web site)

Bottled Water Taste Test (available from a variety of Web sites)

Effects of Pollution (available from a variety of Web sites)

Gulf Oil Spill Demonstration (available from a variety of Web sites)

Lesson Plan Supplies

The following are some of the uncommon items you will need to gather so that the students can teach the first five lessons listed above. Please add the supplies needed for the final two lesson plans, once you have selected the ones you will use.

red, white, and blue poker chips

one large bag or box of marbles

one aluminum can or container

several sheets of newsprint and markers

seven small bowls, one for each small group

plastic spoons, one for each student

small cups, one for each student

one large bag of plain M&Ms and one large bag of peanut M&Ms

two blindfolds

five bottles of water, each a different brand

ten small, clear cups

one black permanent marker