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College Preparation – Reading III - REA0003
Locating and evaluating information regarding environmental sustainability

The following lesson plan is designed to help give students in my REA0003, College Prep Reading III, class insights into how they can learning specific reading/ thinking skills while learning about environmental sustainability, natural systems and the human impact on those systems.

Lesson Objectives: To locate and evaluate information regarding environmental sustainability,
To apply critical thinking about the topic, and
To distinguish between facts and opinions.

Procedure:

1. Current articles would be brought to class regarding environmental issues (recycling, BP spill, etc.)
2. Students would read and discuss the articles, selecting statements of fact and opinion within them.
3. Some questions would be posed for students to investigate. Some examples could include:
What are the benefits of recycling?
How has the use of fossil fuels affected our planet?
What effect does diet have on the planet? (vegetarianism versus meat-eating)
4. Reference librarians on my campus would be asked to provide an instructional session showing my REA0003 students how to locate information via databases that are available through the library's website. Students would be directed to look at some recommended sites, including EELink (Environmental Information on the Internet) and CIESIN (Center for International Earth Science Information Network), and the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Assessment: Students would be directed to investigate one of the questions suggested during

the class discussions. They would be assigned to locate five articles relating to their selected questions. They would cite their sources and provide a paragraph summary of each article and also list fact and opinion statements from each article.

Finally, students must express their own views about the questions which they have researched, supporting their ideas with facts discovered from their investigation of the topic.

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