

Template for Lesson Plans
Classroom Activities
Ethics Curriculum Project Modules

Activity # 3, Environmental Ethics and Higher Law Chapters: Should Walden Woods be Saved?
Module Name: <i>Walden</i> : A Case Study in Virtue and Environmental Ethics
Class type: ESOL ESE Regular Gifted Honors Inclusion All
<p>Objectives for activity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will understand the concept of virtue ethics. 2. Students will understand environmental ethics. 3. Students will be able to discuss <i>Walden</i> as a text which questions and explores personal ethics, the good life, and our relation to the environment.
<p>Materials Needed (texts, props, special supplies)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a copy of relevant selections of <i>Walden</i> for each student 2. computer for Internet access 3. paper and pen or computer for writing assignment
<p>Procedures for Teachers-<i>What You Need to Know/Do</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read and review the Environmental Ethics and Higher Law chapters from <i>Walden</i> 2. Review the material on the Environmental Ethics and Higher Law chapters from <i>Walden</i> in the Background for Teachers included in the main module. 3. Lead a discussion on these two chapters with the students. 4. Visit some of the websites listed in Activity #3 in the main module that describe the history of the fight to save Walden Pond and Walden Woods from development. 5. Briefly summarize this conflict for students. 6. Have students write a position paper on whether Walden Woods should be preserved.
<p>Activity Type -Discussion Questions, Compositions, Small Group, etc.-<i>What Students Need to Do</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Classroom discussion. 2. Online research 3. Completion of writing assignment.
<p>Assessment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Student completion of the Environmental Ethics and Higher Law chapters from <i>Walden</i> 2. Evaluation of student participation in classroom discussion. 3. Evaluation of student writing project.