**Citizenship (Grade 11)**

Learning Target: I can support arguments for issues concerning the environment.

**Activity I: Environmental Issues Debate**

* Ask students to pick a topic (or ask for hands “for” and “against” each topic to see which topic will have a good balance on each side)
* Ask students to divide themselves based on their opinion/beliefs for that particular topic.
* Set rules for group work and debate.
* Have each group work to comprise a list of arguments and facts to support those arguments.
* Have each group speak for 2-3 minutes.

Sample Topics:

* Using products that are disposable (add to landfills) v. using products that are washable (waste/soil water through cleaning).
  + Example subtopics:
    - Using reusable/washable diapers v. disposable diapers,
    - Using paper plates and plastic silverware v. using washable plates and silverware
* Burning gas v. burning coal
  + Air pollution caused by coal mining
  + Coal-fired boilers give off calcium oxide, which combines with water to make a strong base
  + Causes an increase in carbon dioxide in the atmosphere

<http://www.phyast.pitt.edu/~blc/book/chapter3.html>