<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6</th>
<th>Reading Standards for Literature</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CATEGORY / CLUSTER</td>
<td>Key Ideas and Details</td>
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<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.1</td>
<td>Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. <strong>Word Power</strong> Words have enormous power and often assign value. This activity explores sample words in context and what kinds of value those words imply.</td>
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<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.2</td>
<td>Determine a theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments. <strong>Word Power</strong> Words have enormous power and often assign value. This activity explores sample words in context and what kinds of value those words imply.</td>
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<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.4</td>
<td>Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone. <strong>Word Power</strong> Words have enormous power and often assign value. This activity explores sample words in context and what kinds of value those words imply.</td>
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<td>Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity</td>
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<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.10</td>
<td>By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range. <strong>Word Power</strong> Words have enormous power and often assign value. This activity explores sample words in context and what kinds of value those words imply.</td>
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<td>STANDARD</td>
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<td>Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. <strong>Amazing Nature</strong> This activity uses hands-on examples and curiously-inspiring facts to spark wonder about the natural world. <strong>Analyzing Advertising</strong> Students learn to be ad-savvy by exploring the pervasiveness of ads in their lives and by analyzing what ads are trying to sell...and trying to hide. <strong>Be a C.R.I.T.I.C.</strong> Students learn to use the C.R.I.T.I.C. technique to help them bring critical thinking skills to any information they receive, whether from industry, non-profits, government, or media. <strong>Behind the Scenes</strong> Participants explore the hidden lives of their everyday stuff by investigating how ordinary products come into existence &amp; who/what has been helped or harmed in the creation &amp; distribution of that product. <strong>Cast Your Vote</strong></td>
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Students learn about the “hidden ingredients” in every day products and practice voting their values by “buying” different kinds of items.

Choice Cards
Participants consider pairs of related behaviors and products and contemplate which choices do more good and less harm.

Clothing Line Up
We make choices every day about what we wear, but how often do we pay attention to the impact of our clothing choices on others? Students explore more and less harmful clothing options from the perspectives of the animals, other people, and the environment.

Do You Want Slavery With That?
Modern slavery is ubiquitous. Students learn about slavery today through personal stories and consider what action they can take to help.

Local Treasures
Reawaken wonder about the natural world and teach students about the environment in which they live by sending them on a treasure hunt!

Natural Treasures
Help students get in touch with their sense of wonder for the natural world while developing their observation, map-reading, and teamwork skills.

What Makes a Human Being?
What are the most desirable and undesirable qualities of humans? Use sample stories and pictures to help students identify our best (and worst) qualities and how we can encourage humane qualities in ourselves and others.

What is a Humane Life?
What's a typical Saturday look like in the life of someone striving to live a more humane life? Participants follow a “humane presenter” or a “humane wannabe” through a reenactment of their day to learn about the whats and whys of making humane choices every day.

Whom Do You Pet & Whom Do You Eat?
Lead students in an activity which explores why we treat different types of animals differently, and how we can learn to view them with different eyes.

STANDARD  CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.2
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<td><strong>Analyse in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text (e.g., through examples or anecdotes).</strong></td>
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**STRAND / DOMAIN** | **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6** | **Reading Standards for Informational Text**
---|---|---
**CATEGORY / CLUSTER** | **Craft and Structure**
**STANDARD** | **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.4** | **Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings**

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**Circle of Compassion**
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**Do You Want Slavery With That?**
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**Ethical Dilemmas**
Help students think deeply and critically about the ethical quandaries between balancing personal desires and kindness toward others by engaging them in discussing personal and global ethical issues.

**Free at Last?**
Use visuals of everyday things around us to introduce and explore the concepts of freedom and oppression.

**One Makes the Difference**
Every person has the power to create positive change. Students explore the power of one and the values that help create a better world.

**The Gist of You**
Just as businesses and non-profits have their own taglines to help identify them and serve as a touchstone for their goals & intentions, so people can have their own taglines to help guide us & reflect our own aspirations. In this activity, participants create their own taglines.

**What Does a Humane World Look Like?**
Have students create their vision of a humane world and compare it to the world we live in now. What are the differences, and how can we make the world “as it is” become the humane world envisioned?

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<td>Analyze how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the ideas.</td>
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<td>Integration of Knowledge and Ideas</td>
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<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.7</td>
<td>Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.</td>
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<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.1</td>
<td>Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.</td>
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<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.1a</td>
<td>Introduce claim(s) and organize the reasons and evidence clearly.</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.1b</td>
<td>Support claim(s) with clear reasons and relevant evidence, using credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.</td>
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<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.1c</td>
<td>Use words, phrases, and clauses to clarify the relationships among claim(s) and reasons.</td>
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<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.1d</td>
<td>Establish and maintain a formal style.</td>
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<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.1e</td>
<td>Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the argument presented.</td>
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<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.2</td>
<td>Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.2b</td>
<td>Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.</td>
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**Behind the Scenes**
Participants explore the hidden lives of their everyday stuff by investigating how ordinary products come into existence & who/what has been helped or harmed in the creation & distribution of that product.

**Circle of Compassion**
This activity can serve as an excellent springboard for exploring compassion and introducing important social change issues to students.

**Don't Tread On Me: Exploring Oppression**
This activity helps students think critically about what oppression is and who gets oppressed, and invites them to consider ways they can promote justice and equality.

**Heroes &amp; Enemies**
We're often told to look for heroes we can turn to for inspiration. How often do we seek out what we can learn from people we dislike, or those who've done evil? This activity explores what we can learn from both our heroes and enemies (what to do and what NOT to do).

**Leave Only Footprints**
Everyone has an ecological footprint. Participants use paper footprints to simulate the impact of their choices on the earth. Extension activities allow students to explore their ecological footprints and what choices can be made to reduce them.

**One Person Can Change the World**
Empower students by using stories and activities to show them that one person can make a positive difference.

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Lend a Hand
It comes naturally to most of us to help out when needed. This icebreaker sparks discussion about the importance of helping others, and how easy it can be to make helping part of our everyday lives.

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<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.3</td>
<td>Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.3d</td>
<td>Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to convey experiences and events.</td>
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**Natural Treasures**
Help students get in touch with their sense of wonder for the natural world while developing their observation, map-reading, and teamwork skills.

**Scavenger Hunt**
Help participants rediscover the wonder of the natural world by taking them on an outdoor scavenger hunt for which they’ll record their finds, rather than “taking” anything.

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<td>Production and Distribution of Writing</td>
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<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.4</td>
<td>Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)</td>
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What Will You Say?
At the end of your very long life, a child asks you what you did to help make the world so much better. Guide students through this visualization to help them get in touch with their power to make positive change.

STANDARD | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.5
---|---
With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

Behind the Scenes
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STANDARD | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6
---|---
Writing Standards

STANDARD | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.7
---|---
Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate.

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Choice Cards
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How’d That Get on my Plate?
This activity encourages participants to explore how sample ingredients in our food might affect the environment, people, and animals, and what humane alternatives might exist.

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Scavenger Hunt
Help participants rediscover the wonder of the natural world by taking them on an outdoor scavenger hunt for which they’ll record their finds, rather than “taking” anything.

Whale’s Stomach
Students learn about the impact of our “throwaway society” by exploring all the different kinds of trash found in a whale’s stomach.

Whom Do You Pet & Whom Do You Eat?
Lead students in an activity which explores why we treat different types of animals differently, and how we can learn to view them with different eyes.

STANDARD | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.8
---|---
Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources; assess the credibility of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and providing basic bibliographic information for sources.

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### STRAND / DOMAIN
**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6**
Writing Standards

### CATEGORY / CLUSTER
Research to Build and Present Knowledge

### STANDARD
**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.9**
Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

### EXPECTATION
**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.9a**
Apply grade 6 reading standards to literature (e.g., “Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres [e.g., stories and poems; historical novels and fantasy stories] in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics”).

**Word Power**
Words have enormous power and often assign value. This activity explores sample words in context and what kinds of value those words imply.

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### STRAND / DOMAIN
**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6**
Writing Standards

### CATEGORY / CLUSTER
Range of Writing

### STANDARD
**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.10**
Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

**Scavenger Hunt**
Help participants rediscover the wonder of the natural world by taking them on an outdoor scavenger hunt for which they’ll record their finds, rather than “taking” anything.

### STRAND / DOMAIN
**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.6**
Speaking and Listening Standards

### CATEGORY / CLUSTER
Comprehension and Collaboration

### STANDARD
**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.6.1**
Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 6 topics, texts, and issues, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.

### EXPECTATION
**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.6.1a**
Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.

**A Moment in Your Shoes**
How will students feel spending a moment in the shoes of a battery hen or a child slave? Use this lively and thought-provoking activity to introduce human and animal issues and the connections between them.

**Alien in the Ethical Universe**
An alien on a fact-finding mission to learn how beings treat other beings on Earth inspires students to consider the inconsistencies in how our society encourages us to treat others.

**Amazing Nature**
This activity uses hands-on examples and curiously-inspiring facts to spark wonder about the natural world.

**Analyzing Advertising**
Students learn to be ad-savvy by exploring the pervasiveness of ads in their lives and by analyzing what ads are trying to sell...and trying to hide.

**Be a C.R.I.T.I.C.**
Students learn to use the C.R.I.T.I.C. technique to help them bring critical thinking skills to any information they receive, whether from industry, non-profits, government, or media.

**Behind the Scenes**
Participants explore the hidden lives of their everyday stuff by investigating how ordinary products come into existence & who/what has been helped or harmed in the creation & distribution of that product.

**Cast Your Vote**
Students learn about the “hidden ingredients” in every day products and practice voting their values by “buying” different kinds of items.

**Choice Cards**
Participants consider pairs of related behaviors and products and contemplate which choices do more good and less harm.

**Circle of Compassion**
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**Clothing Line Up**
We make choices every day about what we wear, but how often do we pay attention to the impact of our clothing choices on others? Students explore more and less harmful clothing options from the perspectives of the animals, other people, and the environment.

**Do You Want Slavery With That?**
Modern slavery is ubiquitous. Students learn about slavery today through personal stories and consider what action they can take to help.

**Don't Tread On Me: Exploring Oppression**
This activity helps students think critically about what oppression is and who gets oppressed, and invites them to consider ways they can promote justice and equality.

**Ethical Dilemmas**
Help students think deeply and critically about the ethical quandaries between balancing personal desires and kindness toward others by engaging them in discussing personal and global ethical issues.

**Find Your Tree**
Participants get in touch with their senses and nature by finding “their” tree using senses other than sight.

**Free at Last?**
Use visuals of everyday things around us to introduce and explore the concepts of freedom and oppression.

**Heroes &amp; Enemies**
We’re often told to look for heroes we can turn to for inspiration. How often do we seek out what we can learn from people we dislike, or those who’ve done evil? This activity explores what we can learn from both our heroes and enemies (what to do and what NOT to do).

**How'd That Get on my Plate?**
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**Human Picture**
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**Judge Not, Lest Ye Be Judged**
How do our own stereotypes and judgments limit our openness and receptivity to others? This activity uses props (or photos) to explore our snap perceptions of others.

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Everyone has an ecological footprint. Participants use paper footprints to simulate the impact of their choices on the earth. Extension activities allow students to explore their ecological footprints and what choices can be made to reduce them.

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Reawaken wonder about the natural world and teach students about the environment in which they live by sending them on a treasure hunt!

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Lead students in an activity which explores why we treat different types of animals differently, and how we can learn to view them with different eyes.

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**EXPECTATION**

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.6.1b**
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Pose and respond to specific questions with elaboration and detail by making comments that contribute to the topic, text, or issue under discussion.

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What are the most desirable and undesirable qualities of humans? Use sample stories and pictures to help students identify our best (and worst) qualities and how we can encourage humane qualities in ourselves and others.

**What is a Humane Life?**
What’s a typical Saturday look like in the life of someone striving to live a more
What's in a Name?
Help students examine our myths about and prejudices against animals, to explore why they exist, and to consider what we might want to change about our relationships with them.

Which Harms Less?
Great for a larger assembly, this activity asks students to compare pairs of similar products to consider which of the two helps more and harms less.

Whom Do You Pet & Whom Do You Eat?
Lead students in an activity which explores why we treat different types of animals differently, and how we can learn to view them with different eyes.

Why Are We Here?
What is our purpose here on Earth? What can we do about the problems of the world? The activity uses two short films and discussion to help students explore these important issues.

Wonder Walk
Participants take turns leading each other on a silent Wonder Walk to discover the natural world with their 5 senses.

Word Power
Words have enormous power and often assign value. This activity explores sample words in context and what kinds of value those words imply.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRAND / DOMAIN</th>
<th>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6</th>
<th>Vocabulary Acquisition and Use</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CATEGORY / CLUSTER</td>
<td></td>
<td>Language Standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.4</td>
<td>Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 6 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.4a</td>
<td>Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word’s position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.</td>
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Amazing Nature
This activity uses hands-on examples and curiously-inspiring facts to spark wonder about the natural world.

Analyzing Advertising
Students learn to be ad-savvy by exploring the pervasiveness of ads in their lives and by analyzing what ads are trying to sell...and trying to hide.

Be a C.R.I.T.I.C.
Students learn to use the C.R.I.T.I.C. technique to help them bring critical thinking skills to any information they receive, whether from industry, non-profits, government, or media.

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Participants explore the hidden lives of their everyday stuff by investigating how ordinary products come into existence & who/what has been helped or harmed in the creation & distribution of that product.

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Students learn about the “hidden ingredients” in every day products and practice voting their values by “buying” different kinds of items.

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Clothing Line Up
We make choices every day about what we wear, but how often do we pay attention to the impact of our clothing choices on others? Students explore more and less harmful clothing options from the perspectives of the animals, other people, and the environment.

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Modern slavery is ubiquitous. Students learn about slavery today through personal stories and consider what action they can take to help.

Local Treasures
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<th>CRITERION</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EXCEPTION</strong></td>
<td>Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).</td>
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<tr>
<th>STANDARD</th>
<th>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DEMONSTRATE UNDERSTANDING OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE, WORD RELATIONSHIPS, AND NUANCES IN WORD MEANINGS.</strong></td>
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<th>EXPECTATION</th>
<th>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.5b</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>USE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARTICULAR WORDS (E.G., CAUSE/EFFECT, PART/WHOLE, ITEM/CATEGORY) TO BETTER UNDERSTAND EACH OF THE WORDS.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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**Don’t Tread On Me: Exploring Oppression**

This activity helps students think critically about what oppression is and who gets oppressed, and invites them to consider ways they can promote justice and equality.

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What are the most desirable and undesirable qualities of humans? Use sample stories and pictures to help students identify our best (and worst) qualities and
how we can encourage humane qualities in ourselves and others. **Whom Do You Pet & Whom Do You Eat?**

Lead students in an activity which explores why we treat different types of animals differently, and how we can learn to view them with different eyes.

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<tr>
<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>Distinguish among the connotations (associations) of words with similar denotations (definitions) (e.g., stingy, scrimping, economical, unwasteful, thrifty).</td>
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**Word Power**

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<tr>
<td>Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.</td>
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**Choice Cards**

Participants consider pairs of related behaviors and products and contemplate which choices do more good and less harm.

**Circle of Compassion**

This activity can serve as an excellent springboard for exploring compassion and introducing important social change issues to students.

**Do You Want Slavery With That?**

Modern slavery is ubiquitous. Students learn about slavery today through personal stories and consider what action they can take to help.

**Ethical Dilemmas**

Help students think deeply and critically about the ethical quandaries between balancing personal desires and kindness toward others by engaging them in discussing personal and global ethical issues.

**Free at Last?**

Use visuals of everyday things around us to introduce and explore the concepts of freedom and oppression.

**One Makes the Difference**

Every person has the power to create positive change. Students explore the power of one and the values that help create a better world.

**The Gist of You**

Just as businesses and non-profits have their own taglines to help identify them and serve as a touchstone for their goals & intentions, so people can have their own taglines to help guide us & reflect our own aspirations. In this activity, participants create their own taglines.

**What Does a Humane World Look Like?**

Have students create their vision of a humane world and compare it to the world we live in now. What are the differences, and how can we make the world “as it is” become the humane world envisioned?

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What's a typical Saturday look like in the life of someone striving to live a more humane life? Participants follow a “humane presenter” or a “humane wannabe” through a reenactment of their day to learn about the whats and whys of making humane choices every day.

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**Common Core State Standards**

**Language Arts**

**Grade 7 - Adopted 2010**

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<tr>
<th>STRAND / DOMAIN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CATEGORY / CLUSTER</td>
<td>Key Ideas and Details</td>
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<tr>
<th>STANDARD</th>
<th>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.1</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.</td>
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**Spaceship Earth**

Our fossil fuels are gone! How will we survive and thrive without them? Students explore two scenarios and develop plans of action for living successfully and sustainably.

**Word Power**

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<th>STANDARD</th>
<th>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.2</th>
<th>Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.</th>
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<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.4</td>
<td>Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of rhymes and other repetitions of sounds (e.g., alliteration) on a specific verse or stanza of a poem or section of a story or drama.</td>
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<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.9</td>
<td>Compare and contrast a fictional portrayal of a time, place, or character and a historical account of the same period as a means of understanding how authors of fiction use or alter history.</td>
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<td><strong>Picturing Oppression</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Use images from magazines and other sources to spark students to consider the ways oppression, exploitation, and dominance of people and nonhuman animals are still prevalent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.10</td>
<td>By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.</td>
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<td>Participants explore the hidden lives of their everyday stuff by investigating how ordinary products come into existence &amp; who/what has been helped or harmed in the creation &amp; distribution of that product.</td>
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**STRAND / DOMAIN**

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7**

**READING STANDARDS FOR LITERATURE**

**CATEGORY / CLUSTER**

**Craft and Structure**

**Integration of Knowledge and Ideas**

**Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity**

**Key Ideas and Details**
Participants consider pairs of related behaviors and products and contemplate which choices do more good and less harm.

**Clothing Line Up**
We make choices every day about what we wear, but how often do we pay attention to the impact of our clothing choices on others? Students explore more and less harmful clothing options from the perspectives of the animals, other people, and the environment.

**Do You Want Slavery With That?**
Modern slavery is ubiquitous. Students learn about slavery today through personal stories and consider what action they can take to help.

**Local Treasures**
Reawaken wonder about the natural world and teach students about the environment in which they live by sending them on a treasure hunt!

**Natural Treasures**
Help students get in touch with their sense of wonder for the natural world while developing their observation, map-reading, and teamwork skills.

**The Third Side: Beyond Either/or Thinking**
Many people view the world through a lens of black and white, either/or. In this activity groups of students work together to explore a variety of possible solutions to a global issues conflict.

**What is a Humane Life?**
What’s a typical Saturday look like in the life of someone striving to live a more humane life? Participants follow a “humane presenter” or a “humane wannabe” through a reenactment of their day to learn about the whats and whys of making humane choices every day.

**Whom Do You Pet & Whom Do You Eat?**
Lead students in an activity which explores why we treat different types of animals differently, and how we can learn to view them with different eyes.

**STANDARD** | **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.7.2**
---|---
Determine two or more central ideas in a text and analyze their development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.

**Analyzing Advertising**
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---|---
Analyze the interactions between individuals, events, and ideas in a text (e.g., how ideas influence individuals or events, or how individuals influence ideas or events).
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<td>The Dreaded Comparison</td>
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<td>Participants explore the connections between human and animal oppression and ways that we can choose not to oppress others.</td>
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<td>The Gist of You</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.1</td>
<td>Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.1a</td>
<td>Introduce claim(s), acknowledge alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.1b</td>
<td>Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.1c</td>
<td>Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), reasons, and evidence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.1d</td>
<td>Establish and maintain a formal style.</td>
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<td>Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.</td>
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<th>Writing Standards</th>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANDARD</td>
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<td>Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.</td>
</tr>
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<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.2b</td>
<td>Develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.</td>
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**Do You Want Slavery With That?**

Modern slavery is ubiquitous. Students learn about slavery today through personal stories and consider what action they can take to help.

| EXPECTATION | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.1b | Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text. |
| EXPECTATION | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.1c | Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), reasons, and evidence. |

**Do You Want Slavery With That?**

Modern slavery is ubiquitous. Students learn about slavery today through personal stories and consider what action they can take to help.

| EXPECTATION | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.1d | Establish and maintain a formal style. |
| EXPECTATION | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.1e | Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented. |

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**Behind the Scenes**

Participants explore the hidden lives of their everyday stuff by investigating how ordinary products come into existence & who/what has been helped or harmed in the creation & distribution of that product.

**Circle of Compassion**

This activity can serve as an excellent springboard for exploring compassion and introducing important social change issues to students.

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**Leave Only Footprints**

Everyone has an ecological footprint. Participants use paper footprints to
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**One Person Can Change the World**
Empower students by using stories and activities to show them that one person can make a positive difference.

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<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>EXPECTATION</td>
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Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events.

**Natural Treasures**
Help students get in touch with their sense of wonder for the natural world while developing their observation, map-reading, and teamwork skills.

**Scavenger Hunt**
Help participants rediscover the wonder of the natural world by taking them on an outdoor scavenger hunt for which they’ll record their finds, rather than “taking” anything.

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<tr>
<td>STANDARD</td>
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Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)

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With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.

**Behind the Scenes**
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Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions for further research and investigation.

**Behind the Scenes**
Participants explore the hidden lives of their everyday stuff by investigating how ordinary products come into existence & who/what has been helped or harmed in the creation & distribution of that product.

**Choice Cards**
Participants consider pairs of related behaviors and products and contemplate which choices do more good and less harm.

**How'd That Get on my Plate?**
This activity encourages participants to explore how sample ingredients in our food might affect the environment, people, and animals, and what humane alternatives might exist.

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Students learn about the impact of our “throwaway society” by exploring all the different kinds of trash found in a whale’s stomach.

**Whom Do You Pet & Whom Do You Eat?**
Lead students in an activity which explores why we treat different types of animals differently, and how we can learn to view them with different eyes.

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<td><strong>Circle of Compassion</strong></td>
<td>Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.</td>
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<th>STANDARD</th>
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<td><strong>Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>EXPECTATION</th>
<th>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.9.a</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Apply grade 7 reading standards to literature (e.g., ”Compare and contrast a fictional portrayal of a time, place, or character and a historical account of the same period as a means of understanding how authors of fiction use or alter history”).</strong></td>
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<th>STANDARD</th>
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<td><strong>Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of...</strong></td>
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discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

**Scavenger Hunt**  
Help participants rediscover the wonder of the natural world by taking them on an outdoor scavenger hunt for which they’ll record their finds, rather than “taking” anything.

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<td>Comprehension and Collaboration</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.7.1</td>
<td>Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 7 topics, texts, and issues, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.7.1a</td>
<td>Come to discussions prepared, having read or researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.</td>
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**A Moment in Your Shoes**  
How will students feel spending a moment in the shoes of a battery hen or a child slave? Use this lively and thought-provoking activity to introduce human and animal issues and the connections between them.

**Alien in the Ethical Universe**  
An alien on a fact-finding mission to learn how beings treat other beings on Earth inspires students to consider the inconsistencies in how our society encourages us to treat others.

**Analyzing Advertising**  
Students learn to be ad-savvy by exploring the pervasiveness of ads in their lives and by analyzing what ads are trying to sell...and trying to hide.

**Be a C.R.I.T.I.C.**  
Students learn to use the C.R.I.T.I.C. technique to help them bring critical thinking skills to any information they receive, whether from industry, non-profits, government, or media.

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Participants explore the hidden lives of their everyday stuff by investigating how ordinary products come into existence & who/what has been helped or harmed in the creation & distribution of that product.

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Students learn about the “hidden ingredients” in every day products and practice voting their values by “buying” different kinds of items.

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Participants consider pairs of related behaviors and products and contemplate which choices do more good and less harm.

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We make choices every day about what we wear, but how often do we pay attention to the impact of our clothing choices on others? Students explore more and less harmful clothing options from the perspectives of the animals, other people, and the environment.

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This activity helps students think critically about what oppression is and who gets oppressed, and invites them to consider ways they can promote justice and equality.

**Ethical Dilemmas**  
Help students think deeply and critically about the ethical quandaries between balancing personal desires and kindness toward others by engaging them in discussing personal and global ethical issues.

**Find Your Tree**  
Participants get in touch with their senses and nature by finding “their” tree using senses other than sight.

**Free at Last?**  
Use visuals of everyday things around us to introduce and explore the concepts of freedom and oppression.

**Heroes &amp; Enemies**  
We’re often told to look for heroes we can turn to for inspiration. How often do we seek out what we can learn from people we dislike, or those who’ve done evil? This activity explores what we can learn from both our heroes and enemies (what to do and what NOT to do).

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Human Picture
This icebreaker encourages participants to consider the kind of world they want to live in by creating human statues that depict positive and negative emotions.

Judge Not, Lest Ye Be Judged
How do our own stereotypes and judgments limit our openness and receptivity to others? This activity uses props (or photos) to explore our snap perceptions of others.

Leave Only Footprints
Everyone has an ecological footprint. Participants use paper footprints to simulate the impact of their choices on the earth. Extension activities allow students to explore their ecological footprints and what choices can be made to reduce them.

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It comes naturally to most of us to help out when needed. This icebreaker sparks discussion about the importance of helping others, and how easy it can be to make helping part of our everyday lives.

Local Treasures
Reawaken wonder about the natural world and teach students about the environment in which they live by sending them on a treasure hunt!

Lottery Tickets
Use this quick icebreaker to show participants that everyone can make a positive difference!

Natural Treasures
Help students get in touch with their sense of wonder for the natural world while developing their observation, map-reading, and teamwork skills.

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Take participants on an exciting adventure that includes an exploration of the wonders of the night and an examination of the stars, planets, and other astronomical bodies.

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Awaken wonder, enhance memory skills and explore the sense of smell by having students concoct their own special “smell tea” for other students to identify….only by smell!

Spaceship Earth
Our fossil fuels are gone! How will we survive and thrive without them? Students explore two scenarios and develop plans of action for living successfully and sustainably.

The Cool Factor
Help participants think about “cool” in a new way and define their sense of self by exploring what’s cool, who decides what’s cool, and different ways of defining cool.

The Dreaded Comparison
Participants explore the connections between human and animal oppression and ways that we can choose not to oppress others.

The Gist of You
Just as businesses and non-profits have their own taglines to help identify them and serve as a touchstone for their goals & intentions, so people can have their own taglines to help guide us & reflect our own aspirations. In this activity, participants create their own taglines.

The Third Side: Beyond Either/or Thinking
Many people view the world through a lens of black and white, either/or. In this activity groups of students work together to explore a variety of possible solutions to a global issues conflict.

Trash Investigators
What’s in our trash that doesn’t need to be there? Participants investigate a trash source and analyze which items can be removed from the waste stream.

True Price
Students will explore the positive & negative impacts of our product choices on themselves, other people, animals, and the earth.

Two Apples
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Students learn about the impact of our “throwaway society” by exploring all the
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Words have enormous power and often assign value. This activity explores sample words in context and what kinds of value those words imply.

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**EXPECTATION**

| CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.7.1c | Pose questions that elicit elaboration and respond to others' questions and comments with relevant observations and ideas that bring the discussion back on topic as needed. |

A Moment in Your Shoes
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This activity helps students think critically about what oppression is and who
gets oppressed, and invites them to consider ways they can promote justice and equality.

**Ethical Dilemmas**
Help students think deeply and critically about the ethical quandaries between balancing personal desires and kindness toward others by engaging them in discussing personal and global ethical issues.

**Find Your Tree**
Participants get in touch with their senses and nature by finding “their” tree using senses other than sight.

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Use visuals of everyday things around us to introduce and explore the concepts of freedom and oppression.

**Heroes & Enemies**
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**How’d That Get on my Plate?**
This activity encourages participants to explore how sample ingredients in our food might affect the environment, people, and animals, and what humane alternatives might exist.

**Human Picture**
This icebreaker encourages participants to consider the kind of world they want to live in by creating human statues that depict positive and negative emotions.

**Judge Not, Lest Ye Be Judged**
How do our own stereotypes and judgments limit our openness and receptivity to others? This activity uses props (or photos) to explore our snap perceptions of others.

**Leave Only Footprints**
Everyone has an ecological footprint. Participants use paper footprints to simulate the impact of their choices on the earth. Extension activities allow students to explore their ecological footprints and what choices can be made to reduce them.

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Reawaken wonder about the natural world and teach students about the environment in which they live by sending them on a treasure hunt!

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Use this quick icebreaker to show participants that everyone can make a positive difference!

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Take participants on an exciting adventure that includes an exploration of the wonders of the night and an examination of the stars, planets, and other astronomical bodies.

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Every person has the power to create positive change. Students explore the power of one and the values that help create a better world.

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**EXPECTATION**
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.7.1d
Acknowledging new information expressed by others and, when warranted, modify their own views.

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<td>CATEGORY / CLUSTER</td>
<td>Comprehension and Collaboration</td>
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<tr>
<td>STANDARD</td>
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<td>Analyze the main ideas and supporting details presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how the ideas clarify a topic, text, or issue under study.</td>
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**Be a C.R.I.T.I.C.**

Students learn to use the C.R.I.T.I.C. technique to help them bring critical thinking skills to any information they receive, whether from industry, non-profits, government, or media.
| STANDARD | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.7.4 | Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with pertinent descriptions, facts, details, and examples; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.  

**Council of All Beings**  
What does a mountain wish for? A wolf? A cow? A river? Participants “become” a being or part of nature and share the lives, concerns, hopes and wisdoms of their being in a Council.  
**The Third Side: Beyond Either/or Thinking**  
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| STANDARD | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.7.5 | Include multimedia components and visual displays in presentations to clarify claims and findings and emphasize salient points.  

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| STRAND / DOMAIN | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7 | Language Standards |
| CATEGORY / CLUSTER | Conventions of Standard English |
| STANDARD | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.1 | Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. |
| EXPECTATION | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.1a | Explain the function of phrases and clauses in general and their function in specific sentences.  

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Just as businesses and non-profits have their own taglines to help identify them and serve as a touchstone for their goals & intentions, so people can have their own taglines to help guide us & reflect our own aspirations. In this activity, participants create their own taglines. |
| EXPECTATION | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.1c | Place phrases and clauses within a sentence, recognizing and correcting misplaced and dangling modifiers.  

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| CATEGORY / CLUSTER | Knowledge of Language |
| STANDARD | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.3 | Use Knowledge of Language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening. |
| EXPECTATION | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.3a | Choose language that expresses ideas precisely and concisely, recognizing and eliminating wordiness and redundancy.  

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| STRAND / DOMAIN | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7 | Language Standards |
| CATEGORY / CLUSTER | Vocabulary Acquisition and Use |
| STANDARD | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.4 | Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 7 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies. |
| EXPECTATION | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.4a | Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word’s position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.  

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**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.4d**
Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).

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<td>Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.</td>
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<td>EXPECTATION</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.5c</td>
<td>Distinguish among the connotations (associations) of words with similar denotations (definitions) (e.g., refined, respectful, polite, diplomatic, condescending).</td>
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### Common Core State Standards

**Language Arts**

**Grade 8 - Adopted 2010**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CATEGORY / CLUSTER</td>
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<td>Key Ideas and Details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANDARD</td>
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<td>Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.</td>
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| STANDARD              | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.8.2 | Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text. |
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<td><strong>Word Power</strong></td>
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<td>Words have enormous power and often assign value. This activity explores sample words in context and what kinds of value those words imply.</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>STRAND / DOMAIN</th>
<th>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.8</th>
<th>Reading Standards for Literature</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CATEGORY / CLUSTER</td>
<td>Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-</td>
<td>By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories,</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
dramas, and poems, at the high end of grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

**Spaceship Earth**
Our fossil fuels are gone! How will we survive and thrive without them? Students explore two scenarios and develop plans of action for living successfully and sustainably.

**The Aliens Have Landed: Exploring Oppression, Rights & Freedom**
Students explore oppression, rights & freedoms by participating in a scenario in which aliens have invaded Earth and humans must plead their case not to be oppressed to a Universal Court.

**Word Power**
Words have enormous power and often assign value. This activity explores sample words in context and what kinds of value those words imply.

---

**STANDARD**  |  **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8.1**  |  Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

**Analyzing Advertising**
Students learn to be ad-savvy by exploring the pervasiveness of ads in their lives and by analyzing what ads are trying to sell...and trying to hide.

**Be a C.R.I.T.I.C.**
Students learn to use the C.R.I.T.I.C. technique to help them bring critical thinking skills to any information they receive, whether from industry, non-profits, government, or media.

**Behind the Scenes**
Participants explore the hidden lives of their everyday stuff by investigating how ordinary products come into existence & who/what has been helped or harmed in the creation & distribution of that product.

**Cast Your Vote**
Students learn about the “hidden ingredients” in every day products and practice voting their values by “buying” different kinds of items.

**Choice Cards**
Participants consider pairs of related behaviors and products and contemplate which choices do more good and less harm.

**Clothing Line Up**
We make choices every day about what we wear, but how often do we pay attention to the impact of our clothing choices on others? Students explore more and less harmful clothing options from the perspectives of the animals, other people, and the environment.

**Do You Want Slavery With That?**
Modern slavery is ubiquitous. Students learn about slavery today through personal stories and consider what action they can take to help.

**Local Treasures**
Reawaken wonder about the natural world and teach students about the environment in which they live by sending them on a treasure hunt!

**Me Against My Brother: An Exploration of Genocide**
Students explore genocide, its broader impacts, and develop a means for taking action to help prevent or address genocide.

**The Third Side: Beyond Either/or Thinking**
Many people view the world through a lens of black and white, either/or. In this activity groups of students work together to explore a variety of possible solutions to a global issues conflict.

**What Price Beauty?**
This activity encourages students to explore and think critically about the impacts of the ingredients in the personal care products that they use on themselves, other people, animals and the environment, as well as how branding and marketing play into our choices.

**What is a Humane Life?**
What's a typical Saturday look like in the life of someone striving to live a more humane life? Participants follow a “humane presenter” or a “humane wannabe” through a reenactment of their day to learn about the whats and whys of making humane choices every day.

**Whom Do You Pet & Whom Do You Eat?**
Lead students in an activity which explores why we treat different types of animals differently, and how we can learn to view them with different eyes.
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**Whom Do You Pet & Whom Do You Eat?**
Lead students in an activity which explores why we treat different types of animals differently, and how we can learn to view them with different eyes.

---

**STANDARD** | **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8.3** | Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events (e.g., through comparisons, analogies, or categories).

**STRAND / DOMAIN** | **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8** | Reading Standards for Informational Text

**CATEGORY / CLUSTER** | **Craft and Structure**

**STANDARD** | **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8.4** | Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

**Choice Cards**
Participants consider pairs of related behaviors and products and contemplate which choices do more good and less harm.

**Circle of Compassion**
This activity can serve as an excellent springboard for exploring compassion and introducing important social change issues to students.

**Don’t Tread On Me: Exploring Oppression**
This activity helps students think critically about what oppression is and who gets oppressed, and invites them to consider ways they can promote justice and equality.

**Ethical Dilemmas**

**Whom Do You Pet & Whom Do You Eat?**
Lead students in an activity which explores why we treat different types of animals differently, and how we can learn to view them with different eyes.
Help students think deeply and critically about the ethical quandaries between balancing personal desires and kindness toward others by engaging them in discussing personal and global ethical issues.

**Free at Last?**
Use visuals of everyday things around us to introduce and explore the concepts of freedom and oppression.

**Me Against My Brother: An Exploration of Genocide**
Students explore genocide, its broader impacts, and develop a means for taking action to help prevent or address genocide.

**One Makes the Difference**
Every person has the power to create positive change. Students explore the power of one and the values that help create a better world.

**The Dreaded Comparison**
Participants explore the connections between human and animal oppression and ways that we can choose not to oppress others.

**The Gist of You**
Just as businesses and non-profits have their own taglines to help identify them and serve as a touchstone for their goals & intentions, so can people have their own taglines to help guide us & reflect our own aspirations. In this activity, participants create their own taglines.

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**STRAND / DOMAIN**
**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8**

**CATEGORY / CLUSTER**
**Integration of Knowledge and Ideas**

**STANDARD**
**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8.8**

Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced.

**Analyzing Advertising**
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**Whom Do You Pet & Whom Do You Eat?**
Lead students in an activity which explores why we treat different types of animals differently, and how we can learn to view them with different eyes.

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<th>Analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation.</th>
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<td>Text Types and Purposes</td>
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<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.1</td>
<td>Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.</td>
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<th>EXPECTATION</th>
<th>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.1a</th>
<th>Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.</th>
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<th>EXPECTATION</th>
<th>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.1b</th>
<th>Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.</th>
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<th>EXPECTATION</th>
<th>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.1c</th>
<th>Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.</th>
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<th>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.1d</th>
<th>Establish and maintain a formal style.</th>
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<th>EXPECTATION</th>
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<th>Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.</th>
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<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.2</td>
<td>Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.</td>
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<th>EXPECTATION</th>
<th>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.2a</th>
<th>Introduce a topic clearly, previewing what is to follow; organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., charts, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.</th>
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<th>EXPECTATION</th>
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<th>Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.</th>
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<td><strong>Heroes &amp; Enemies</strong></td>
<td>We're often told to look for heroes we can turn to for inspiration. How often do we seek out what we can learn from people we dislike, or those who've done evil? This activity explores what we can learn from both our heroes and enemies (what to do and what NOT to do).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td><strong>It Ads Up</strong></td>
<td>This activity explores: How do ads influence us? What strategies do ad designers use to target different groups of people? How can we recognize those</td>
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strategies and our own triggers?

**Leave Only Footprints**
Everyone has an ecological footprint. Participants use paper footprints to simulate the impact of their choices on the earth. Extension activities allow students to explore their ecological footprints and what choices can be made to reduce them.

**One Person Can Change the World**
Empower students by using stories and activities to show them that one person can make a positive difference.

**Power Chat**
This activity can serve as a good icebreaker to allow students or fellow advocates to know each other better and to focus on important issues, or it can serve as an introduction for exploring what each (and all) of us can do for positive social change.

**The Aliens Have Landed: Exploring Oppression, Rights &amp; Freedom**
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**Whom Do You Pet &amp; Whom Do You Eat?**
Lead students in an activity which explores why we treat different types of animals differently, and how we can learn to view them with different eyes.

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**STRAND / DOMAIN**
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8

**CATEGORY / CLUSTER**
Text Types and Purposes

**STANDARD**
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.3

**EXPECTATION**
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.3d

**Writing Standards**

**Circle of Compassion**
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**Do You Want Slavery With That?**
Modern slavery is ubiquitous. Students learn about slavery today through personal stories and consider what action they can take to help.

**Lend a Hand**
It comes naturally to most of us to help out when needed. This icebreaker sparks discussion about the importance of helping others, and how easy it can be to make helping part of our everyday lives.

**One Makes the Difference**
Every person has the power to create positive change. Students explore the power of one and the values that help create a better world.

**Power Chat**
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**Scavenger Hunt**
Help participants rediscover the wonder of the natural world by taking them on an outdoor scavenger hunt for which they’ll record their finds, rather than “taking” anything.

---

**STRAND / DOMAIN**
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8

**CATEGORY / CLUSTER**
Production and Distribution of Writing

**STANDARD**
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.4

**Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.**

**Sustainer**
Students become castaways on a remote and pristine island and must determine how to live in a way that is sustainable for all.

**The Aliens Have Landed: Exploring Oppression, Rights &amp; Freedom**
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**The Dreaded Comparison**
Participants explore the connections between human and animal oppression and ways that we can choose not to oppress others.

**What Will You Say?**
At the end of your very long life, a child asks you what you did to help make the world so much better. Guide students through this visualization to help them get in touch with their power to make positive change.

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| Choice Cards |
Participants consider pairs of related behaviors and products and contemplate which choices do more good and less harm.

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This activity encourages participants to explore how sample ingredients in our food might affect the environment, people, and animals, and what humane alternatives might exist.

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**The Aliens Have Landed: Exploring Oppression, Rights &amp; Freedom**
Students explore oppression, rights & freedoms by participating in a scenario in which aliens have invaded Earth and humans must plead their case not to be oppressed to a Universal Court.

**Whale’s Stomach**
Students learn about the impact of our “throwaway society” by exploring all the different kinds of trash found in a whale’s stomach.

**What Price Beauty?**
This activity encourages students to explore and think critically about the impacts of the ingredients in the personal care products that they use on themselves, other people, animals and the environment, as well as how branding and marketing play into our choices.

**Whom Do You Pet &amp; Whom Do You Eat?**
Lead students in an activity which explores why we treat different types of animals differently, and how we can learn to view them with different eyes.
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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8</th>
<th>Writing Standards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CATEGORY / CLUSTER</td>
<td></td>
<td>Range of Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.8.10</td>
<td>Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Comprehension and Collaboration</td>
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<td>STANDARD</td>
<td>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.1</td>
<td>Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.</td>
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Come to discussions prepared, having read or researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.

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**Clothing Line Up**
We make choices every day about what we wear, but how often do we pay attention to the impact of our clothing choices on others? Students explore more and less harmful clothing options from the perspectives of the animals, other people, and the environment.

**Do You Want Slavery With That?**
Modern slavery is ubiquitous. Students learn about slavery today through personal stories and consider what action they can take to help.

**Don’t Tread On Me: Exploring Oppression**
This activity helps students think critically about what oppression is and who gets oppressed, and invites them to consider ways they can promote justice and equality.

**Ethical Dilemmas**
Help students think deeply and critically about the ethical quandaries between balancing personal desires and kindness toward others by engaging them in discussing personal and global ethical issues.

**Find Your Tree**
Participants get in touch with their senses and nature by finding “their” tree using senses other than sight.

**Free at Last?**
Use visuals of everyday things around us to introduce and explore the concepts of freedom and oppression.

**Heroes &amp; Enemies**
We’re often told to look for heroes we can turn to for inspiration. How often do we seek out what we can learn from people we dislike, or those who’ve done evil? This activity explores what we can learn from both our heroes and enemies (what to do and what NOT to do).

**How’d That Get on my Plate?**
This activity encourages participants to explore how sample ingredients in our food might affect the environment, people, and animals, and what humane alternatives might exist.

**Human Picture**
This icebreaker encourages participants to consider the kind of world they want to live in by creating human statues that depict positive and negative emotions.

**Is What’s Good for the GDP Good for Me?**
This activity increases student awareness about the Gross Domestic Product.
GDP) and what it measures, introduces them to alternative indicators, and encourages critical thinking about what factors contribute to a healthy, sustainable, stable economy.

It Ads Up
This activity explores: How do ads influence us? What strategies do ad designers use to target different groups of people? How can we recognize those strategies and our own triggers?

Judge Not, Lest Ye Be Judged
How do our own stereotypes and judgments limit our openness and receptivity to others? This activity uses props (or photos) to explore our snap perceptions of others.

Leave Only Footprints
Everyone has an ecological footprint. Participants use paper footprints to simulate the impact of their choices on the earth. Extension activities allow students to explore their ecological footprints and what choices can be made to reduce them.

Lend a Hand
It comes naturally to most of us to help out when needed. This icebreaker sparks discussion about the importance of helping others, and how easy it can be to make helping part of our everyday lives.

Local Treasures
Reawaken wonder about the natural world and teach students about the environment in which they live by sending them on a treasure hunt!

Lottery Tickets
Use this quick icebreaker to show participants that everyone can make a positive difference!

Me Against My Brother: An Exploration of Genocide
Students explore genocide, its broader impacts, and develop a means for taking action to help prevent or address genocide.

One Makes the Difference
Every person has the power to create positive change. Students explore the power of one and the values that help create a better world.

One Person Can Change the World
Empower students by using stories and activities to show them that one person can make a positive difference.

Picturing Oppression
Use images from magazines and other sources to spark students to consider the ways oppression, exploitation, and dominance of people and nonhuman animals are still prevalent.

Power Chat
This activity can serve as a good icebreaker to allow students or fellow advocates to know each other better and to focus on important issues, or it can serve as an introduction for exploring what each (and all) of us can do for positive social change.

Scavenger Hunt
Help participants rediscover the wonder of the natural world by taking them on an outdoor scavenger hunt for which they’ll record their finds, rather than “taking” anything.

Smell Teas
Awaken wonder, enhance memory skills and explore the sense of smell by having students concoct their own special “smell tea” for other students to identify….only by smell!

Spaceship Earth
Our fossil fuels are gone! How will we survive and thrive without them? Students explore two scenarios and develop plans of action for living successfully and sustainably.

Sustainer
Students become castaways on a remote and pristine island and must determine how to live in a way that is sustainable for all.

Take Two
Unveil the manipulation inherent in marketing and corporate branding and awaken the creativity of your students by having them explore commercials aimed at them and then empowering them to create new commercials with a positive message.

The Aliens Have Landed: Exploring Oppression, Rights & Freedom
Students explore oppression, rights & freedoms by participating in a scenario in which aliens have invaded Earth and humans must plead their case not to be oppressed to a Universal Court.

The Cool Factor
Help participants think about “cool” in a new way and define their sense of self by exploring what’s cool, who decides what’s cool, and different ways of defining cool.

The Dreaded Comparison
Participants explore the connections between human and animal oppression and ways that we can choose not to oppress others.

The Gist of You
Just as businesses and non-profits have their own taglines to help identify them
and serve as a touchstone for their goals & intentions, so people can have their own taglines to help guide us & reflect our own aspirations. In this activity, participants create their own taglines.

**The Third Side: Beyond Either/or Thinking**

Many people view the world through a lens of black and white, either/or. In this activity groups of students work together to explore a variety of possible solutions to a global issues conflict.

**Trash Investigators**

What’s in our trash that doesn’t need to be there? Participants investigate a trash source and analyze which items can be removed from the waste stream.

**True Price**

Students will explore the positive & negative impacts of our product choices on themselves, other people, animals, and the earth.

**Two Apples**

In this icebreaker, participants learn just how important words and actions are when they explore their impact on two apples.

**Whale’s Stomach**

Students learn about the impact of our “throwaway society” by exploring all the different kinds of trash found in a whale’s stomach.

**What Price Beauty?**

This activity encourages students to explore and think critically about the impacts of the ingredients in the personal care products that they use on themselves, other people, animals and the environment, as well as how branding and marketing play into our choices.

**What is a Humane Life?**

What’s a typical Saturday look like in the life of someone striving to live a more humane life? Participants follow a “humane presenter” or a “humane wannabe” through a reenactment of their day to learn about the whats and whys of making humane choices every day.

**What’s in a Name?**

“You’re such a pig!” “She’s a total dog!” Help students examine our myths about and prejudices against animals, to explore why they exist, and to consider what we might want to change about our relationships with them.

**Which Harms Less?**

Great for a larger assembly, this activity asks students to compare pairs of similar products to consider which of the two helps more and harms less.

**Whom Do You Pet & Whom Do You Eat?**

Lead students in an activity which explores why we treat different types of animals differently, and how we can learn to view them with different eyes.

**Why Are We Here?**

What is our purpose here on Earth? What can we do about the problems of the world? The activity uses two short films and discussion to help students explore these important issues.

**Wonder Walk**

Participants take turns leading each other on a silent Wonder Walk to discover the natural world with their 5 senses.

**Word Power**

Words have enormous power and often assign value. This activity explores sample words in context and what kinds of value those words imply.

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**STRAND / DOMAIN** | **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8** | **Speaking and Listening Standards**
---|---|---
**CATEGORY / CLUSTER** | **Comprehension and Collaboration**
**STANDARD** | **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.2** | Analyze the purpose of information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and evaluate the motives (e.g., social, commercial, political) behind its presentation.

**Analyzing Advertising**

Students learn to be ad-savvy by exploring the pervasiveness of ads in their lives and by analyzing what ads are trying to sell...and trying to hide.

**Be a C.R.I.T.I.C.**

Students learn to use the C.R.I.T.I.C. technique to help them bring critical thinking skills to any information they receive, whether from industry, non-profits, government, or media.

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**True Price**
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| STAND | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.5 | Integrate multimedia and visual displays into presentations to clarify information, strengthen claims and evidence, and add interest. |
|------|--------------------------|

**Me Against My Brother: An Exploration of Genocide**
Students explore genocide, its broader impacts, and develop a means for taking action to help prevent or address genocide.

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| EXPECTATION | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.4a | Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word’s position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase. |

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**Behind the Scenes**
Participants explore the hidden lives of their everyday stuff by investigating how ordinary products come into existence & who/what has been helped or harmed in the creation & distribution of that product.

**Cast Your Vote**
Students learn about the “hidden ingredients” in every day products and practice voting their values by “buying” different kinds of items.

**Choice Cards**
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EXPECTATION
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.4d Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).

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CATEGORY / CLUSTER | Vocabulary Acquisition and Use | ---
STANDARD | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.5 | Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
EXPECTATION | CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.8.5c | Distinguish among the connotations (associations) of words with similar denotations (definitions) (e.g., bullheaded, willful, firm, persistent, resolute).

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