Lesson Plan

Note: This lesson plan may be used with this any Natural Inquirer monograph or article.

Time Needed
2 class periods

Materials (for each student or group of students):
- Natural Inquirer monograph or article
- Writing utensil
- Prepared sheet

In this lesson, students will use a simple graphic organizer to dissect the main points from a Natural Inquirer article.

Methods:

Prep
Educators should choose one Natural Inquirer monograph or article. Read the text fully.

Day One
Provide each student with the chosen monograph or article. Direct students to read the following three sections: Meet the Scientists, Thinking About Science, Thinking About the Environment, and the Glossary.

Once students are done reading, have a class discussion focused on predicting the topic of the monograph or article. What do students already know about the topic? What do they think the science is going to be about? What evidence can they point to in support of their ideas?

Then, provide students a blank piece of paper and a writing utensil. With the paper, create the graphic organizer as done in the "Paragraph by Paragraph Graphic Organizer Model" on this page.

On the "Paragraph by Paragraph Graphic Organizer," students should split the page into quarters using their writing utensil. Alternatively, educators can create the graphic organizer, make copies, and provide it directly to students. The graphic organizer should have 8 total sections, with the four titles illustrated in the image on this page.

Day Two
Students should read the four main parts of the Natural Inquirer monograph or article, beginning with the Introduction. On the Introduction section of the graphic organizer, students should use the top half to write the main point of each paragraph in the section.

Continue this process through the remaining sections, including the Methods, Findings, and Discussion.

Using the notes from the reading, students use the second half of each section on the graphic organizer to answer the Reflection Section.