Lesson Plan

Time Needed:

2-3 class periods

Materials (for each student or group of students):

- Computer
- Internet
- Writing utensil
- Blank paper/notebook

In this lesson, use an open-ended question and a pre-determined collection of Internet resources to encourage students to collect and analyze information in order to create a persuasive essay.

Methods:

Prep

Educators should choose one of the *Natural Inquirer* WebQuest options.

If computer and Internet resources aren't available for all students, create copies of Internet material, order copies of *Natural Inquirer* materials, and watch videos together as a class.

Day One

Present the question posed at the beginning of the chosen WebQuest.

On a blank piece of paper or in a notebook, ask students to write down the question. Then, ask students to spend five minutes thinking about the question and writing down their initial thoughts.

Provide students with the outline of WebQuest "stops" (i.e., the listed websites or texts). Discuss with students that they will visit each website or read each text in order to collect and inform an essay that answers the question posed at the beginning of class.

At each "stop" on the WebQuest, students should be reminded to read carefully and take notes.

Students should write down notes that they feel are important to answer the question, as well as the author or authoring organization.

Days Two & Three

Use these extra days finish reading the information or revisit sites for more information. Task students with writing a one-page answer to the original question. Remind students to use the information they gathered at each "stop" of the WebQuest to support their ideas.