

Save It or Pave It?

Teacher Instructions



1. The students are provided with overview materials describing the local area to be studied and the issues related to development. Relevant websites are provided for further research. Students submit a précis of the articles to the teacher for assessment.
2. Groups research their roles for the simulation, prepare briefs, and develop presentation materials (visuals).
3. A Public Hearing is held and the Arbitration Panel announces its decision.
4. The teacher debriefs this activity by leading a discussion based on the following questions: Prepare a chart to summarize the arguments that your opponents used to state their positions on this issue.
 - Which of the opposing viewpoints did you find most convincing? Give reasons.
 - Which of the opposing viewpoints did you find the least convincing? Give reasons.
 - Did you agree with the decision of the Arbitration Panel? Why or why not?
 - If you were in the position to make the final decision on this issue, what would you decide?
 - Many issues are solved through the arbitration process. Is this an effective way to solve disputes over environmental issues? Explain your answer.

Students submit, for assessment, a response to the Arbitration Panel based on the point of view of their group. This takes the form of a Letter to the Editor.