**Critical Thinking Assignment 1**

**Using Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs**

**Goal:** To research Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs) and to develop and present a cost-benefit analysis of the use and disposal of CFLs.

**Gather Information:** Working as a group, you will gather information on the issue. Use as many sources as possible. Remember that is it important to seek accurate information when doing research. Below are some suggested sites to use.

**Identify Solutions:** The following points may help you to conduct your cost-benefit analysis and to find possible solutions.

* What are the benefits of using CFLs? (Group A)
* How can the benefits of using CFLs be maximized? (Group A)
* What are the costs, or drawbacks, of using CFLs? (Group B)
* How can the costs of using CFLs be maixmixed? (Group B)
* What are the disposal options (both safe and dangerous) for CFLs? (Group A and B)
* What are the best available alternatives? (Group A and B)
* Keep in mind social implications, economic implications, cultural implications, moral/religious implications, philosophical implications (how does this relate to our idea of justice?)

**Make a Case**: Are the benefits of using CFLs worth the costs? Is there a safe way to dispose of broken CFLs? How did you decide?

**Communicate:** With your group, prepare a presentation to convince the rest of the class of your case. Decide how you will make your presentation: a brochure, a video, a poster, etc. Your report should include the following information:

* Benefits or costs of CFLs
* Information on the safe disposal of CFLs
* Your opinion on what our city should do about them.

Present your report at our town meeting. Other groups will also present their reports and we will have a vote on the issue.

**Some resources to help you in your search:**

* Nelson 1.7 page 28
* Individual Companies: <http://www.powersavesolutions.com/news.html?art=10000>

<http://www.duke-energy.com/ohio/savings/advantages.asp>

<http://www.greenfeet.net/newsletter/compactfluorescent.shtml>

* Podcast: A recorded debate: <http://gammagoblin.blogspot.com/2008/11/incadesantcfl-debate-on-liveline-this.html>
* Energy Star: <http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=cfls.pr_cfls>

**Further Student Research Sites**

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| www.nytimes.com/learning/students/index.html www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/kidspost/ www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/ www.npr.org www.newseum.org/index.htm www.timeforkids.com/TFK/index.html news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/ www.headlinespot.com/for/kids/ www.cnnstudentsnews.cnn.com/fyi/index.html teacher.scholastic.com/scholasticnews/news.index.asp www.publicagenda.org/sitemap.htm www.urbandebate.org/resources/ www.policy.com/issues/ www.debating.het/flynn/colmmain.htm http://ncpa.org/sid/www.discovery.com  |