

## ***The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss Video Handout**

**Background Information:** *The Lorax* was written by Dr. Seuss in 1971, after the environmental reform movement of the 60's which peaked the nations' first Earth day on April 22, 1970.

**Watch Video:** As you view the video, list at least 3 environmental issues you encounter. **Think About:** Do these issues still exist today?

**Reflection:** After the video is over, answer the following questions with your partner.

1. What did the Lorax and Once-Ler represent? What are their professions?
2. What do the Lorax and Once-leer really want? What are their biggest concerns?
3. Can you equate the ideas in the story with real present day situations? Give a specific example of the people, resources and issues involved.
4. Are there identifiable "good guys" and "bad guys" in the story? Where do the people who purchase and use Thneeds fit on the good and bad scale?
5. Is it necessary to completely stop cutting the Truffula trees to preserve the Lorax ecosystem?
6. What if any, significance do the ideas presented in this book/film have for you in your daily life?
7. What do you think could be the possible outcome of the story? How else could it have ended?
8. Do you think *The Lorax* was written for your children, their parents or both?

## ***The Truax* by Terri Birkett**

**Background Information:** *The Truax* is a children's book written to help student's understand the importance of renewable resources and management of these resources. *The Truax* was written specifically to counter *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss. The Wood and Flooring Manufacturers industry believes the *Truax* more closely represents today's forest management scenario described by Dr. Seuss.

**Read *The Truax***

Reflection:

1. Why did the Guardbark not want the trees cut?
2. Why did the woodcutter think it was reasonable and necessary to cut trees?
3. List at least six products produced from trees. Reflect on the list, if we could not cut trees- what would we use to make each of your products?
4. Define renewable resource.
5. Define non-renewable resource.
6. What does Truax do to make sure there will be plenty of trees?
7. Reflect on the Truax and fellow limber cutters are doing to make sure we have forest and forest products. What do you think?
8. Why does the name "Truax" hold significance?
9. Compare *The Lorax* and the *The Truax*, which is more in-line with what you think is happening? Explain.