RESOURCE MANAGEMENT:
Land Use in and around the Lake Pontchartrain Basin

OBJECTIVES:

• List past and present land use practices in the Lake Pontchartrain Basin and understand their relationship to population size.

• Develop mapping and map reading skills as they apply to land use planning and resource allocation.

• Understand the relationship of cause and effect and to be able to accurately interpret graphs which contain land use and resource allocation data.

• Broaden our perspectives by assuming another’s point of view regarding the value of a particular commodity (in this case, land use).

• Increase understanding of land use problems by researching and defending a point of view not necessarily the student’s own.

• Develop the ability to construct rational arguments and to articulate them in a well thought-out manner.

MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCES LEARNING ACTIVITIES:

Verbal/Linguistic: Develop verbal skills by interviewing wetland residents for background information in preparation for a jury trial. Develop the ability to convincingly defend one's personal point of view by posing as “expert witnesses” during courtroom proceedings.

Interpersonal: Participate in a “courtroom” drama which will unfold using role playing techniques and draw upon the specific knowledge of witnesses from all sides of current land use problems.

Logical/Mathematical: Interpret maps and GIS (Geographic Information Systems) data. Construct and defend logical arguments.

Bodily/Kinesthetic: Dramatic reenacting of courtroom proceedings - use of supplemental charts and diagrams as “evidence”.

Naturalist: Make observations about maps, aerial photography, and natural habitats; check the accuracy of the map-maker’s work.