

## Using *Facing the Future* Curriculum to Meet WA State Classroom-Based Assessments in Social Studies

*I just finished the activity "Worldview Mingle" in class today. I used it to introduce the CBA for "Enduring Cultures." It was a FANTASTIC hook, they left class—on a FRIDAY of SUPERBOWL WEEKEND—asking questions about what we were going to be doing on Monday.*  
~ Teacher, Icicle River Middle School, Leavenworth, WA

*I used the Facing the Future curriculum to meet reading comprehension, critical thinking, and class-debate/discussion related CBAs.*  
~ Teacher, Well Spring School, Bellingham, WA

Teachers from around Washington State are using *Facing the Future* curriculum to help their students meet CBAs in a variety of ways. Most commonly the activity-based lessons and student textbooks provide a "hook" as an introduction to a CBA, give background/content on issues that are addressed in the CBAs, offer a variety of primary and secondary sources, and provide opportunities for students to hone their critical thinking skills and practice taking and presenting positions. All of these elements contribute to meeting the CBAs.

***Facing the Future* activity-based lesson plans can be used to help students meet CBAs in a number of ways including:**

- ~ Introducing a CBA
- ~ Providing content and data
- ~ Analyzing sources
- ~ Practice taking a position

The study of global issues and sustainability provides a relevant and engaging context for students and teachers to meet classroom-based assessments. The matrix on the following page provides suggested activity-based lessons for almost every CBA at 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> grade. The matrix is not meant to serve as a comprehensive explanation of how *Facing the Future* resources can be utilized to meet CBAs, but rather serves as a guideline for which activities can be used with various CBAs. Most of *Facing the Future's* activity-based lessons can be downloaded for free from the website. For more in-depth study of a particular content area addressed in the activity-based lessons, visit *Facing the Future's* website to learn more about supplemental student textbooks and additional online resources.

*Facing the Future: People and the Planet* is a nonprofit organization that brings global issues and sustainability education to middle and high schools. The organization researches and writes curriculum materials that promote critical thinking and meet national education standards; provides professional development training to teachers on global issues, sustainability, and service learning; and consults with schools to integrate global sustainability issues across their curricula.

For more information about *Facing the Future* resources for educators and students please visit [www.facingthefuture.org](http://www.facingthefuture.org).

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