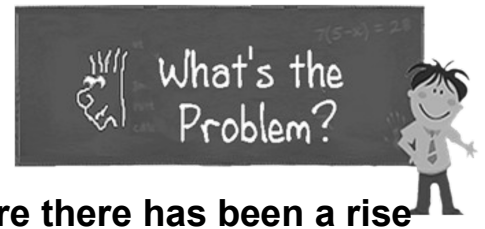


Teacher Instructions:

“Bigfoot”



Problem Scenario: You are the mayor of a small town where there has been a rise of Bigfoot sightings in a nearby wooded region. Your town instantly becomes the center of a “Bigfoot Craze” with people coming from all around to spot him. Can the rumors be true, and why are they attracting so much attention?

Your students will be viewing this problem from a **integrated** perspective.



Why is everyone obsessed with the Bigfoot rumors?

Students will review urban legends and examine why these rumors exist and continue to thrive even when there is a lack of scientific evidence.

Step ①

Review
Stimulus
Items

Stimulus Item #1 — “Urban Legends by Area” (lists)

Stimulus Item #2 — “The Unknown” (essay)

Stimulus Item #3 — “The Bigfoot Legend” (infographic)

***Students should take notes as they review the Stimulus Items*

Step ②

Classroom
Discussion

Lead a **class discussion** about issues related to the topic. You are being provided a sheet to help you guide the classroom discussion.

Extended Response: Have students answer the following questions. Remind students to use information from the Stimulus Items to support their response.

- 1) **Despite a lack of scientific evidence, why do so many myths and urban legends still exist (and even thrive)?**
- 2) **Do myths, urban legends, ghost stories, and other rumors—such as Bigfoot—serve any important purpose? What do they tell us about society in general?**

Step ③

Student
Response

****students should have access to their notes as they enter their answers*

****students may also have access to the Stimulus Items as they enter their answers*

Product Option: Divide your students into groups. Each group is the **tourism committee** for the town. The town has recently gained national attention due to the number of Bigfoot sightings nearby, and the teams must use this situation to **create a strategy to increase tourism**. The groups must plan an event, structure, or other attraction that will increase the number of tourists who visit the town. The groups will present their ideas to the their fellow citizens (i.e. the rest of the class), and they will vote on which one would be the most effective and practical. Discuss whether there are ideas involving the Bigfoot craze that might actually backfire when it comes to the town’s reputation and bringing in the type of tourists who will respect the area and boost the town’s economy.

Step ④

Analysis

Rubrics to grade student entries have been provided, and all questions have been mapped to the content standards.