

How Do You Feel About Your Environment?

People have feelings about their environment. We know that, but they don't always pay much attention to them or take the time to take note of their reactions. Ask your students to rate a place.

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SEEING THE ENVIRONMENT
AN ADVOCACY APPROACH

by Henry Sanoff with the assistance of Greg Cochran
David Lerner
Carter Reese

When we talk about a place, such as your classroom, it is useful to have a way of recording any feelings we may have about that environment. Since we may have different feelings about the same place, it is good to have a method of sharing them, to explain what the differences are.

There are special words (adjectives) that can be used to describe different aspects of an environment that you can agree or disagree with. (There are many more words that you might want to add to this list, but be sure that you also include the opposite of each word that you add.)

The word list can be used to describe how you feel about what you see or what you would like to see. Try it with your classroom. Have each student evaluate a place you use. Then, using the same word list, describe what you would like to see. Compare the differences and decide how to change your environment.

Have each student rate any place that all know or use by placing a (✓) check-mark on one space on each line. Then add up the check-marks in each space for a group score.

	extremely	slightly	neutral	slightly	extremely	
Ordinary						Distinctive
Complex						Simple
Light						Dark
Modern						Old Fashioned
Noisy						Quiet
Unusual						Usual
Small						Large
Multiple Purpose						Single Purpose
Bright Colors						Muted Colors
Free Space						Restricted Space
Soft Lighting						Harsh Lighting
Finished						Unfinished
Unfriendly						Friendly
Imaginative						Unimaginative
Urban						Rustic
Like						Dislike