



**Functional Approach to Character Education**  
**Counselor Lesson Plan for Fifth Grade**

**Character Lesson:** Citizenship

**Estimated Length of Lesson:** 30-45 minutes or more

**Learning Objective (SOL):** Knowledge and Skills 5.1 a, b; 5.5 b; Writing 5.8

**VA School Counseling Standards:** EP1, EP9

**Objectives:**

- Students will discuss citizenship and what they can do as citizens to take care of our environment

**Materials:** Globe, Book: Just A Dream by Chris Van Allsburg , Poster board or large pieces of construction paper, markers/crayons/other art supplies

**Steps of Lesson:**

1. The counselor will hold up a globe and ask students to come up and identify different places on the globe-North America , Atlantic Ocean, Africa , etc.
2. The counselor will ask students to name another planet where humans can live and survive.
3. The counselor will lead students in a discussion about why it is important to take care of the environment.
4. Read Just A Dream and discuss with students:
  - What happened in this story?
  - What does the title Just A Dream have to do with the earth?
  - What did we learn from this story?
5. The counselor will ask students to identify what their school does to take care of the environment. What else could the school do?
6. Let students work in pairs or individually to make posters for the school about taking care of the environment. Themes could include reduce, reuse, recycle, picking up litter, planting trees, protecting natural resources, etc.
7. When groups have finished have them share with the class
8. If schedule/time permits, go as a class to hang posters around the school.

**Assessment:**

Were students able to identify their role as a citizen in taking care of the environment?