

**Stubby and Rusty****Date of Lesson:**  
initial lesson**Duration:** 40-45 mins for**Essential Question(s):**

1. How can we take care of animals and the environment we all live in?

**CCSS:****Objectives:**

1. Students will be able to understand various ways they can help and prevent damage to the environment.
2. Students will create a research project based on one part of their local environment they can help improve. This project should include at least 10 facts about how they can make a difference.

**Warm up: (5 mins)**

The teacher will start by asking the students what their favorite animal is. This will spark discussion as so many children love animals. Then, the teacher will then use some of the favorite animals as examples. The teacher will brainstorm with the students and make a list of what is in that animal's environment. Then, the teacher will ask them what are some of the things humans do that destroy or harm that animal's environment. Lastly, the teacher will ask the students to write down three things we could do to preserve or do to make a difference in that animal's environment.

**Instruction: (10 mins)** The teacher will explain that she/he will read the book called **Stubby and Rusty** and it is about how Pelicans were effected negatively by humans and how humans responded to help them. The teacher will then read the story to the class.

**Activity: (10 mins)** After the teacher has read the story to the class, the teacher will explain they will be conducting research on an animal in their environment and they are to create a poster with at least 10 facts about how we can help benefit or change that animal's environment for the best. The students will have to explain what problems are in their current environment and how they can be solved.

The students may work in pairs and the teacher can assign the appropriate animal to each pair. Depending on the resources the teacher has, the computer lab and the Internet, articles, or books can be utilized in order to conduct research.

This project will take several class periods because of the research time needed. If a poster is not appropriate for the student age group, the teacher can pick from another project idea from the list below and adjust it based on the age and levels of the students.

### **Stubby and Rusty Lesson Creation ideas**

*(These lesson products will depend on age and ability level.)*

- Conduct research and create poster advocating for the environment or a certain animal who needs our support. Include at least 5-7 facts about the animal and what you can do to make a difference in their environment.
- Write a story about how you can help an animal in need. Include illustrations for each page of your story.
- Write a paragraph explaining how you can make a difference with animals and the environment in your community
- Write an essay explaining how you can make a difference with animals and the environment in your community
- Write a song or rap about an animal or our environment and how we can make a difference

**Closing- (15 mins)** The teacher will wrap up the initial lesson with having the student brainstorm the various problems in the animal's environment. The students will then share their list with another pair and write down solutions.

**HW:** Bring in an article on assigned animal to use for research

