### 1-2-3 Presentations

#### Key Questions
What are real world examples of sustainability problems and solutions? How do sustainability problems impact the environment, society, and the economy? How does a sustainable solution promote prosperity?

#### Overview
1-2-3 Presentations stands for:
- 1 Informational text
- 2 Minute presentation
- 3 Students per group

In other words, in this activity students will work in groups of three to read and evaluate an informational text (such as an article from a science news website) featuring a sustainability topic, and prepare a short, informative presentation to share with the class.

#### Objectives
Students will be able to:
- Carefully read and interpret scientific expository text
- Verbally communicate scientific information to their peers
- Articulate the environmental, social, and economic impacts of sustainability problems and solutions
- Make connections between sustainability problems/solutions, and their own lives

#### Materials
- 1 informational text for each group through either laptops or tablets, printed articles, magazines, newspapers
- Whiteboards and dry erase markers, or posters and magic markers (if available, students can also create presentations using a computer presentation application)

#### Teacher Preparation
This activity should be preceded by introductory lessons on sustainability such as “Defining Sustainability”, and “Choosing Sustainability”.

Select resources for each group. This student-centered activity is adaptable to a variety of topics. Teachers can choose from the resources that accompany this lesson, or provide their own materials. In lieu of the resources provided, teachers may opt to prompt students with an informational text of their choosing, or provide students with a question or problem to be debated instead.

Resources can be provided electronically, or in print, and can include articles from reputable scientific websites, magazines, or newspapers.
Background Information
Students should already be familiar with the Brundtland definition of sustainability, and should know that sustainability rest on three interrelated domains: the economy, environment, and society (also known as the three pillars of sustainability).

Recommended Procedures
Review sustainability terms and concepts, including the Brundtland definition of sustainability, the three pillars of sustainability, etc.

Assign one informational text to each group of three students.

Allow students 25 minutes to read and discuss their assigned resource, and to create a 2 minute presentation; each presentation should:
- Summarize the article and present key findings
- Articulate how the topic of the article relates to each of the Three Pillars of Sustainability
- Provide at least one example of how the information of the article relates to the lives of the presenters

Following each presentation, allow other students ask questions of the presenters

Once all students have presented, teachers can moderate an open discussion or debate about the sustainability topics presented. Topics for discussion might include:
- Have students’ opinions about the issue changed based on what they learned from this activity?
- Is there a realistic and effective solution to the problem?

Students should be evaluated based on their participation

Extensions
Student can be asked to identify examples of sustainability problems/solutions including impacts on the three pillars outside of school and share what they find with the class.