

# Responsible?

## Directions for Round Table Discussion

Everyone silently reads the questions and thinks about possible responses. Once everyone has time to think, the group member holding the small tree branch shares his/her response for Question #1 with the rest of the team. Each of the other team members listens quietly to their teammate. Once he/she has finished responding to Question #1 the next teammate takes the branch and politely responds to the previous speaker by “paraphrasing” (summarizing the previous comments and agrees or politely disagrees with the previous speaker. If he/she disagrees the second teammate must indicate how he/she feels that differs from the first team member.) This second person then responds to Question #2 while everyone listens quietly. When finished responding, he/she passes the small tree branch to the third member of the group who responds to teammate number two (agreeing or politely disagreeing, and then he/she responds to Question #3.) This process continues until all of the nine questions have been responded to. (Because there are nine questions, perhaps a time limit of one minute per sharing might be introduced.) Finally, time will be given for learners to share their agreements or disagreements, that because of the order in which the responses were shared, they did not have an opportunity to do so.

1. Who is responsible for the continued destruction of the rainforest? Can you put all of the blame on only one group?
  
2. Do you feel the government is acting in the best interest of the rainforest people? Why or why not?



3. Do you think the government is protecting the interests of citizens' worldwide? Why or why not?
  
4. How much power do you have as a citizen to affect or change government policy?
  
5. What Democratic Principles give you the right to speak out and be involved in government decisions?
  
6. How might you exercise your rights in this situation?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Is it only the government's responsibility to do something to stop continued destruction of the rainforest and promote alternative methods for successful economic growth in those areas?



