## Understand simple to moderately complex descriptive or narrative texts on familiar topics. Task Read a plain-language text about the current topic of study. Tool Anecdotal Comments

Often we challenge our Ss to complete a project near the end of the unit that encourages them to delve a bit deeper into certain aspects of the subject. Both the task and tool in this example are adaptable to any theme and a variety of group tasks.

- 1. Split the class into groups and assign topics related to the main topic of the month.
- 2. Give each member of the group a reading text that is not longer than 1 page. These could be from different sources, or different sections of the same source
- 3. Instruct Ss to read the text and locate relevant information.
- 4. In their groups, have Ss create a data chart summarizing all the information from each of their texts.
- 5. Have Ss present what they create.
- 6. Display the charts around the classroom for the whole class to see.
- 7. Provide written comments that focus on Ss' demonstration of understanding the reading, NOT their writing skills or their presentation skills (though you could assess all of these aspects if you want to focus on more than one skill area).
- 8. Copy written feedback for all group members to add to their portfolios, if appropriate.

