



## "A Location for learning"

The high school is running out of room for all its students and activities. The school board wants to construct a new building. There are three proposals that are being seriously considered. First, is a site not far from the existing building on a wetland. To build the new school, the wetland would have to be filled in and made suitable for construction. It is a great location. The second proposal includes building the school on the edge of town in an area that is being rapidly developed with new homes. The land used to belong to a farmer who has sold it to developers. The third site is a large plot of land that used to belong to a manufacturing company. The old buildings would have to be removed. There would be a lot of space for sports fields and the location is good.

- What makes a wetland different from any other ecosystem?
  
- What options does a farmer have other than selling his land to a developer?
  
- What needs to be considered before the decision about constructing a new school can be made?
  
- What law(s) govern the types of things that must be reviewed before a site can be approved for building?
  
- What are the pros and cons of each proposed site?
  
- Given the information above, which site sounds most reasonable from an environmental perspective?
  
- What agency could you use as a resource for information about the effect of building on each site?