

Lesson 30

Water Locations

What factors are important in planning a community around a river?

GOAL To understand that buildings and development impact waterways

OBJECTIVES Students will:
✓ draw a community

MATERIALS poster board or butcher block paper, markers and pencils

CORE CURRICULUM CONTENT STANDARDS

- Science 8(7,8)
- Social Studies 9(3)
- Arts 1(2,4)

VOCABULARY location, community, biodiversity

PROCEDURES

1. Explain to students that they will be creating a new community. They will be drawing their community on a piece of construction paper.
2. Break students into groups.
3. Have students place paper horizontally in front of them. Have them draw a river in the middle of the paper going across the paper horizontally. Color the river blue.
4. Have groups place two trees on the side of the river. Color them green. This is a park.
5. Then, have students place their school, a square box in their community and color it red.
6. Students will draw a mountain in their community. Color it brown.
7. Have students draw a store (box) and color yellow.
8. Have students place a landfill or trash-to-energy plant in their community. Color it orange.
9. Where in their watershed do they want their homes? Have them draw their homes and color purple.
10. Discuss why they chose the particular spot for their homes.
11. Have student groups connect "maps". Discuss with students location of items on maps.
12. Discuss concept of biodiversity (a.k.a. biological diversity - the variety of life in all its forms and inter-relationships) while planning a community.

WHAT IS BIODIVERSITY

There are millions of species of plants, birds, reptiles, mammals, fish, shellfish, amphibians, insects, and microorganisms such as bacteria living on earth. Try to imagine them all, and don't forget to put yourself in the picture! Now think about what makes each one of those species different from each other. Think about what makes them look and act differently, what different kinds of habitats and climates they live in, what their different needs are, and how they interact with one another. Now think about your community and the many kinds of people, animals, plants, insects, etc. you find there. Think about what it takes for these critters to co-exist, and think about how you might plan for community growth (more colored boxes) while protecting biodiversity in your town.

(Adapted from endangered.fws.gov/kids/biodivrs.htm)

GLOSSARY

biodiversity - biological diversity in an environment as indicated by numbers of different species of plants and animals

community - a group of people living in the same locality and under the same government

location - a place where something is or could be located; a site