Community Citizenship I

What Is a Community?

My Homeschool Classroom Concept: What Is a Community?

- A community is a group of people who live, work, and play in a particular area.
- A habitat is the place where a living thing lives. It includes the essential resources that the living thing needs for its survival.

Key Vocabulary

- community
- habitat
- resources
- survive

Lesson Options: Select lesson elements to create a single-day or multiday lesson.

Lesson Elements

Digital Playlist: Generally, children will complete the Digital Playlist first, then follow up with some or all of the activities described below. As you select and do those activities with your child, you may wish to reassign some or all of the digital activities for additional practice.

Explore Activity: This follow-up is designed to be used closely with the Digital Playlist to help your child understand the topic.

Dig Deeper Activity: This offline activity provides an additional learning experience with the same topic.

Extend Activity: This offline activity extends the child’s understanding and application of the same topic.

Explore Activity

Set Up

1. Gather the materials on the list.

Procedure

1. Ask your child to watch Community 1.
2. Discuss things that are part of a community. Ask the following questions: Is a community people or places? What are some jobs found in a community?
   
   Sample answer: “A community is the group of people and places in an area. Some jobs include bakers, teachers, and gardeners.”
3. Have your child draw people they know in their community. Help them label each person.

Materials

- Drawing paper or chart paper
- Markers or crayons
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Dig Deeper Activity

Set Up
1. Gather the materials on the list.
2. Tell your child that they will learn about communities and draw a map of their community.

Procedure
1. Ask your child to rewatch Community 1.
2. Discuss the meaning of community. Ask: What is a community? Who are some people in our community? What are some places in our community?
   
   Sample answer: “A community is a group of people who live, work, and play in the same area. Our community has teachers, store owners, clerks, and firefighters. We have homes, a school, a grocery store, and a fire station.”
3. Ask your child to draw a map of places in your community.
4. Encourage them to draw your home first on the paper.
5. Have your child draw any parks, libraries, and schools in the area.
6. Ask them to draw fire stations, police stations, or city hall.
7. Ask them to draw any stores or other businesses.
8. Gather the drawings of people in the community from the Extend Activity. Glue each person to cardboard or cardstock and cut them out. Use additional cardboard or cardstock to create a stand and place the figures on the community drawing.

Extend Activity

Set Up
1. Gather the materials on the list.

Procedure
1. Have your child watch Speak Like a Scientist: Habitat.
2. Discuss the meaning of habitat. Talk about how it is like a community.
   Ask: What is a habitat? How is a habitat like a community? What are some types of habitats? Why is a certain habitat best for a certain animal?
   
   Sample answer: “A habitat is a place where animals and plants live. It is like a community of plants and animals. There are desert, forest, and ocean habitats. A habitat must have the types of food and shelter that animals or plants need to survive.”

Materials

Dig Deeper Activity

• Drawing paper or chart paper
• Markers or crayons
• Drawings from the Extend Activity
• Cardboard (e.g., from a cereal box) or cardstock

Extend Activity

• Images of animals and plants from your child’s chosen habitat
• Glue
• Modeling clay or Play-Doh® (optional)
• Shoebox
• Markers or crayons
3. Ask your child to choose one type of *habitat*, such as a coral reef or a desert rocky cliff *habitat*. Help your child return to the Digital Playlist to revisit activities about their target *habitat*. Gather additional images and *resources*.

4. Guide your child to make a diorama of a *habitat* using a shoebox.

5. Have them include drawings or cut-out pictures of plants and animals that live in that *habitat*. For example, have them cut out pictures of clownfish and sea anemone to glue onto the back of the shoebox. Alternatively, they can make the sea anemone out of clay, so it looks 3D.

6. Have them include images to show what the weather is like in that *habitat*.

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**MODIFICATIONS**

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<th><strong>Beginning Learner</strong></th>
<th><strong>Advanced Learner</strong></th>
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<td>Your child may need more guidance to understand the similarities between a <em>community</em> and <em>habitat</em>. Discuss how <em>habitats</em> have things that plants and animals need, which is very similar to the ways a <em>community</em> has the things that people need.</td>
<td>Challenge your child to compare and contrast a <em>community</em> and a <em>habitat</em>. Ask them to write facts about each or create a Venn diagram—two overlapping circles—with this information. Encourage them to list the <em>resources</em> that help the living things in each to <em>survive</em>.</td>
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**Signs of Success and Needs**

You can feel confident of your child’s understanding of *habitats* if they are able to explain how *habitats* have everything a plant or an animal needs to *survive*. They will also be able to explain how a *habitat* is like a *community* for plants and animals. Your child will be able to name characteristics of *habitats* (a place where things live) and communities (the people who work and live in an area).

Some children may have difficulty understanding why some plants and animals are only found in certain *habitats*. It may be helpful to show them pictures of various *habitats*, such as wetland *habitats* or rainforest *habitats*. Discuss the reasons why your child would or would not want to live in a particular *habitat* based on the available *resources*. Encourage your child to think about the reasons why a *habitat* has or does not have the things that an animal needs.

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Our activities are designed to be safe with adult supervision. Please follow directions carefully.