



PROGRAMME 15: NEIGHBOURHOOD

AIMS

The aim of this topic is to make children aware of the special features, people and events that are in their neighbourhood. The aim is also for children to become more aware of the role they can play in improving their neighbourhood.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Children will be able to:

- pinpoint special features of their neighbourhood on a map
 - describe the important features of their neighbourhood, including people
 - make suggestions on how to improve the physical features of their neighbourhood
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MATERIALS

- DVD 1 episode 'Neighbourhood'
 - Large paper
 - Small paper for making houses, signs, churches etc
 - Felt-tip markers, colouring pencils, paints
 - Paste
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SKILLS

- Communication
 - Social and co-operation
 - Problem solving
 - Work and study
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VIRTUES

- Courage
- Consideration
- Assertiveness
- Preparedness
- Patience
- Responsibility

LESSONS (*Adapt for Juniors*)

View the episode 'Neighbourhood' on DVD 1 before the lesson. See CD Rom for printable worksheets.

1. Have children describe their neighbourhood. Write these questions on the board. Who lives near you? What ethnicities, ages and genders are they? What do they do for a living? Have they lived there for a long time? Are there any newcomers? Are there any interesting people and what makes them interesting?
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Mapping

2. Make a large map of the local area of the school with street names, parks, the school and any other key non-housing structures. Use cartridge paper, newsprint, markers, paint, coloured pencils and felts. Have children draw and colour in their houses with their names and house numbers on them. Paste the houses on the correct streets on the map. Colour in the way (streets) children come to school. Discuss which children live nearby and which children live further out from the school. Those who live outside the boundaries of the map can paste their houses on the outside of the map to symbolise this.
 3. Discuss and pinpoint with the children the local churches, shops, community houses, police stations, parks and industrial buildings that are near the school with highlighter pens.
 4. Ask the children a variety of questions in regard to local community events, churches, whether they go shopping in their local area, if they have family who live nearby, if they attend a social, sporting or other kind of group, and where in their neighbourhood it is.
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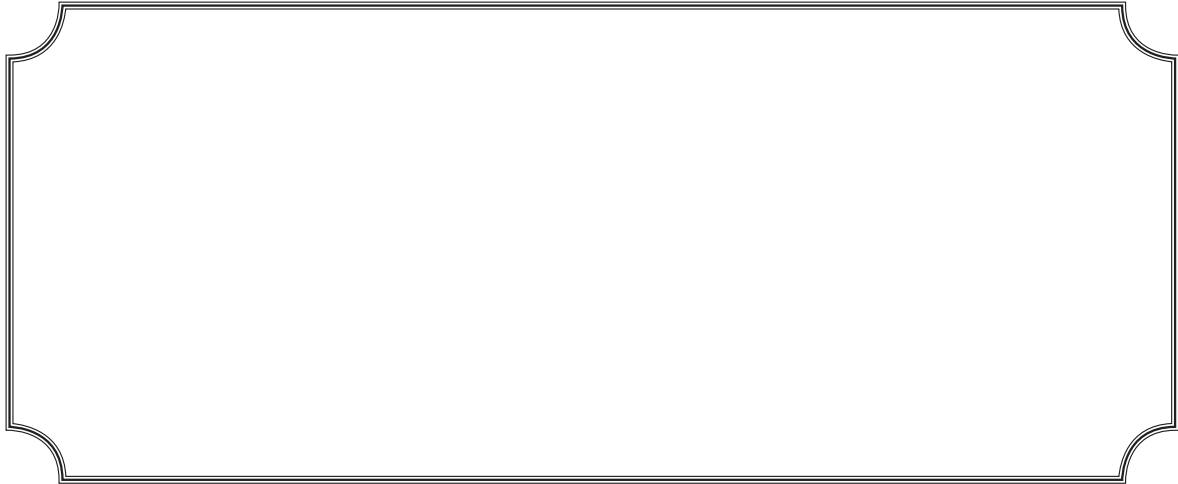
Your Neighbourhood

5. Ask children if their area is the best it could be. What do they like best about their neighbourhood? What improvements would they make if they were given the chance to change it in any way? Children should think about the:
 - a) Visual/Physical nature of their local area. (Would they paint out graffiti, fix any fences, make gardens look better, have more theatres, movie cinemas, pools or parks?)
 - b) Are there any social events or organisations they would like to see in their neighbourhood? (People-oriented organisations such as churches, community social groups, meals on wheels or sporting groups)
 6. Have children draw their favourite person and special features of their neighbourhood in colour. Children can also draw a feature of their neighbourhood that they would like to improve. (Sheet provided.)
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MY NEIGHBOURHOOD

Name: Date:

This is a special person from my neighbourhood. (Relative, minister, teacher, coach, MP)



This is a special feature of my neighbourhood. (Park, pool, church, library, shops)



This is one improvement I would make to my neighbourhood. You can draw anything that you think would look better if you could improve it.



SUPPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

ICT

Take photos of a special feature within your local community/neighbourhood. Put photos into a slideshow using text to accompany them. This can be showcased in assembly or to another class.

Oral Language

Have children speak about their neighbourhood and research any up-and-coming special events, points of interest and famous people who live in their area.

Topic

Have each student make a list of what they believe are the qualities of a good neighbour. Working in small groups, children can share ideas of what it takes to be a good neighbour.

Invite someone of authority in your community or a well known neighbour to come to your class and talk about what they do in the local community to make it a better place.

Invite your local community constable to your classroom and ask them to talk about what they do in the local community to help make it a better place.

Invite a member of a family who has lived in your neighbourhood a long time and have them discuss the changes they have experienced over the years. Also what they believe makes the neighbourhood special.

Invite a member of a family who has just moved in to the area and ask them what their thoughts are about it.

Have a walking journey to the local shops, library or pool, police station or fire service and discuss why the community regards these services as important.

Visual Language

Make a poster of a forthcoming local event or festival in their area. Have the children design the poster with appropriate titles, sub-titles and information relevant to the event. This can be done on a computer or by hand on poster paper.

Written Language

Write to a government body such as your local council or a relevant service provider to help improve some part of your neighbourhood e.g. write letters to request paints and paint brushes to paint over graffiti or gloves to pick up rubbish in a local park.
