



COMMUNITY QUEST

THE OBJECTIVE...

STUDENTS WILL WORK IN GROUPS TO DESIGN A FICTIONAL COMMUNITY. THEY WILL HAVE TO CONSIDER VARIOUS ASPECTS OF WHAT MAKES A COMMUNITY FUNCTIONAL, SUSTAINABLE AND ENJOYABLE TO LIVE IN.

THERE ARE STAGES TO THIS ACTIVITY THAT ARE BROKEN DOWN OVER THE NEXT FEW PAGES IN THIS PACK.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED...

- LARGE SHEETS OF PAPER OR POSTER BOARDS PENS, PENCILS, AND COLOURING PENCILS
- ACCESS TO REFERENCE MATERIALS ABOUT OTHER COMMUNITIES (INTERNET OR BOOKS)
- A PRINT OUT OF THE STUDENT QUEST PACK FOR EACH GROUP OF STUDENTS



GETTING STARTED

INTRODUCTION

START WITH A CLASS DISCUSSION ABOUT WHAT A COMMUNITY IS. ASK STUDENTS TO THINK ABOUT WHAT THEY THINK COMMUNITY MEANS. ASK THEM TO THINK ABOUT WHERE THEY HAVE LIVED:

- WHAT KIND OF BUILDINGS ARE THERE?
- WHAT KINDS OF PEOPLE?
- WHAT MADE IT A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE?

INTRODUCTION

DIVIDE THE CLASS INTO GROUPS OF 4-5 STUDENTS.

TRY TO GET A MIXTURE OF SKILLS IN EACH GROUP (E.G. CREATIVITY, ORGANISATION, PRESENTATION).

EXPLAIN THAT EACH GROUP WILL BE CREATING THEIR OWN COMMUNITY.



DESIGNING THE COMMUNITY

PLANNING

HAVE EACH GROUP DISCUSS AND COMPLETE THE 'DESIGNING YOUR COMMUNITY' WORKSHEET. ENCOURAGE THEM TO THINK ABOUT:

- WILL PEOPLE LIVE IN HOUSES, APARTMENTS ETC,?
- WHAT SERVICES WILL PEOPLE NEED E.G. SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS,
- POLICE WILL THERE BE MUSEUMS, THEATRES ETC.?
- HOW WILL PEOPLE GET AROUND? E.G. ROADS, BUS, TRAIN, CYCLING?
- HOW WILL THEY LOOK AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT?

BUDGETING

THIS IS ABOUT NARROWING THEIR THINKING DOWN FROM THE INITIAL PLANNING. IN THE STUDENT'S PACK, THERE IS A SHEET EXPLAINING THAT STUDENTS HAVE A £1 MILLION BUDGET TO DESIGN THEIR COMMUNITY. THEN THERE IS A MENU OF FACILITIES WITH PRICES BROKEN INTO THREE CATEGORIES: ESSENTIALS, PREMIUM ESSENTIALS AND LUXURIES.

EACH CHOICE IMPACTS THREE SCORES: AFFORDABILITY FOR CITIZENS, CITIZEN WELFARE AND FUN AND CULTURE. STUDENTS SHOULD AIM TO HAVE SOME MONEY LEFT OVER AND GET ALL SCORES BALANCED AND POSITIVE.



AN EXAMPLE BUDGET

TO BUILD A BALANCED COMMUNITY WITH £1 MILLION AND LEAVE SOME MONEY ASIDE FOR EMERGENCIES (E.G., £50,000).

ESSENTIALS:

- HOUSING (£250,000)
- PRIMARY SCHOOL (£100,000)
- DOCTORS' SURGERY (£75,000)
- SMALL SUPERMARKET (£50,000)
- PARK (£15,000)
- PUBLIC TRANSPORT (£25,000)
- POLICE STATION (£60,000)
- FIRE STATION (VOLUNTEER-RUN) (£40,000)
- WATER & ELECTRICITY (£60,000)

SUBTOTAL: £675,000

PREMIUM ESSENTIALS:

SECONDARY SCHOOL (£150,000)
LARGE PARK WITH PLAYGROUND (£50,000)
LIBRARY (£80,000)
SUBTOTAL: £280,000

TOTAL SPENT: £955,000

REMAINING FOR EMERGENCIES: £45,000

AFFORDABILITY: +8 | CITIZEN'S WELFARE: +24 | FUN AND CULTURE: +7

IF YOU WANTED TO IMPROVE FUN AND CULTURE WITHOUT COMPROMISING TOO MUCH ON AFFORDABILITY, YOU MIGHT CONSIDER ADDING AFFORDABLE CULTURAL FACILITIES (LIKE A SMALL CINEMA OR COMMUNITY THEATRE), OR MORE ENTERTAINMENT SPACES (LIKE A LARGER PARK OR A COMMUNITY ARTS SPACE).

ALTERNATIVELY, MORE LUXURIES (SUCH AS A SPORTS CENTRE OR CONCERT HALL) COULD INCREASE FUN AND CULTURE DRAMATICALLY BUT WOULD LOWER AFFORDABILITY. THE BALANCE DEPENDS ON WHAT KIND OF COMMUNITY PLAYERS WISH TO CREATE."

DESIGNING THE COMMUNITY

DRAWING THE COMMUNITY

GROUPS WILL DRAW A MAP OF THEIR COMMUNITY, INCLUDING ALL THE ELEMENTS THEY DISCUSSED CLEARLY LABELLED.

THERE IS A PAGE IN THE ACTIVITY PACK FOR THIS, IN CASE IT BECOMES AN INDEPENDENT ACTIVITY, BUT YOU MIGHT FIND IT BETTER TO USE LARGER PIECES OF PAPER FOR THE GROUPS.

PRESENTING

EACH GROUP WILL PRESENT THEIR COMMUNITY TO THE CLASS AND EXPLAIN THE CHOICES THEY MADE ALONG THE WAY.

TRY TO KEEP THESE SHORT AND SWEET.



COMMUNITY CHALLENGES

WHAT ARE CHALLENGES

AS A FOLLOW UP ACTIVITY, OR A SEPARATE LESSON, YOU CAN GIVE STUDENTS CHALLENGES FOR THEIR COMMUNITY THAT THEY HAVE TO SOLVE. THERE ARE FIVE CHALLENGES TO CHOOSE FROM WITH VARYING LEVELS OF DIFFICULTY, EACH HAS AN ACCOMPANYING WORKSHEET IN THE ACTIVITY PACK. STUDENTS SHOULD CONSIDER ANY REMAINING BUDGET THEY HAVE TO SOLVE CHALLENGES.

THEY ARE ALL VARYING LEVELS OF DIFFICULTY, WE'D RECOMMEND DOING 1-3 CHALLENGES WITH YOUR STUDENTS.

HOW TO RUN THEM

FOR EACH CHALLENGE, GIVE STUDENTS 10 MINUTES TO PREPARE THEIR SOLUTION, THEN 10 MINUTES TO PRESENT IT BACK TO CLASS, WITH 5 MINUTES AT THE END TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM YOU AND THE CLASS.

EACH CHALLENGE HAS A WORKSHEET IN THE ACTIVITY PACK THAT OUTLINES THE CHALLENGE AND GIVES A SPACE FOR STUDENTS TO WRITE. WE RECOMMEND WRITING THE CHALLENGE ON THE BOARD FIRST.



COMMUNITY CHALLENGES

POPULATION CHALLENGE

THE RESIDENTIAL AREAS ARE ALMOST FULL, AND MORE PEOPLE WANT TO MOVE IN. IN GROUPS, STUDENTS SHOULD DECIDE IF THEY SHOULD:

- EXPAND THE CURRENT RESIDENTIAL AREA
- BUILD NEW HOUSES ON A DIFFERENT PART OF THE MAP
- CONSIDER ANY OTHER SERVICES THAT NEED TO EXPAND
- LIKE SCHOOLS AND SHOPS

ASK THEM HOW THE HOUSING WILL AFFECT THE REST OF THE COMMUNIT

THE STORM

PARTS OF THE COMMUNITY WERE DAMAGED BY A STORM. SEVERAL HOME AND BUILDINGS ARE RUINED AND SOME ROADS ARE FLOODED. IN GROUPS, STUDENTS SHOULD:

- IDENTIFY WHICH PARTS OF THE COMMUNITY ARE AFFECTED MOST
- DECIDE HOW TO REBUILD AND PREVENT FUTURE STORMS.

YOU SHOULD ASK THEM HOW THEY WILL SUPPORT THE COMMUNIT DURING THE REBUILD, AND THOSE AFFECTED BY THE STORM.



COMMUNITY CHALLENGES

BUDGET CUTS

THE GOVERNMENT ARE CUTTING BUDGETS AND THE COMMUNITY NEEDS TO REDUCE THEIR COSTS BY £150,000. STUDENTS SHOULD FIGURE OUT.

- HOW TO REDUCE FUNDING ACROSS ALL SERVICES EQUALLY
- CLOSING SOME SERVICES TO PROTECT OTHERS
- INTRODUCING WAYS TO RAISE MONEY

YOU SHOULD ASK THEM WHICH SERVICES ARE ESSENTIAL AND HOW THE CUTS WILL AFFECT THE PEOPLE IN THEIR COMMUNITY, AND THEIR SCORES.

LITTER AND POLLUTION

THERE IS A RISE IN POLLUTION AND WASTE IN THE PARKS. ANIMALS ARE BEING AFFECTED AND PEOPLE ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT THE SMELL. STUDENTS SHOULD CONSIDER:

- NEW RECYCLING PROGRAMMES AND PUBLIC CAMPAIGN
- SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES LIKE PLANTING TREES

YOU SHOULD ASK STUDENTS HOW THEY WILL INVOLVE THE COMMUNIT IN THEIR PLANS AND WHAT THEIR LONG TERM SOLUTIONS ARE.



COMMUNITY CHALLENGES

CULTURE FESTIVAL

THE COMMUNITY IS PLANNING A CULTURE FESTIVAL TO CELEBRATE THE DIFFERENT CULTURES AND TRADITIONS OF RESIDENTS. THERE WILL BE FOOD, MUSIC, DANCE AND OTHER ACTIVITIES. STUDENTS SHOULD DECIDE

- WHAT ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS SHOULD TAKE PLACE
- WHERE THE EVENT WILL BE HELD AND HOW THEY WILL PROMOTE IT
- WHAT RESOURCES THEY NEED

YOU SHOULD ASK HOW THEY PLAN TO INVOLVE EVERYONE IN THE EVENT."

INVENT YOUR OWN CHALLENGE...

