



Summary

This critical thinking task is designed to be used in the grade three classroom in the subject area of Social Studies. This task addresses the Canada and World Connections – Urban and Rural Communities strand in the Ontario Curriculum.

After establishing criteria to determine the needs of families within their community, students will design a pamphlet of an imaginary community which is suitable for their chosen family profile. The pamphlet will be used to persuade the family to move to the community.

Students will choose one of three family profiles on which to base their imaginary community. The brainstorming and analysis will be done in partners. Each student will produce their own pamphlet.

Students will be given various resources to gather information such as books, videos, maps and websites.

GRADE 3 SOCIAL STUDIES URBAN AND RURAL COMMUNITIES CULMINATING TASK

Critical Challenge

Create a pamphlet of an imaginary community to fit a family profile.

Type of Challenge

Design to Specs

In this challenge students will demonstrate an understanding of what features are found in urban and rural communities by designing a community for a specific family.

Synopsis

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Teaching Tools

Background knowledge

Students will need to identify and compare distinguishing features of urban and rural communities. They will need to identify ways in which people interact with their community and other communities. Students will need to be familiar with vocabulary related to the study of urban and rural communities (urban, rural, residential, industrial, commercial, natural resources, multicultural, environment, population).

Criteria for Judgment

In partners, brainstorm the needs of the families profiled.

Examples:

- food
- recreation
- jobs
- family connections
- accessibility
- housing

Critical thinking vocabulary

- judgment
- analysis
- criteria
- evidence

Thinking Strategies

- judgment
- analysis
- criteria
- evidence

Habits of Mind

- fair-minded
- attention to detail

Profile A

- mom is a doctor
- dad works for the government
- 2 children – grade 3, grade 5
- have 1 car
- the family enjoys eating out, going to the theatre and museums
- they spend time at the park

Profile B

- moms works in a factory
- dad runs the family business
- 2 kids – grade 3, grade 5
- they have pets
- children love to play outside
- they have their own horses
- grow food in their garden

Profile C

- 2 children – grade 3, grade 5
- live with mom and grandma in an apartment
- mom is a teacher
- grandma is a caregiver
- visit their dad on the weekends
- they like to go to the movies
- they go to day camp in the summer
- mom plays tennis/golf