



Activity Packet

A collection of resources aligned to the theme of Community



A community is like a treasure map, and each place is a landmark that helps us understand where we live and how everything connects. From the library to the grocery store to the post office, every location has a purpose and a place on the map. Help your students build their geography skills and develop a sense of place by exploring how maps show the relationships between these important parts of their community through engaging books and activities.

This packet includes a:

- Community classroom activity
- Community home activity
- Community recommended booklist

We recommend you print and copy the home activity and recommended book list to send home with your students.

For more reading fun, visit RallytoRead.org.



Theme: Community | Classroom Activity

Common Core Standard: CCRA.R.7 | Social Studies: Mapping Skills

Map of My School

- This activity is appropriate for independent work, pairs, or small group work collaboration.
- Adjust the activity according to the needs of your individual students by assigning specific roles for pair or group work.
- This activity can be adjusted to a *Map of My Community* with a tour of locations in the community depending on the surrounding area.

Steps

Whole Group

1. Brainstorm locations in your school (library, gym, cafeteria, playground, classroom).
2. Take a walking tour of the school. Point out where important places are located.
3. Add to the initial brainstorm any places you missed or eliminate ones that weren't there.

Small Group/Individual

Using the map worksheet page, have students follow the steps below to create their own map.

1. Draw the outline of the school showing the inside and outside areas.
2. Add important places to the outline using different shapes to represent each one.
3. Label the locations of each important place.
4. Create a map key that explains what each shape or symbol means.
5. Add a compass rose showing north, east, south, and west.
6. Color and decorate!
7. Lead a gallery walk so students can share and compare their completed maps.



Theme: Community | Classroom Activity

Map Worksheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Title: _____

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a student to draw a map.

This is a map of my: _____

Our class is learning about places in the community with literacy resources from Reading Is Fundamental (RIF). To deepen their understanding of this concept, here is a suggested activity you can complete with your child at home.

Our Neighborhood

- This activity can be as simple or as complex as you like, using a piece of paper and a pen or a whole collection of collage materials.
- If your child is working on maps in class, this activity encourages them to share their learning with you and apply their understanding to another activity.

Steps

1. Talk with your child about your neighborhood or local community. This could be your street, town, or any area you'd like to explore. Discuss places you visit often and what makes them important.
2. Work together to draw a map of your neighborhood or community area. Use simple shapes to show streets, parks, stores, schools, and other familiar places.
3. Focus on the places. Make a list of all the important places in your community (examples: grocery store, school, park, fire station, post office, library, playground).
4. Add these places to your map. Label each place and talk about what happens there and why it matters to your community.
5. As you read books about communities, keep the conversation going—ask questions like: What makes a community a great place to live? What places do we need to stay safe, learn, and have fun?

Reading
Is Fundamental
until every child reads

Reading Is Fundamental has curated a list of books to help children further explore the theme of community. Use this recommended book list to help your students/children continue their discovery about this topic in school and at home. For additional activities for the books listed, please visit RIF.org/Literacy-Central/Collections/Rally-Read-Community-Collection. **View read-alouds of titles in blue on RallytoRead.org this month.**



The Day the Crayons Made Friends

Author: Drew Daywalt
Illustrator: Oliver Jeffers
Grades: PK-3



Lola at the Library

Author: Anna McQuinn
Illustrator: Rosalind Beardshaw
Grades: PK-1



Follow That Clue!

Author: Nan Walker
Illustrator: Diane Palmisciano
Grades: K-3



A Chair for My Mother

Author & Illustrator: Vera B. Williams
Grades: PK-3



Yours, Mine, Ours

Authors: Arun Gandhi & Bethany Hegedus
Illustrator: Andrés Landazábal
Grades: PK-1



The Oak Street Party

Author: Catherine Peters
Illustrator: Christine Ross
Grades: PK-1



A Green Place To Be

Author & Illustrator: Ashley Yazdani
Grades: 2-5



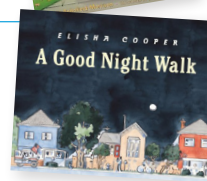
I Got the Rhythm

Author: Connie Schofield-Morrison
Illustrator: Frank Morrison
Grades: PK-1



Dumpling Day

Author: Meera Sriram
Illustrator: Inés de Antuñano
Grades: PK-4



A Good Night Walk

Author & Illustrator: Elisha Cooper
Grades: PK-1

BARNES & NOBLE

Storytime Pick



The Bakery Dragon

Author & Illustrator: Devin Elle Kurtz
Grades: PK-3

Discussion questions for any recommend book listed above:

1. What are some of the places in the community shown in the books?
2. What is similar from place to place in the community? What is different?
3. Who works at that community location? What do they do?
4. What are some other places in the community that were not part of those explored by the books?
5. What places in the community make you more curious about visiting or learning more about?