



SOCIAL STUDIES

# Building communities

## Objectives

After completing this lesson, students should be able to increase their awareness of the make-up of their community.

## Materials

- Collection of cereal boxes of various shapes and sizes
- Tempra paint
- Construction paper
- Blue felt tip pens
- Scissors
- Butcher paper

## Lesson Plan

- 1 Talk with students in a group setting about the community in which they live. Lead the discussion to draw on students' awareness of buildings, streets, parks or features unique to the community.
- 2 Plan and conduct a class field trip to observe the actual make-up of the community or do a virtual field trip using video you can record on your smartphone. Ask the students to make notes to help in constructing a model of the community.
- 3 Ask students to assist in drawing in outline form the streets or roads that comprise the community as they have viewed it. The plan may be first drawn on the chalkboard and then transferred to the butcher paper placed on the floor.
- 4 Direct the students to work individually, in pairs, or in small groups to make buildings from the cereal boxes and art supplies.
- 5 Place the cereal boxes in appropriate spots on the streets and roads drawn on the paper.
- 6 Make traffic lights, street signs, trees, flowers, grass, etc. from various art supplies to add realistic interest.
- 7 Provide time and opportunity for the students to talk freely about the model.

