

OBJECTIVES

Children will develop creative-thinking, fine-motor, language, and social skills as they work together to plan, design, and create a community mural. Using art and creativity students will will also connect several community pieces together.

SUPPLIES

- White or brown mural paper (large roll paper or smaller individual or group pieces will work)
- Chart paper
- Pencils, markers, and crayons
- Tempera paint, or any other classroom paint.

ACTIVITY

Step 1: Engage the students in a discussion to share ideas for about what they want to put in their community mural. Themes or ideas including, homes, neighborhoods, parks, people, animals, transportation, and buildings may be considered. Develop a list of ideas on chart paper or the board.

Step 2: Divide the children into small groups and ask each child to draw their home, their family and any other special things they may want to add. Give each group a specific building to add to the mural and ask each group to create a park. Give children some creative freedom to add in other community monuments they may think of.

Step 3: Find an area in the classroom where children can work. Depending on space and supplies children can work individually on smaller sheets (that can be taped together) or on larger sheets in small groups or if room permits all students can work together on one long sheet of paper. If working with one large sheet, students may have to work on it in smaller groups and in assigned areas to ensure everyone has room to create. Be sure to document the process!

Step 4: After they have completed the mural ask them to write about the mural. What does the mural mean to them? What did they enjoy or dislike about the project? Find an area of the classroom to display the mural and the children's thoughts about the mural. (writing template attached)

