



Community Supports and Resources

Materials:

- Worksheet

Brainstorm

What communities are you part of? Why are communities so important in our lives?

Discuss

Accept student responses and confirm or clarify as needed by asking questions such as: How does it feel to be a member of a community? Why are you grateful for being part of a community?

Dive in!

A **community** is defined as a group of people living or working together in the same area. A community can also be made up of people who share a common goal or interest. Communities can share a common goal, a common history, interests, or resources. For example, a family community might share common relatives. A group of people interested in video games may form a community where they share tips and strategies. A school is a community where resources are shared to provide people with an education. Your community could be this class, your school, a religious institution, the neighborhood you live in, or your city or town.

Activity

Distribute copies of the worksheet to students. Communities benefit when members of the community work together to help solve problems. Communities offer support and services, but are also ways for members to contribute according to their interests and talents. For today's activity, we're going to think about resources that are available in our community and the services they provide. Then, we're going to think about the ways in which we can contribute to the community. Let's look at an example. Our school has counselors. We'll write "school counselor" in the first box. One of their roles is to help students plan for what they want to do after high school. We can write that in the second box. What are some ways we can contribute to the work that school counselors do? Accept student suggestions; answers may include mentoring a new student or transitioning 9th grader, etc. Then have students work in pairs or



High School

small groups to think of other examples. When done, call on student volunteers to share their responses.

Reflect

To wrap up the lesson, have students respond to the prompt at the bottom of the worksheet. What resources are missing that could be helpful to high school students in your community?

Extend and Enrich

Encourage students to take action on the areas they identified as resources or services they could provide in the community.

For Further Study

- CASEL, *Community Building*:
<https://schoolguide.casel.org/focus-area-3/classroom/a-supportive-classroom-environment/community-building/>
- Edutopia, *10 Powerful Community-Building Ideas*:
www.edutopia.org/article/10-powerful-community-building-ideas
- Facing History and Ourselves, *Building Community for Connection and Learning*:
www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/back-school-2021-building-community-connection-and-learning

Professional Development

Are you taking full advantage of the resources in your community? Are there any areas in which you could contribute to your community?