Who Works In Our Community?

Preschool–Kindergarten

Objectives

• Students will discuss what happens in their community and identify a variety of places there.
• Students will discuss who works in the various buildings in their neighborhood.
• Students will sort and classify different items, objects or equipment according to their neighborhood location.

Materials Needed

• *Places in My Community* by Bobbie Kalman
• Best-Buy Crayons
• Lunch-size paper bags
• Newspaper or scrap paper
• Lakeshore Glue Sticks
• Community buildings template
• Community helpers template
• My Community Sorting Mat
• My Community Sorting Cards
• Safety Scissors
• Chart paper
• Posterboard
• Stapler

Introduction

Read *Places in My Community* by Bobbie Kalman.

Procedure

1. Ask students to recall the places in the story. Make a list of these on chart paper and invite students to discuss why the community needs each place (e.g., stores to buy food and clothes, hospitals to heal sick people, fire stations to put out fires, etc.).

2. Prompt students to list neighborhood places not included in the story.

Guided Practice

1. Give each student a different community buildings template, scissors, a paper bag, newspaper or scrap paper, some crayons and a glue stick.

2. Ask students to color and cut out their community building and glue it to the outside of their paper bag.

3. Instruct students to stuff the bags with bunches of paper until the bags stand up without support. Help students fold the tops of their bags before you staple them closed. **Tip:** While students are working on their bags, you or a parent volunteer can cut out the figures from the community helpers template and mount each one onto posterboard.

4. When the bags are finished, direct students’ attention to you as you hold up a community helper figure. Have students identify what this community worker does (e.g., firefighter, doctor, librarian, etc.). Repeat with the other figures.

5. Ask students to raise their hands as they identify figures who work in their community building.

6. Once all helpers have been matched to the correct buildings, place the paper bags and figures in a classroom dramatic play or block play center. Add some books about community helpers for students to enjoy!
Independent Practice

1. Provide each student with a copy of the My Community Sorting Mat and a set of My Community Sorting Cards.
2. Have students cut apart the sorting cards. (You can pre-cut a set of cards for younger students.)
3. Instruct students to mix up the cards and look at the pictures on them to decide which community building each belongs to.
4. Invite students to glue the corresponding picture cards below the community buildings on the mat. Or students can play with a partner and see who can fill up their mat first.

My Community Sorting Cards

Answer Key

- **Fire Station**
  - Fire truck
  - Hat
  - Fire extinguisher

- **Hospital**
  - X-ray
  - Ambulance
  - Doctor

- **School**
  - Backpack
  - Pencil
  - Paintbrush

- **Supermarket**
  - Shopping cart
  - Cash register
  - Canned goods