

Communities

Study Guide

Concepts:

1. Name the five strands that make up a community:
 - a. geographic– The location of a community on our earth. This includes the continent, type of region (like polar, desert, forest), different types of physical features (landforms and bodies of water), climate, and plants and animals.
 - b. economic– How money is made/used in the community. The type of money (currency), jobs, imports (goods brought to the community from other places), exports (goods sold to other communities) are all part of the economy of a community.
 - c. historical– The past events and people that have helped to form and create the community. This might include famous people, landmarks, wars that have occurred, and migration (people moving from one place to particular community).
 - d. political– The government, rules, and laws of a community, The type of government and who the leader is are examples of political characteristics of a community.
 - e. social-cultural– People's values, traditions, and lifestyles. What people do as a family and for fun and enjoyment are all socio-cultural characteristics. Holidays, food, sports, school, music, art, literature, and people are other socio-cultural characteristics.
2. Know types of communities & which one we live in (rural, suburban, urban)
3. Understand the importance of being a good citizen
4. Understand their duties as a citizen
5. Understand that geography affects the development of a community and the lifestyle of the people (jobs, food, clothing)

Vocabulary Terms:

1. community– a place where people live, work, and play
2. natural resource– something found in nature that people use (ie. water & soil)
3. Country–An area of land with its own people
4. Continent–One of seven main parts of land on the earth
5. Globe–A round model of the earth
6. Map–A drawing of lands or oceans that show where places are located
7. Location–The place where something is
8. Map Key–A legend on a map that tells you what the symbols stand for
9. Compass Rose–A tool that shows directions on a map
10. Cardinal Directions–The 4 main directions (north, south, east, west)

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Types of Communities

- Rural

- Farm community where distances are far between one place and another
- A community with the fewest people
- Houses have lots of land
- People can own farm animals
- Also known as country



- Suburban

- A community with more people than rural communities but less than an urban area
- Houses have some land but less than an urban area
- People cannot have farm animals. People usually have smaller pets like dogs and cats.
- Houses are often in developments
- Usually outside of a city
- Ballston Spa is a suburban community



- Urban

- A community with a lot of people
- Houses are very close together or apartment buildings
- People cannot have farm animals
- Think of Albany and New York City
- Also known as a city

