Future City Class Project

Grade Class
Name of School
Date

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Future City Project

Teams will work together to create a city in the future

What teams will come up with:

✓ City’s name and Year

✓ Land Use Plan:
  plan where people live, work, play, learn, shop, read, do art, grow food, visit nature

✓ Designs for your city based on the land use
Urban (or city) planners try to figure out the best way to use the land in cities and neighborhoods—for example houses, stores, parks, schools, roads.

Planners try to balance many things: such as housing, jobs, schools, traffic, the environment.

Planners update or make new plans when more people move into a community or are expected to. Before making plans for a community, planners need to know many important things.

We find out where people live, how many people use the streets, highways, water, sewers, schools, libraries, museums, and parks. Planners listen to the advice of people who live in the communities. With these and many other facts, we explain the new plans and work to make them happen.

For the next few days, you are all city planners working on creating a Future City Plan!
But, before we start to work, how about a little history?

First, places where people lived were called settlements or villages.

They were:

- Small in size (few buildings)
- Few people (and people didn’t live that long)
- Food was very hard to come by
- Transportation by foot (or small animals)
- Spoken communication, then people began learning to read so more things were written
Ancient Settlements
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Medieval Settlements
Then came towns or cities—more urbanized places

They were:
✓ Getting much larger, more buildings and people
✓ Working there, too (less farming, more industry)
✓ Trading goods between places all over
✓ Transportation was changing—wagons, ships
✓ Building construction advanced, more public spaces
✓ Communication—writing, letters, telegrams
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18th-19th Century
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Now many cities are:
✓ Very large, many with millions of people
✓ Communication, travel, buildings (high-rises), transportation…

Most people in the world live in urban settings

And some large cities are called a Metropolis or a Megalopolis…

Vancouver to Portland is called Cascadia

What will your city be called?
Large metropolitan areas—Mexico City
Hong Kong—one of the most dense cities in the world
Burj Khalifa—tallest building in the world
Cities have certain things in common:
✓ Where people live with other people
✓ Jobs, Schools, Hospitals, Places for Art, Culture & Sports
✓ Shops and Markets
✓ Industry
✓ Transportation Systems

But cities aren’t the same in every way:
✓ Geography and Culture
✓ History, Age of the city
✓ Number of people living there
✓ Climate
✓ Build-able land
✓ Coastal, Inland

WHAT DO YOU THINK CITIES WILL LOOK LIKE IN THE FUTURE?
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To help design your city, answer these questions:

**LIVING**
Where do people live? In what types of houses?

**WORKING & GOING TO SCHOOL**
Where do people work? What are their jobs? Where do students go to school?

**TRAVELING**
How do people get around their neighborhoods? Get to work? Travel?

**HAVING FUN**
City Planners need to answer these questions, too:

Where does water for drinking come from?

How can we keep our air clean?

Where will garbage, sewage, and recycling go?

Where will we grow good, healthy food?

Where will more people and jobs go?

Are new technologies needed?
Teams will work together to create a city in the future.

Teams will explain their **Vision** of a future city:

- Name (theme) and what Year in the future
- Land Use Plan—where people live, work, play, learn, shop
- Design of the required elements—use words, colors, drawings…

**In teams, you will present your work!**
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**Ground rules**

Once formed, teams stay together.

All students must contribute and participate.

**Teams must come to agreement on each step of the process before moving on to the next step.** Teams will present each step to [LEADER and TEACHER/HELPER] before being approved to move on to the next one.

There aren’t wrong solutions, but Teams **must agree** at each step before being able to move on. **CONSENSUS!**

Have fun while learning about cities!
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Steps

1) City name and year in the future

2) Land Use Plan

**REQUIRED**
- Housing
- Transportation
- Jobs & Schools
- Parks
- Garbage Dump

**CHOICE**
- Housing Types and locations
- Ways people travel—how, where
- Where people work, what kinds of places
- Small city parks, large recreation areas
- Where do these yucky but necessary things go?
- New stuff that no one has thought of

3) Based on Step 2 decide what each team member will design in the city
Team Packet Materials

Land Use Plan:
Map with title block (fill this out)

Drawing, Model, and Writing materials
Markers, pencils
Post it notes
String
Tape or Glue sticks
Folders (cut up and make shapes, buildings, etc.)

Classroom materials
Scissors as needed—ask for help cutting!
Let’s get planning!