

City Buildings

Pat Martin
Little Elementary
Arvada, Colorado

OVERVIEW

Students will describe various kinds of buildings within a large city, and have some ideas as to why the buildings were constructed in the manner that they were.

STANDARDS

- Geography Standard 4.4: Students know the processes, patterns, and functions of human settlement.

OBJECTIVES

After completing this activity, students will be able to:

- Understand and discuss characteristics of residential buildings in a large city
- Understand and discuss characteristics of recreational buildings in a large city
- Understand and discuss characteristics of business and commercial buildings in a large city
- Understand and discuss characteristics of industrial buildings in a large city
- Articulate why all of these different structures are important in the make-up of a large city
- Discuss the cities of the 19th and 20th century Colorado, and how they are alike and different

INQUIRY QUESTIONS

- Why don't all buildings in a city look the same?
- Who decides where buildings should be built?
- What were the first buildings built as a town grew up?
- What materials are buildings constructed of?
- How does your city look different/alike the cities pictured here?

MATERIALS TO BE USED

- Doing History CD-ROM disk or Internet site:
Photos from Cities topic, Large Cities theme

PROCEDURE

April 23, 2003

This activity developed with funding from the State Historical Fund.

Doing History/Keeping the Past
Lesson Plans

1. Students will view pictures from the Doing History materials for Cities topic, Large Cities theme.
2. Students will discuss in small groups what these large cities looked like as they began, and grew up.
3. Students will describe what a city in the 1800's looked like, as well as a city in the 1900's.
4. Students will discuss what they think are the most important buildings in a city and list them in order of importance.

ASSESSMENT

Students will write a letter to a tribal student in Kenya. In this letter they will attempt to describe their city, telling what they think are the most important buildings in their city and why they believe this is so. They must list at least five buildings and give their reasons for these choices to meet standard.