

Come to Order at the Town Meeting

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Overview:

The purpose of this activity is to have students develop a sense of civic responsibility for protecting the sites that reflect a community's heritage.

Standards:

- History Standard 2: Students know how to use the processes and resources of historical inquiry.
- Reading and Writing 2: Students write and speak for a variety of purposes and audiences.

Objectives:

After completing this activity, students will be able to:

- Gather information from historical photographs.
- Begin to value the idea of historical preservation.
- Present views through writing as well as orally.

Inquiry Questions:

- When was your building built?
- What was the building's original purpose?
- Why should your building be preserved?

Procedure:

1. Allow each group (no more than three) of students to experience the virtual tour of businesses of Georgetown, CO.
2. Assign each group one of the twelve businesses. This business becomes their building to defend the preservation of.
3. Inform students that one of these buildings will be removed to make room for a modern building.

4. Students will need to further research the historical background of the buildings.
5. Students will need to come up with a written argument as to why their building should be preserved.
6. Students will present their arguments to a simulated town council.

Extensions:

- Post pictures and written arguments on internet/intranet or web site and have others judge what buildings will remain.
- Post pictures and written arguments in internet/intranet or web site and have others add additional arguments.
- This activity could also be used with the *Cities and Industry* section by creating a virtual tour of historic downtown Denver.
- Digital photos taken during the Downtown Day in Denver field trip could be used in place of the virtual tour.