

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY?

A community is a dynamic system.

TOPICS <i>EALR Correlation</i>	KEY CONCEPTS	ESSENTIAL UNDERSTANDINGS	FOCUS QUESTIONS	
PEOPLE & PLACE <i>Geography</i>	A community is a place where groups of people live and work together.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A community has a unique location on Earth's surface. People in a community interact with their environment. People of different cultures live and work in a community for many reasons. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Where is my community located? What are the physical features of my community and region? What are important natural resources of my community? How does the climate of my community affect the way people live? What are the natural environments of my community? What are important landmarks of my community? Why do people choose to live and work in my community? 	SV – Chapters 1 – 6 W – Bodies of water Weather/climate Water cycle* Natural resource
	Water has unique characteristics. The water cycle is central to life on Earth. Water is a natural resource.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water exists in three states: solid, liquid, and gas. The earth has two types of water; salt and fresh. The water cycle connects all Earth's systems. Earth has a limited supply of water. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> What is water? How is the water cycle central to life on Earth? 	
HISTORY <i>History</i>	A community has a past, present, & future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People and events make up the history of a community. People start communities for many reasons. A community changes over time. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How (why) was my community started? What events and people have shaped the history of my community? How has my community changed over time? How has my community changed the natural environment? How has the built environment of my community changed? 	SV – Chapter 12 W - Historical transportation Use of water
	People and communities have used in many ways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technology has made improvements in how we use water. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In the past, how have people used water in my community? 	
ORGANIZATION <i>Civics</i>	Community citizens work together and form a government to provide services and solve problems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A government is composed of people who make, apply, and enforce rules and laws. A community provides many services to its citizens. Citizens of a community elect government leaders. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How is the government of my community organized? What services does my community provide? What rights and responsibilities do community members have? Who are the leaders of my community? 	SV – Chapters 9 – 11 W - Human water cycle Water cycle* Services Pollution <i>Communities and Their Decisions</i>
	People and communities use in many ways. The water cycle is central to life on Earth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People use water in many different ways. Communities provide water services to their citizens. Communities manage, conserve, and protect their water resources. Communities express connections to their unique water environments through language, arts, and customs. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How do communities use, manage, and conserve water resources? 	
ECONOMY <i>Economics</i>	The economy of a community depends on the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Businesses are important to a community because they provide jobs, products, and services. People are important to a community's economy. The world is a global marketplace where people and communities trade with each other. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How are people important to a community's economy? How are businesses important to a community's economy? What products and services does my community provide? Why do communities trade with each other? How are goods sent to other communities? 	SV – Chapters 7 – 8 W - Transportation Industries/manufacturing <i>The Toy Company – Running a Business</i>
	People and communities use water in many ways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities use water in many different ways. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How do communities use, manage, and conserve water resources? 	

<p>NATURAL ECOSYSTEM</p> <p><i>Geography</i> <i>Civics</i></p>	<p>An ecosystem is a natural community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland ecosystems are transition zones between land and water. • Wetlands have many important functions. • People manage and protect wetlands. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are wetlands? 2. How are wetlands important? 3. What wetlands exist in my community? 4. How can we protect wetlands? 	<p>W – Water ecosystems</p>
	<p>All living things need water</p>			

1/10/02