

Lesson Title: Places without Names¹

Lesson Objectives:

- Students will write a description of their community without proper nouns

Curricular Connections: Language Arts (descriptive writing, grammar, public speaking), Social Studies (evaluate community resources)

Duration of Activity: 30-50 minutes

Supplies Needed: • none

Age Range: 10 and up

Activity 1:

- A. Students will discuss the things that make their community, or where they live unique (brainstorm on board). You may want to divide class if students come from many different communities.
- B. Lesson on proper nouns
- C. Try to pick on item on brainstorm work with class to describe without using proper nouns
- D. Students write (1-2 pages) a description of their community. The goal is not to objectively describe their community, but capture what is important to them.
- E. Students read and discuss their descriptions.
- F. Optional—editing, peer editing, etc.

Reflection:

1. What was the hardest thing to describe without proper nouns?
2. How did you think of their community differently by writing their descriptions?
3. How do you think of community differently by hearing other's descriptions?

Assessment:

1. Assess descriptions on basis of grammar, clarity, creativity.

¹ Developed by John Gwinn at Phillipps Community Television.