

An activity where children make drawings to answer specific questions related to their neighbourhood.

Goal: To associate places with feelings and see how children see their community.

Audience: Children 5 - 12 years old (groups of no more than 10).



What you need:

- Plain paper
- Colouring pencils
- Felt tip pens
- Note paper
- Table or flat area for drawing
- Sweets for children

Community

In this exercise children are required to draw areas in their neighbourhood. Facilitators could ask questions concerning their favourite/least favourite place, a place that they play in or a place that they are scared of. Questions asked are relevant to the area of study.

Children are left to draw freely so not to be influenced by discussion with facilitators, and once finished are labelled with the child's name and age. These drawings are presented to the rest of the group by the respective child. Facilitators note general feelings towards a place, along with their characteristics, across the group.

Instructions:

Step 1: Gather the groups of children (no more than 10 at a time), the facilitators should introduce themselves and make name tags for each participant with their age. What they should draw could be mentioned here.

Step 2: Distribute paper and colour pencils, allowing them enough time to draw. Their name and age should be written on the back.

Step 3: Arrange the drawings on a wall. One by one, each child should present their drawing.

Step 4: Analyse the drawings, noting those areas mentioned most, along with specific details.

Notes for facilitators:

Drawing an example can help children understand and become confident with the task. While children are drawing try to observe and ask them questions to ensure they understood the task, to make them feel comfortable and to get information individually in case they are too shy to explain it in front of the group. Ideally the facilitator should be charismatic and highly familiar with the context the children live in.