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# A Lesson on My Community

## by Crystal Golinski

**Grade Level:** Grade 3

**Subject Area:** English Language Arts

**Lesson Length:**

**Lesson Keywords:**

**Lesson Description:**

**Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson**

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.2: Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1: Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4: Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning word and phrases based on grade 3 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

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## Lesson Content: Book/Story/Reading Passage

**Instructions:** Please read the following reading passage as many times as needed (aloud and silent) before starting to go through other lesson pages. Understanding the content of this passage is very important since the lesson activities will be all about this content. Feel free to print the passage if needed.

### My Community

by

**Content:** My family has lived in this community for many years. We still live in the same house my grandmother lived in when she was a child.

When she was a child, there were open fields, but that was 50 years ago. Then people moved here because it was a good place to live. There was a good school. People thought the neighborhood looked pretty. There were many trees.

So many people moved to this community. They built homes, apartment buildings and houses. There was no more open land.

They opened stores, too. My grandmother says that when she was young she had to walk for blocks to get to a store. Now there is a store right down the street. The store owner knows that there are many customers.

She used to have to walk very far to get to school. But then they built a school right across the street from our house. So her child, my mother, could go to school in a minute. She just opened the front door and crossed the street and she was there.

More people moved into the community so the school got overcrowded. The school district built another building. Hundreds of children go to the school every day. I am one of them.

Five years ago, when I was in 1st grade, there was no place to play. We had a playground but it was not good. So after school I would go home and play on my block. But there wasn't much to do, it was hard to play there, and my mother worried.

That year they started to change the school. They tore up the concrete outside the school. They planted grass and trees. It took a long time. There was a lot of dirt. My mother kept vacuuming every day. She said it was dust from the construction.

Finally, they finished. Now there is a park right across the street from my home. I'm there every day after school. My mother can see that I am safe. She just looks out the window.

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## Task 1: Vocabulary

**Instructions:** Please complete the following vocabulary activity by choosing the correct meaning of each word selected from the passage and use of each word correctly in a sentence.

**Q: 1 WordPhrase:** overcrowded **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** The author says, "More people moved into the community so the school got overcrowded." What does the word "overcrowded" mean?

- A: busy
- B: packed with people
- C: smaller
- D: fun

**Question:** Which sentence below uses the word "overcrowded" correctly?

- A: The streets were overcrowded during the parade.
- B: My house was overcrowded when everyone left for the day.
- C: My big bed is overcrowded when I go to sleep.
- D: It is overcrowded when I go fishing.

**Q: 2 WordPhrase:** district **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** he author says, "The school district built another building." What does the word "district" mean?

- A: The group in that area who are in charge of making decisions.
- B: Area
- C: Different place.
- D: Position

**Question:** Which sentence below uses the word "district" correctly?

- A: The district is at the beach.
- B: Where is the my district?
- C: The district decided to hire new teachers.
- D: I have a district with my parents.

**Q: 3 WordPhrase:** construction **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** The author says, "She said it was dust from the construction." What does the word "construction" mean?

- A: building of a structure
- B: dirt
- C: destruction
- D: traffic

**Question:** Which sentence below uses the word "construction" correctly?

- A: The construction was playing loud music.
- B: The construction is destroying the building.
- C: The construction meets on Thursdays.
- D: The men were working on the construction.

**Q: 4 WordPhrase:** community **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** The author says, "My family has lived in this community for many years." What does the word "community" mean?

- A: school
- B: neighborhood
- C: difference
- D: country

**Question:** Which sentence below uses the word "community" correctly?

- A: We have a community pool where I live.
- B: I live all alone in my community.
- C: We go to community together.
- D: The community is all by itself.

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## Task 2: Forum Discussion

**Instructions:** This discussion forum will have questions for students to respond. Read the posted questions, and respond to each. Students are responsible for posting one initial and two peer responses for each topic.

1 - The author says, "There was no more open land."

Why do you think the author says, There was no more open land when talking about the buildings being built??

2 - Why did Grandma have to walk?

The author says, My grandmother says that when she was young she had to walk for blocks to get to a store. Why do you think she had to walk?

3 - They still live in the same house.

The author says, We still live in the same house my grandmother lived in when she was a child. Why do you think they continue to live there?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

**Instructions:** Tell what the main Idea is of this story.?Make sure to provide specific examples.

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