

ACTIVITY 1 / Politics of place

1. Think about how these terms relate specifically to your local environment. To the streets, parks, buildings and green spaces near you. Can you think of an example for each term?

2. How can the (built) environment be (more) democratic? What would democratic design decisions/activities look like and how would they be implemented?

3. How can we increase our right to the city?

ACTIVITY 2 / Community Agency

Communities

_Which different communities can you think of that are local to you or your school area?

What makes them communities? Why? Are there community crossovers?

_What are the (formal and informal) boundaries of the area the communities focus on? are there informal boundaries to the communities or the areas the groups focus on?

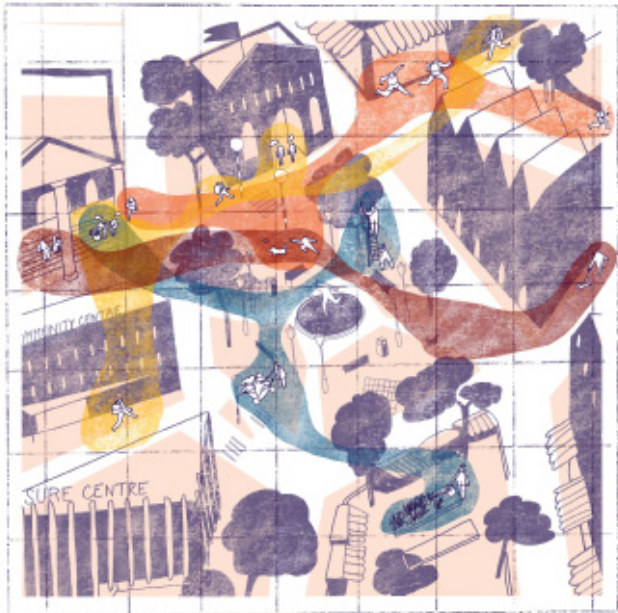
What are these? Why? Where do communities crossover? How are communities visible in the public realm? (high street, residential streets, buildings, public spaces)

Grassroots community groups - local agency

1. Which community groups can you think of that are active in your area?

2. What particular activities do these communities or groups carry out? For whom? Why?

3. Do they engage with singular or multiple communities? If yes, how do the community groups engage with a variety of communities?



Each group presents their findings to the class.



Right to the City



_ACTIVITY BOOK

RIBA KS4 | Citizenship

GLOSSARY of TERMS /

_Active Citizenship

'is about how people behave towards one another, whether they help and support each other in their communities and work together in groups to improve things for everyone. Active citizens are people who have opinions and want these to be heard. They use democratic processes to make things happen, in their school, college, workplace or community.'

_Agency

'the capacity, condition, or state of acting or of exerting power'

_Citizenship

'The legal status attached to being regarded as a citizen of a country. (...). The rights responsibilities and obligations that people have in their local community or country'

_Community

'A group of people who live in a particular geographical locality. (...). A group whose members share common interests and values'

_Democracy

A system said to be 'of the people, by the people, for the people. (...). A system of government where people regularly elect their leaders and have a say in a way a country is governed'

_Empathy

'Imagining and understanding other people's point of view' and 'the action of understanding, being aware of, being sensitive to, and vicariously experiencing the feelings, thoughts, and experience of another of either the past or present without having the feelings, thoughts, and experience fully communicated in an objectively explicit manner'

_Global Citizenship

A global citizen has an ethic of care for the world or an Amor Mundi (love of the world). Oxfam say in 1997 'We see the Global Citizen as someone who:

_is aware of the wider world and has a sense of their own role as a world citizen

_respects and values diversity

_has an understanding of how the world works economically, politically, socially, culturally, technologically and environmentally

_is outraged by social injustice

_participates in and contributes to the community at a range of levels from the local to the global

_is willing to act to make the world a more equitable and sustainable place

_takes responsibility for their actions'

_Grass Roots

Grass roots means 'by the people for the people'. Grass roots community groups have been started by local inhabitants to remedy a local issue with local means independently, and often informally. One of the earliest uses of the term grassroots was by Albert Beveridge who said 'This party [the Progressive Party] comes from the grass roots. It has grown from the soil of the people's hard necessities.'

_Human Rights

'Rights that are held to belong to any person. The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948, sets out a full list of the rights that all people should have. These include the right to life, liberty, education, freedom of movement and equality before the law'

_Right to the City

A concept introduced by the urban theorist Henri Lefebvre in 1968 *Le Droit à la ville*, which is a 'demand...[for] a transformed and renewed access to urban life'

Anthropologist and Geographer David Harvey goes further by saying: 'The right to the city is far more than the individual liberty to access urban resources: it is a right to change ourselves by changing the city. It is, moreover, a common rather than an individual right since this transformation inevitably depends upon the exercise of a collective power to reshape the processes of urbanization. The freedom to make and remake our cities and ourselves is, (...) one of the most precious yet most neglected of our human rights.'

_Place

The geographic characteristics of a locality, and the feeling or perception of a space or series of spaces.

