

Young Roots: Your community

Task 1 Your roots

Ask you partner these questions

- Where do you live? How long have you lived there?
- Where do your family originally come from?
- Why did you come to live in your area?
- What do you know about your grandparents or great grandparents?

Task 2 Your community

Which of these adjectives best describes the area you live in?

urban	rural	inner city	agricultural	suburban
multicultural	crowded	isolated	historic	modern
picturesque	ugly	pleasant	hospitable	unfriendly
polluted	clean	rich	poor	posh

Can you think of any other words to describe the area you live in?

Are you proud to live there?

Community can mean many things. Are you a member of a community? Which ones?

- a religious group
- an ethnic group
- people living in the same place
- students studying in the same school

Task 3 Your community

List the positive features of your community and then think of some negative features.

- Is there anything you would like to change? Improve?
- How do young people feel? Are they part of the community?
- What does the community do to help young people?
- What does it do to help old people?

Task 4 Read and find out

Read and answer these three questions.

1. When is Youth Work Week?
2. Who is involved in the Young Roots programme?
3. What will people learn from the Young Roots programme?

Dear Youth worker,
Youth Work Week
1-9 November
Information for all workers working with youth groups.

Your Roots, Your Community

This is the theme for this year's week. Help young people understand and explore their family roots and their local community. This week is part of the Young Roots five year programme. The programme starts in 2003 and offers money to youth groups around the UK who want to study their community. We want to get young people to build bridges across generations and to understand how to build communities. It is important to help young people develop a sense of being a part of their community. Young Roots is an exciting programme which offers lots of interesting activities. Try some of the activities below with your group.

Mini projects – Young Roots programme

Pick one of these and try it.

- Pick a building: Describe a building that you like in your area. How much do you know about its history? Who built it? What is it used for? Was it used for something else in the past? Why do you like it?
- Research a food: describe a meal or a recipe associated with your area. How long have people eaten this food? Do young people like it? Are eating habits changing?
- Research a name: What is the origin of your surname or first name? Does it mean something? Is it a local name? Is it a typical name for your family?
- Leisure and sporting activities: What are the most popular activities in your area? Who does them? Did your grandparents have the same activities? What would you like to improve for leisure and sport in your area?
- Jobs and industry: What are the main types of work in your area? How does this compare to 100 years ago? Have jobs changed? Why? How?

Now read the text again and try to decide which of the projects you would most like to do.

Task 5 Mini projects

Try one of the projects described in the letter for homework. Present your findings to the class.

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