

Architect

Cluster: Architecture and Construction

Content Area Integration: Art, Social Studies, Math, ELL

Background Information:

Architects draw plans for buildings. Architects focus on building function, safety, and style. They design all buildings (skyscrapers, hospitals, churches, airports, peoples' house, etc.). Before constructing a building, an architect draws a plan. Sometimes architects will make a cardboard or plastic model of the building before giving it to a construction company. They help a community by designing safe, functional buildings. They also bring different styles of buildings to the community, so communities can have many pleasant, unique buildings to meet all their needs.

Objective:

Students will gain an understanding of the work of an architect, and how an architect contributes to a community.

Hands-on Activity: My Favorite Place

Begin the lesson with a brain-storming session about buildings. Have students generate a list of the buildings in your town. As you record the list, you may ask each student if there is something special about the building they are recalling.

Next, ask the students to fold a piece of construction paper in half, and on the top of the left side put a plus sign, and on the top of the right side put a minus sign. On the plus side have the students draw a picture of their favorite building in their town, or another community. Give the students time to color their drawing and add details that make this building so special. On the minus side have the students draw a picture of their least favorite building in town, or another town. Provide time to color and add details.

At the conclusion of the drawing session, have students share their buildings. Ask the students if they can guess what all the buildings have in common; lead them to discover that all are planned by an architect. It is their job to design buildings that are safe and meet a community's needs. Explain to the students they also spend time thinking about how to make our communities better. Ask students if they could think like an architect, and add improvements to their least favorite building to make it safer or more enjoyable. Conclude by showing the picture of an architect from the **I Can Be...Series**.

Materials:

Crayons or markers, large piece of white construction paper.

Journal:

Students will record whether they would want this job or not. Students should be encouraged to expand on their choice by drawing a picture and/or writing an explanation.

Independent Learning Center Activity:

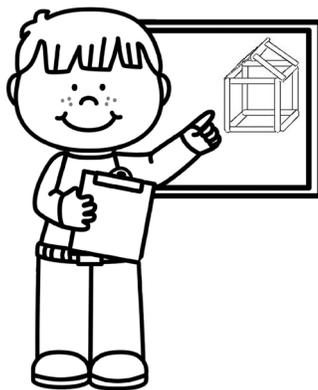
- **Building a Community:** Have students use classroom Legos, or blocks, to create buildings for a community. Students can display buildings and draw a map of the community in which their buildings would exist.
- **Building Collage:** Have students cut out basic shapes such as squares, rectangles, and triangles from construction paper. Provide stencils of various sizes and widths. Have the students glue the shapes onto construction paper to form a building. Students can add to the building by decorating with crayons or markers. Completed collages can be displayed to show a community.
- **Design a Floor Plan:** Have students draw a floor plan for their dream room. Ask that they include all the elements for their desired room. Have students write, or explain, a description of their room.

Workplace Connection:

Invite an architect to visit with the class about the work they do.

Evaluation/Comments:

Architect



What I like about being an architect is

What I don't like about being an architect is

Who do I know in my community who is an architect?

Why is it important to have an architect in your community?
