Mario Vasquez began teaching 3rd grade in August, 2005, having been a teacher’s aide at Palm Elementary in Austin, Texas. During the second year of teaching, he and mentor Bonnie Moorlat collaborated on a “Communities” project. This successful project led to a presentation to new elementary teachers for the district, and students continue to use the Communities project for student understanding of the community workers using language arts, math, and science skills. They used work from Lifesaver Lessons, TEC514, The Education Center, Inc., 1999.
RUBRICA PARA EL PROYECTO DE LAS COMUNIDADES
RUBRIC

NOMBRE DEL ESTUDIANTE

1. SELECCIONE UN TEMA PARA MI PERSONAJE Y MI EDIFICIO DE LA COMUNIDAD

2. USE MATERIALES RECICLABLES

3. INVESTIGUE EN LA BIBLIOTECA, EL PERIODICO, Y EL INTERNET ACERCA DE LAS COMUNIDADES

4. ESTIME CUANTO MATERIAL UTILICE PARA ELABORAR MI PROYECTO

5. NOMBRE Y ESCRIBI UNA HISTORIA ACERCA DE MI PERSONAJE

6. USE EL VOCABULARIO APRENDIDO EN EL ESTUDIO DE LAS COMUNIDADES

TOTAL DE PUNTOS ADQUIRIDOS

CALIFICACION FINAL (GRADE)
Character Sculpture

This project is great for all ages and recycles many different materials. Character Sculptures can become the main focus of a story retelling.

Materials:
Plastic detergent bottle
Scissors
Masking tape and glue
Newspapers
Sand (2 cups)
Tempera paint
Material scraps, buttons, yarn, etc.
Papier-mâché recipe - page 62

Goal:
To create a sculpture of a story character.

Steps:
1. Remove the cap and pour sand into the bottle.
2. Wad a half sheet of newspaper into a ball.
3. Place the ball in the middle of another half sheet.
4. Twist the sheet around the ball, place the end into the bottle’s neck and tape it to form a head.
5. Cut newspaper into strips and dip them into a papier-mâché paste. Form a single layer of strips over the bottle and head.
6. Repeat three more times, creating arms, legs and clothing.
7. Paint your character and add any details.
Character Sculpture Directions

Step 1
Pour sand into the bottle to keep it stable as you create your character sculpture.

Step 2 and 3
Tear a piece of newspaper in half. Wad half of the sheet into a ball. Place ball in the middle of the other half and twist around to form a head.

Step 4
Place head into the top of the bottle and tape it.

Step 5
Cut newspaper into strips and dip them into a papier-mâché paste. Form a single layer of strips over bottle and head.

Step 6
Repeat three more times, creating arms, legs or clothing.

Step 7
Paint character and add details with material scraps, etc.
Introducing The Lesson:

Write "community helper" on the chalkboard. Have students name several community helpers. List students’ responses on the board. Then challenge the class to name the different jobs each community helper performs.

Steps:

1. Remind students that community helpers perform different jobs to take care of the community. Then share the Background Information on page 7.

2. Distribute a copy of page 9 to each child.

3. Assign each child a different community helper from the list on page 7. (Some helpers may be assigned to more than one student.)

4. Instruct each student to write the name of his community helper on the provided line on page 9. Then have him draw a picture of his helper in the box.

5. Next direct each youngsters to complete the information about his community helper on the right side of his paper.

6. Then, to complete the project, instruct each student to fold his paper along the dotted line and glue the two sides together.

7. Invite students to share their community helper cards with their classmates. Then collect the cards and place them at a center for further investigation.
Name:

Community Helper:

This community helper is

This community helper works to

keep us healthy.

keep us safe.

give us transportation.

help us learn.

give us goods.

provide us with a service.

This community helper works

inside only.

outside only.

both inside and outside.

This community helper works

in the daytime only.

at night only.

both day and night.

The place where this community helper works is

The special equipment this community helper uses is

This community helper is important to the community because

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