Activity: Future Cities

Category: STEAM

Suggested Grade Level: Grades 1-12

Description: Imagine creating your own city in the future and make the world a better place. What will it look like? What would you name your city? Will it be futuristic? Build your own future city by using only recycled items you have around your house such as empty water bottles, jars, paper, cardboard, etc.

Supplies:
- Markers/pencil
- Glue
- Cardboard
- Scissors
- Paint
- Paint brush
- Construction paper
- Recycled items such as bottles, milk carton

Instructions:
1. You have a piece of land and you must figure out the best way to use the land in cities and neighborhoods (for example, houses, stores, parks, schools, roads).
2. Think about:
   - Where do people live? In what type of houses?
   - Where do people work? What are their jobs? Where do students go to school?
   - How do people get around their neighborhoods? Get to work? Travel?
3. Sketch out a rough draft of what your city will look like.
4. Decide where people will live, work, play, learn, shop, get food, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REQUIRED</th>
<th>CHOICE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>House types and locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>Ways people travel (how, where)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jobs &amp; Schools</td>
<td>Where people work (what kinds of places)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>Small city parks, large recreation areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garbage Dump</td>
<td>Where do these yucky but necessary things go?</td>
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5. Once you have your vision board filled, start collecting only recycled items to build your city. Be creative and think outside the box to find items to make buildings, people, signs, etc.
6. Use a flat piece of cardboard as the base of your city. Use paint or construction paper to lay out roads, green space, etc.
7. Paint your recycled items.
8. Build your city by gluing everything on the cardboard.

**Takeaways:** This project will give you the opportunity to do the things that engineers do: Identify problems, brainstorm ideas, design solutions, build, and share your results.