

# Build a Sustainable City



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



**MOUNT  
ARROWSMITH**  
BIOSPHERE REGION

Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

**When developing sustainable cities, some important things to consider are:**

- Reducing the inputs of energy, water, and food
- Safe and affordable housing
- Include green spaces (parks, community gardens, etc.)
  - o These are good for social sustainability!
- Use renewable energy sources where possible (wind, solar and hydropower)
- Use water and electricity efficiently
- Design compact cities (keep buildings/houses/amenities close together)
  - o This means people won't have to travel as far to get to work or school!
- Have fast, reliable, and affordable public transportation
- Improved waste and recycling systems
  - o If recycling and composting are easy to do, more people will do it!

**Assignment:**

Today, your assignment is to build your own sustainable city!

**Materials:**

Scissors



Pencils or crayons



Glue (optional)



**Instructions:**

1. Print out the city background and images (the last 2 pages of this package). The images are to give you some ideas, but feel free to come up with your own ideas. Let's get those creative juices flowing!
2. Cut-out your images and lay (or glue) them onto the city background where you think they should go.
3. Using the considerations on page 1, start to plan out your sustainable city.
4. Draw in the components of your city. Think about items that every city has/needs, and the best location for them to be placed.

Hint: if bus stops are placed centrally, it will be easier for everyone to use this more sustainable mode of transportation!

**Stuck on ideas of what to include in your city? Maybe another hint will help!**

1. What are some things that can help the people in your city get around safely - without driving?

**Question time!**

Now that you have completed your city, write down one thing that makes your city sustainable, and why.

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*Send us feedback on how this activity went and we'll enter you into our weekly draw!*

Show us your results! Snap a picture and share it with us on social media, or email it to the MABR Coordinator, at [mandy.hobkirk@viu.ca](mailto:mandy.hobkirk@viu.ca)



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