Adventure Description:

In this adventure, you will think like an urban planner and design a new city!

Activity

Step 1: Background on Urban Planners, Wants, and Needs (5 minutes)

- Show Video: Wants vs. Needs.
- Next, show Handout: Pictures of City Plan. Explain to students that urban planners create city plans. A city plan
 is a giant picture that shows where everything will go in a city.
- As a class, look at the picture. Have students find one thing in the picture that people might want in a city (ex: park to play in, basketball court). Ask students what would happen if urban planners only put things in the city that people wanted. Discuss how people might not have what they need, like food, water or shelter.
- Then, have the class find one thing in the picture that people in every city would need (ex: a place to get food, a house to live in that provides shelter, a fire station to keep the city safe).

Step 2: Designing a City Plan (20 minutes)

- Explain to students that they will now make their own city plan.
- Teacher note: Students can work individually, in pairs, or in small groups.
- Show Handout: My City Plan. As a class, read through the steps.
- Next, have students complete Steps 1 and 2. They will write or draw 3 things that people will need in the city and 3 things that people might want in a city.
- Next, have students complete Step 3. They will draw a picture of what their city looks like.

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SOCIAL STUDIES CAREER Urban Planner: Wants vs. Needs

Step 4: Make a City Flag (10-15 minutes)

- Explain to students that they will now make a city flag that has a name for their new city.
- Provide each student with Handout: My City Flag.
- Have students write a name on their city flag or draw a picture! Then, have students cut out their flag.
- Explain to students that they will now make a pole to hold their flag.
- Provide students with tape and popsicle sticks, toothpicks, or old pencils. Explain that they will use these materials to build a pole that will hold their flag.
- Have students spend 5 minutes building their pole. When they finish, they should attach their flag to their pole.
- Then, provide students with play doh or clay. Explain that this will be the base that will hold their pole and flag.
- When students are finished, have them place their flag on their city plan and see if it stands up! If not, have students make changes to their flag so it will stay standing on their city plan.

Step 5: Extra Time (5 minutes)

• Have students present their designs to the class. Have students explain what their city has that people will want and need.

Materials List

Provided online:

- Video: Wants vs. Needs
- Handout: Pictures of City Plan
- Handout: My City Plan
- Handout: My City Flag

Not Provided online (each student or group needs):

- Toothpicks, popsicle sticks, or old pencils
- Tape
- Play-doh or clay

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