

# Our Community, Our World

**The big idea:** *In early childhood, students begin to learn how their lives relate to a larger community and a larger world. A curriculum centered on students' own community is both relevant to their lives and a strong foundation from which they can begin to look outward. A community floor map is*



*a perfect context for this exploration; KIBO can play the part of familiar vehicles like school buses and fire trucks as well as the people living in the town.*

## Cross-curricular learning goals:

- Students reflect on the physical aspects of a community (streets, parks, homes; the natural and built landscapes)
- Students learn more about their own neighborhood
- Social Studies standards (see Standards table)

## Procedure:

1. Organize a walk around the school's immediate neighborhood or just the school environment. Engage the students in discussion about the built and natural features of their neighborhood that they notice.
2. Students work together to create a floor map that represents the school's neighborhood. This does not have to be an accurate map! Students should add to the map elements that are personally meaningful for them, such as their homes, favorite parks or places, or things they noticed on the walk earlier.
3. Student groups decorate their KIBOs to represent an inhabitant of the community: KIBO might be a vehicle such as a school bus or police car, or might be a person or pet who lives in the neighborhood.
4. Students create programs to represent the life or routine of the character they created. Close the unit with a showcase showing the life of their neighborhood.



## What's Next?

Find more floor-map activities like this one in KIBO curriculum:



*Build It Better*  
"Final Project:  
KIBO Happy City"



*KIBO Activity Center Guidebook*  
"KIBO Snowplow"



*Creating with KIBO*  
"Lesson 4:  
What Are Repeats?"