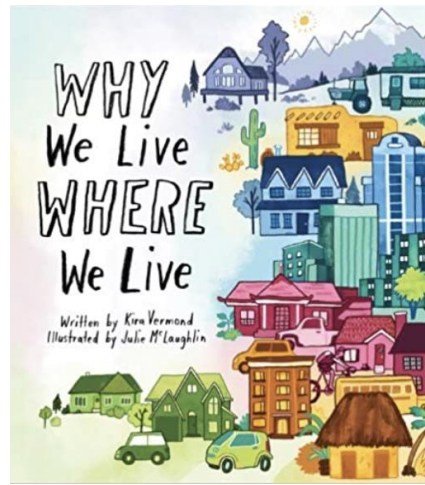




Why We Live Where We Live

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Grades K-5
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Reading Guide by L.A. Conservancy Staff

Questions

1. What reasons does the author provide on why people choose to live where they live? Make a list of the reasons presented in the book. Which reasons would be most important for you?
2. Why do you think you live where you live? What is your family's story? Interview an adult you live with and ask them why they decided where you and your family should live. How long has your family lived in this city or neighborhood? What places in your neighborhood are important for your family? Create a bubble map (concept map) about where you live and why. In the center write down the name of your city or neighborhood. Add a connecting circle to the center for every reason why your family chooses to live there. For example, jobs or schools nearby.
3. On page 30, the author says that places have a personality and "this personality plays a huge part in how connected many people feel to where they live." How would you describe where you live? What places in your city or neighborhood help you connect with others? Are any of them historic buildings or legacy businesses that have been there for many years?
4. City Planners help design cities and neighborhoods (page 32). Think about where you live and the buildings and places you find there. Create a map of where you live. Add important landmarks, parks, buildings, homes, street names, and other details that can be found where you live. Why do you think your city or neighborhood looks the way it does? Research the history of where you live to learn more!



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5. Complete one of the activities on page 45. How would you make a happy place where you live? Draw or take a photo of the activity you choose. Why did you choose this activity? How did your activity make your city or neighborhood a better place?

6. Review the list on page 46. What kind of place would you choose to live in and why? Would you choose a city or a smaller neighborhood? Which aspects of a city or neighborhood are most/least important for you? Which city or neighborhood would you choose? What is the history of the city or neighborhood you chose?

