What is a Community?

Obj. 5.1: Identify communities and the factors that shape their health.

DO NOW

Vision of a Community

Describe your vision of an ideal community. Consider questions such as the following: *What characteristics would the community have? What kind of structures (i.e. buildings, organizations, etc.) would the community have? How would roles in the community be divided? How would people treat each other? What would make this community different from other communities?*

My Community Vision:

DISCUSS

Comparing Visions

Share your vision with a partner. Discuss what was similar and different about your visions.

Similarities	Differences

NEW INFO

What is a Community?

Community: A group of people who have common characteristics.

Your vision of an ideal community probably differed a great deal from that of your partner. These differences reflect our values and create valuable diversity in our communities--in our homes, on the web, in our schools, neighborhoods, churches, and organizations. You also may have considered very different aspects that define a community.

Communities are difficult to describe with a short explanation, because they include such a wide range of factors. Communities can be defined by *location, race, ethnicity, age, occupation, social network, shared values, relationships, interests, a focus on particular problems or outcomes, or any other common bond.*

DISCUSS

Community Examples

With a partner, list examples of communities in the box below. Come up with as many as you can!

Examples of Communities:
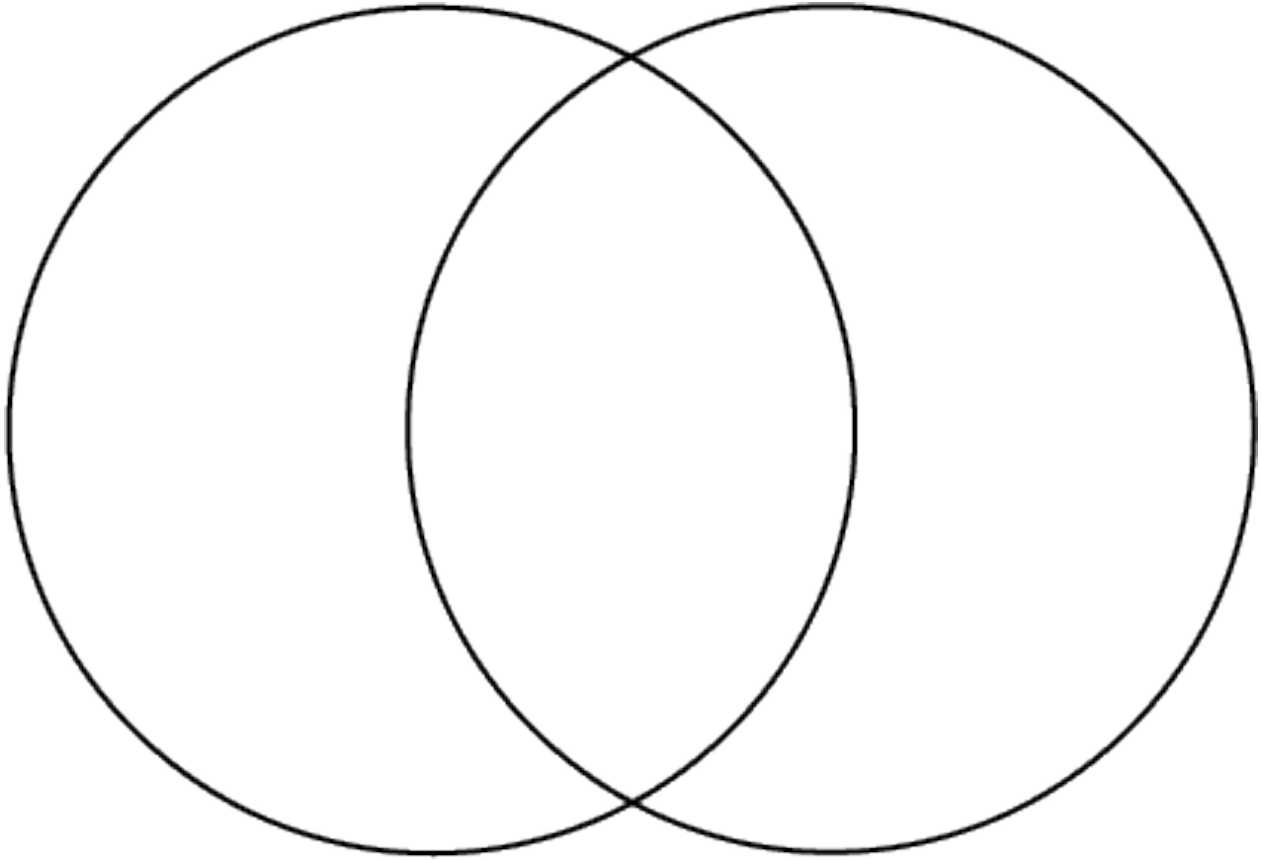
THINK

My Communities

Identify two communities that you belong to. Use the Venn diagram on the next page to list similarities and differences between each community.

Community #1: _____

Community #2: _____

THINK
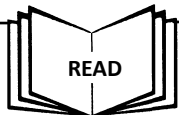
My Communities Venn Diagram

Community #1: _____   Community #2: _____

READ

Community Health Workers

Read the article, "How Community Health Workers Dramatically Improve Healthcare" from *The Atlantic.* After you read, answer the questions below:

1) What were some of the particular communities identified in the article?

2) Why are community health workers important in achieving better health outcomes in communities?

3) Do you think you would enjoy a job as a community health worker? Why or why not?

THINK

A Healthy Community has...

Choose one community that you belong to. Identify any of the factors required to keep this community healthy. List as many as you can!

ASSESS

Identify Communities

In the table below, list two examples of communities you are a part of and what makes them a community. (Note: Do not select any of the communities that you used in the Venn diagram or the Healthy Community brainstorm above.)

	Example community:	What makes this a community?
#1		
#2		

HOME WORK

Communities Collage

Create a collage representing the communities you have been a part of, are currently a part of, and would like to become a part of in the future. You may use any media to create your collage. Be prepared to share and explain different elements in your collage that represent your unique combination of communities, and describe how each of your communities impacts your overall health.