

# **GHOST TOWN**

**GRADES: 2-5**

This is a fun way for children to learn about communities.

## **MATERIALS:**

- washed out snack milk cartons or other like size boxes for buildings
- popsicle sticks and clay to form base for characters

## **METHOD:**

1. Brainstorm the characters in your town -ghosts, goblins, etc.
2. Talk about needs and wants, services and goods and brainstorm the needs of their characters and list the businesses which are needed to furnish these needs.
3. Match up the characters with the businesses. The students take turns matching them up and giving the reason why that's a good match, such as a vampire working at the hospital because he's good at taking blood.
4. Make up the laws for the town. This leads to great discussions about the rights of the individuals as verses the rights of the masses, such as: No howling before midnight. This also leads the students to the need for law enforcement and governing bodies of a town.
5. Talk about location and what is needed, such as water.
6. Then each student draws out a business and designs that building as well as creating the character who will run that particular business.

You brainstorm the layout of the town and decide the sections of town. This is when some "wants" are usually added, such as a park