Inquiry Project #2
Think Green Designs!
Grade 8 Geography - Ms. Sharpe

Unit: Global Settlements: Patterns & Sustainability

Task:
You will work independently OR with a group of no more than THREE students to complete your inquiry on sustainability and development of land. There are 3 main components to this inquiry, and you will be expected to present all of your research, findings, analysis, designs, and justification for your decisions in a culminating presentation.

You will work through the inquiry steps we've used earlier this year: formulate questions, gather and organize research, interpret and analyze research, evaluate and draw conclusions and communicate your findings in a creative way!

PART A: Research & Analysis
- You are expected to use the inquiry process to explore issues of sustainability around the world.
- You are expected to follow the inquiry process to complete this research: formulate questions, gather and organize research, interpret and analyze research, evaluate and draw conclusions and communicate your findings in a creative way! You will need to keep DETAILED research notes in your Geography duotang that Ms. Sharpe will look at during conferences and during your final presentation.
- Use the prompts below to INSPIRE your own questions that will guide your learning:
  - What is the impact of human settlement on natural resources?
  - How does the physical environment influence where people live?
  - Which particular places in the world are having land use conflicts, or facing issues with having such a high population?
  - Which of the proposed land uses are the most sustainable? Who is advocating for that?
  - What are the various perspectives on possible conflicts/concerns of land use? (ex: environmentalists, residents, businesses, the government, etc.)
  - How do different parts of the world deal with their accumulating garbage/waste?
  - What are some of the initiatives communities in the world are doing to be more sustainable?
  - What types of actions can be taken to make buildings more sustainable?
  - In what ways might the global movement of people to cities be a barrier to making both rural and urban settlements more sustainable?
  - What factors need to be considered when trying to find a balance between accommodating growing population and practising sustainable land use?
  - What lessons can we learn from places in the world that practise sustainable living such as Swedish cities like Växjö?
  - What are sustainable practices used in other countries?
PART B: Ideal Sustainable Community Design

❖ You will use your knowledge and understanding of sustainable communities and land use conflicts to create the most ideal sustainable community.
❖ Your community must support a population of at least 1,000 people and will have to encompass all types of land use for it to be a desirable and accessible place.
❖ Your community settlement should have at least one type of settlement pattern: linear, scattered or clustered to represent the residential area.
❖ Your community settlement must show all types of land use: residential, institutional, commercial, open space, industrial, recreational, utilities, transportation
❖ You will describe the features of a sustainable community in the future (e.g., energy-efficient buildings, use of renewable sources of energy, a comprehensive transportation system, community gardens, roof gardens, green canopy, naturalized parks with native species, programs for waste and water recycling).
❖ You will analyze and present some of the challenges associated with creating such a community. (e.g., cost, population growth, increasing urbanization, continued dependence on fossil fuels).
❖ You will create a design to share your vision of the most ideal sustainable community. Your design should be a visual representative of your ideas, and be creative! You may choose to use a computer program or App to create your design, drawn it on grid paper, or create a 3D model.
❖ You should label all aspects of your design so it can easily be recognized, and you should be ready to justify your choices in your presentation!

PART C: Media Presentation

❖ You will present part A and B of your inquiry in a media presentation to the class. You will be expected to present your findings from your research in some sort of creative way, and present your community design in a creative way. You may choose to use certain technology or programs that you feel would be the best way to communicate your thoughts and ideas.
❖ Your presentation should EXPLAIN your research, ANALYZE what your research means, and JUSTIFY why your choices for an ideal sustainable community are the best.
❖ Presentations will be approximately 10-15 minutes each.
❖ All of your research notes (in your duotangs) will be due this day to Ms. Sharpe as well
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SUCCESS CRITERIA

PART A: Research & Analysis (Knowledge/Understanding & Thinking/Inquiry)
❑ You have researched and can demonstrate understanding of what sustainability means
❑ You have used the inquiry process to explore issues of sustainability around the world
❑ You have used the inquiry process to complete research: formulated questions, gathered and organized research, interpreted and analyzed research, drawn conclusions, and communicated your findings
❑ You have investigated issues related to the interrelationship between human settlement and sustainability
❑ You have demonstrated an understanding of trends related to human settlement and of ways in which human settlement affects the environment
❑ You have analyzed some of the ways in which the physical environment has influenced settlement patterns in the past, currently and in the future
❑ You have considered various perspectives on land development
❑ You have made predictions on how human settlement may be affected in the future
❑ You have DETAILED research notes in your Geography duotang that Ms. Sharpe will look at during conferences and during your final presentation

PART B: Ideal Sustainable Community Design (Application)
❑ You have designed an ideal sustainable community in a visual/creative way
❑ Your design is very detailed and clearly labelled
❑ Your design demonstrates features of a sustainability community
❑ Your design supports a community of at least 1,000 people
❑ Your design shows at least one type of settlement pattern: linear, scattered or clustered to represent the residential area
❑ Your community settlement shows all types of land use: residential, institutional, commercial, open space, industrial, recreational, utilities, transportation
❑ Your design demonstrates an understanding of some of the challenges associated with creating such a community
❑ The overall visual of your design is impressive and interesting to look at!

PART C: Media Presentation (Communication)
❑ You have communicated your research findings that have inspired your design choices
❑ You have communicated the key features and details of your design
❑ You have analyzed and presented some of the challenges associated with creating such a community.
  (e.g., cost, population growth, increasing urbanization, continued dependence on fossil fuels)
❑ You have prepared an engaging media presentation to share your ideas with the class
❑ You have your visual design and research notes ready to hand in to Ms. Sharpe
❑ Your presentation EXPLAINS your research, ANALYZES what your research means, and JUSTIFIES why your design choices are the best
❑ Presentation is approximately 10-15 minutes long