

# *The Hershey Community Past and Present*

**Grade levels:** K-3

**Standards:** Pennsylvania Academic Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening  
1.2.3 A, 1.6.3 B, 1.6.3 E Pennsylvania Academic Standards for History  
8.1.3 A, 8.1.3 B

**Common Core:** 3.SL.4, RL.3.9, R3.B.3.3.1, RI.3.7

**Materials:** Community Brainstorming graphic organizer

Hershey Past and Present Labels

The Hershey Community Past and Present response sheet – 1 per student

Hershey Past and Present photographs

poster board

glue

## **Teacher Background:**

This lesson is intended to take a look at what aspects make up a successful community. Students will be discussing the idea of community and what things are necessary to create a community. Students will then get a sneak peak of what Hershey looked like at the time Milton Hershey lived through a variety of photographs. Students will also be given several more contemporary pictures of Hershey and will compare and contrast the two.

This lesson is designed to give students an idea about the community Milton Hershey created for his employees. Milton Hershey believed that it was good business sense to provide a healthy environment for his workers. He hired an engineer and an architect and began planning his model town. It included the chocolate factory, room for other businesses, a shopping district, residences, and recreational facilities. Milton Hershey didn't want his employees to feel isolated in the town of Hershey, so he created an extensive trolley system that connected Hershey to other nearby towns. In addition to providing inexpensive transportation, the trolley system also brought milk into the chocolate factory.

Milton Hershey wanted the town to be functional and attractive so he also provided several services that would attract people to want to live there. He created a bank, a post office, a printing plant, a laundry, a blacksmith shop, a barbershop, a department store, and a public library. He created Hershey Park, which was initially planned to just be picnic grounds, but grew to include a playground, a concert hall, a swimming pool, a zoo, and amusement rides. He also provided water, electric, sewage, and telephone services, which were services not always available in small towns. Milton Hershey even named the streets in Hershey after cocoa growing regions around the world.

Milton Hershey also believed that educating his employees' families was important. To achieve this he built the McKinley School for grades 1-12. This was just the first of many schools to be built in the town including one for orphan boys.

Hershey truly was an ideal place to live.

## **Lesson Plan**

### **Essential Question:**

1. What makes a community?
2. How has the community of Hershey changed from when Milton Hershey was alive to now?

### **Vocabulary:**

1. Community – people with common interests living in a particular area

### **Activating Strategies:**

Step 1 – Review with students what the word community means (essential question #1)

Step 2 – Have students get into groups and brainstorm what type of things make up their school community (teachers, principals, students, lunch ladies, recess aides, nurses, etc). Have students record their ideas on the community brainstorming graphic organizer. Then have students share their thoughts with the class and discuss that we need each of these people in order for the school community to be successful.

Step 3 – In the same groups, ask students what different things make up the community they live in (banks, schools, parks, libraries, factories, firemen, policemen, etc.). Again have students record their ideas on the graphic organizer and share with the class. Reinforce that each part is necessary for the community to work.

Step 4 – Review with students their experiences at The Hershey Story and how Milton Hershey created a model town for his employees to live in. \*See information in Teacher's Background.

Step 5 – Discuss the concepts of past and present and tell students that in this lesson they will be looking at photographs of Hershey in the past at the time that Milton Hershey lived there and photographs of present-day Hershey.

Step 6 - Read the second essential question to the class and have them share their thoughts orally.

### **Teaching Strategies:**

Step 1 – Divide students into groups. Give each group a set of labels (past and present). and a set of the Hershey pictures.

Step 2 – Have students work together as a team to look at each picture of Hershey and determine whether it is a picture from the time Milton Hershey lived (early 1900's) or if it's a present day picture of Hershey. As they decide with each photograph, have them place it under the correct label.

Step 3 – When students are finished, have them share as a class their thoughts. As you go through each picture with the class, create a display on a piece of poster board by gluing each picture under the correct heading. \*You could also have each group do this and have several displays of the lesson.

### **Summarizing Strategies:**

Discuss with students the different aspects of Milton Hershey's community (as seen through the pictures) and how together it created a unique and wonderful place to live. Also, discuss changes from the time that Milton Hershey lived to the present day town of Hershey (as seen through the pictures). Have students complete the response sheet and collect them.

### **Bibliography**

Houts, Mary Davidoff, and Pamela Cassidy Whitenack. Images of America – Hershey. Charleston: Arcadia Publishing, 2000.

McMahon Jr, James D. Built On Chocolate – The Story of the Hershey Chocolate Company. Los Angeles: General Publishing Group, 1998.

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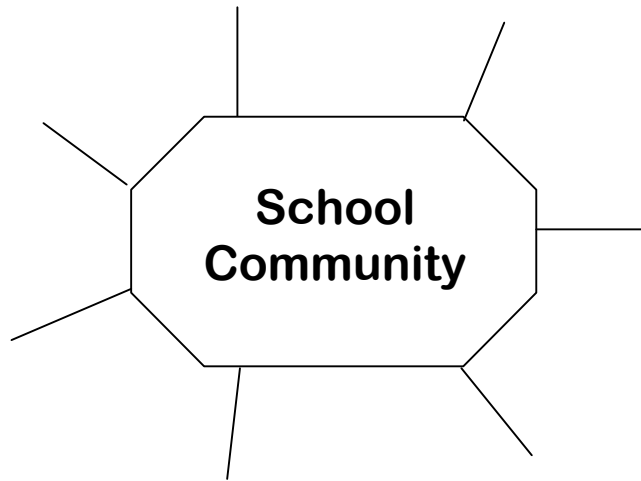
<http://www.hersheystory.org>

Photographs Courtesy of Hershey Archives and Julie Mackneer

# COMMUNITIES

## Brainstorming Graphic Organizer

**Directions:** Think about the word community. What do you think it means? Brainstorm below what things make up your school community and the community you live in. Share your ideas with your classmates.





## Hershey Past and Present Labels

**PAST**

**PRESENT**

# THE HERSHEY COMMUNITY

## Past & Present Response Sheet

1. A community is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why do you think Hershey was a good community to live in at the time Milton Hershey was alive? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. After looking at the pictures, what things did you notice looked the same between past and present? What things looked different?

SAME

DIFFERENT

4. Would you rather live in Hershey at the time Milton Hershey was alive or in present-day Hershey? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. If you were in charge of creating a community, what things would you include? Be creative! \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## **THE HERSHEY COMMUNITY – Past and Present Photograph Information**

### **PAST**

1. The Hershey Department Store – taken in 1930.
2. The Hershey Trust Company – taken in 1925.
3. The McKinley School – taken in 1908.
4. The Hershey Homestead (the home Milton Hershey was born in) – taken in 1900.
5. The Derry Presbyterian Church – taken in 1907.
6. Hershey Volunteer Fire Company – taken in 1906.
7. Hershey Park – taken in 1945.
8. Hershey Park Swimming Pool – taken in 1935.
9. The Hershey Chocolate Factory – taken in 1920.

### **PRESENT**

10. The Hershey Press Building – taken in 2007.
11. The Trust Company – taken in 2007.
12. Hershey High School – taken in 2007.
13. The Hershey Homestead (the home Milton Hershey was born in) – taken in 2007.
14. The Derry Presbyterian Church – taken in 2007.
15. Hershey Volunteer Fire Company – taken in 1991.
16. HersheyPark – taken in 2007.
17. The Hershey Plaza Swimming Pool – taken in 2007.
18. The Hershey Chocolate Factory – taken in 1986.

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.





7.



8.



**9.**



**Present**

**10.**





**11.**



**12.**



**13.**



**14.**



**15.**



**16.**



**17.**



**18.**

