

Lesson Title: **Accessibility Audit**

Lesson Topic: Access and Inclusion

Curricular Integration: [Social Studies](#), [Language Arts](#), [Mathematics](#)

Minds On

Start a conversation about accessibility!

Guided Inquiry

What is Access?

What is Inclusion?

What does it feel like to be included? Excluded?

Check out these links and continue the discussion:

Kindergarten Class Supports StopGap

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MmV9LyDMurA>

Cities Are For Everyone: Creating a Barrier-Free World

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wiA7LBsiW9s>

For more media suggestions browse our collection of fun videos on the StopGap Foundation YouTube channel!

Working On It

Explore examples of **physical barriers** in your community (examples: steps, manual doors, high counter heights, overly crowded spaces, unclear signage etc.).

Look for solutions (e.g. **universal design** features like ramps, access buttons, clear signage with access features like braille and audio, etc.)

Note: pre-planning a route when exploring your neighbourhood is recommended prior to conducting an accessibility audit. Remember, you will be offering ramps to at least five businesses, so make sure that students will be able to find five spots with one-stepped entryways.

Complete the survey template (see attached)

Alternative: use Google Maps Street View or photos of your neighbourhood instead of a community walk.

Reflection/Application

Once students have an understanding of the physical barriers to accessing spaces, you may want to discuss **social barriers** as well (stereotyping, stigmatization and discrimination) and how physical barriers work to encourage these ideas.

Re-Thinking Ability Investigations

Would people still experience disability the same way if our communities allowed better access?

Teacher Resources, Links and Extensions

Modify this lesson plan to fit your group of learners by choosing to complete the task together or have students work independently or in pairs.

Parent volunteers can be beneficial to support students with taking notes and supervision during the community walk.

It may be helpful to review the glossary of terms for definitions and examples of barriers and access features before completing the audit.

Check out the [#AccessNow Lesson Plan](#). Take your audit 'one step' further by mapping the businesses discovered during the audit and provide your community with more information about where to find accessible spaces using the #AccessNow app.

Accessibility Audit

Take a look around the storefronts and the sidewalk.

What examples of barriers do you see? What accessibility features do you see?

Examples of Barriers	Examples of Accessibility

Take a look at the storefronts between (street name) and (street name).

Count how many entryways/storefronts there are on that strip. Use the space below to keep a tally as you count.

Total number of entryways: _____

Now count how many you could access if you were using a mobility device like a wheelchair. Use the space below to keep a tally as you count.

Total number of accessible entryways: _____

Write down five names of businesses along this strip that are good examples of accessibility:

What makes them good examples of accessible businesses?

Write down five names of businesses along this strip that have accessibility issues:

What accessibility issues do you see?

Write down the names of five businesses that have one-stepped entryways

#1:

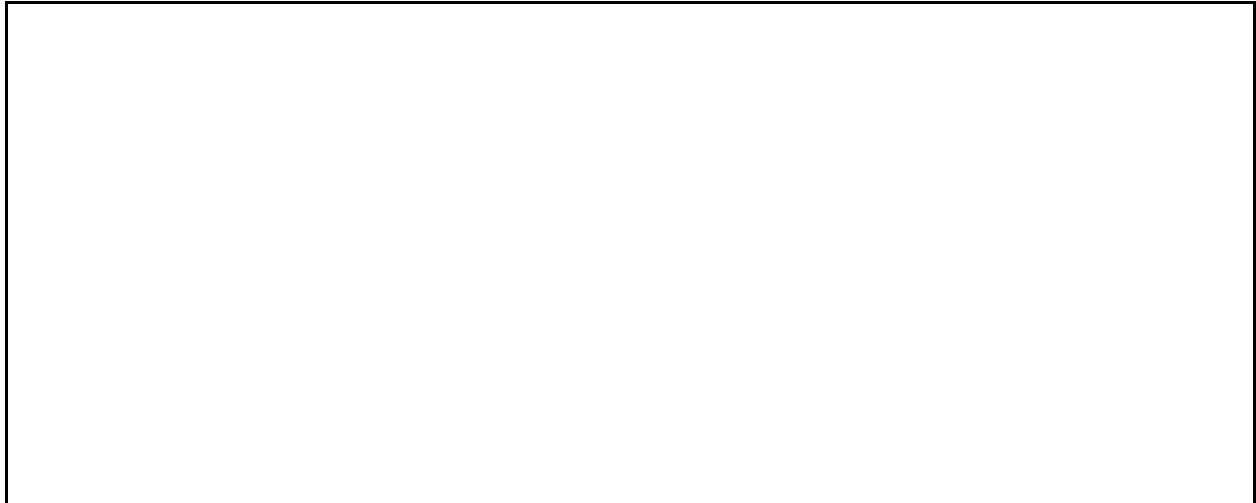
#2:

#3:

#4:

#5:

Sketch something you see around you that you'd like to remember (ex. a good example of an accessible entryway, an obstacle to accessibility, a problem you think you have a solution for, etc.)

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a sketch. It occupies the central portion of the page below the instruction text.