Social Studies Theme: Community

Lesson: Goods and Services

Grade Level: 1-4

Overview: Students learn about goods and services and how people depend on one another in communities.

Approximate Duration: one class period

National Social Studies Standards: NSS-EC.K-4.3 Allocation of Goods and Services
www.educationworld.com/standards/national/soc_sci/economics/k_4.shtml#nss-ec.k-4.3

Objective: Students will be able to define a good and a service and dramatize services that they see in their communities every day.

Procedure:

- Define a good and a service. [good: something that you can use or consume; service: something that someone does for you]
- Have the students brainstorm a list of what are goods and what are services.
- Ask students to close their eyes and picture the things they did when they woke up this morning until they got to the classroom. To help them visualize, lead them through the following activities, and have them think about who helped them and whom they depended on to do each activity: Getting up, getting dressed, eating breakfast, getting to school, crossing the street, walking into the classroom. List students’ responses in a concept chart titled People We Depend On.
- Ask students to brainstorm a list of people they depend on every day at school for food, clothing, transportation, having fun, and being with friends.
- Discuss the ways that the soldiers during World War II depended on the goods and services that came from Americans fighting on the home front.

Assessment:

- Write this sentence starter on chart paper and have students finish it:
  
  I depend on_____ for __________

  Encourage students to illustrate their writing.
- Have partners think of someone they depend on for food, friendship, transportation, clothing, or having fun. Then have them pantomime the action that shows that person helping them. The teacher should pick a helper and model the pantomime to the class. Let their classmates guess the action and identify who is helping them.
- **Technology integration**: Using Powerpoint, show images of people we depend on for various things (i.e. hair stylist, policeman, grocery store clerk, ice cream truck). Have students write in their notebooks what each person provides for us, and whether it is a good or a service.