Mapping Our Communities: A Population Drawing Activity

Learning objective: To understand the difference between sparsely and densely populated areas by creating a visual representation.

Follow the drawing prompt below to create two different maps. Use the word bank to label the features of your drawings.

Draw: Divide your page into two halves. On the left, draw a 'Densely Populated City'. Include tall apartment blocks, busy roads, and many small stick-figure people. Use a bright, busy style. On the right, draw a 'Sparsely Populated Countryside'. Include one or two farmhouses, wide open green fields, a forest, and only one or two people. Use a calm, spaced-out style.

Label words: Sparsely populated · Densely populated · City centre · Countryside · High-rise buildings · Isolated farm · Population density

Steps:

1. Explain why you drew more houses in the city centre compared to the countryside.

2. Look at your 'Densely populated' drawing. List two things that might be found there that you wouldn't find on an isolated farm.

3. What does the term 'population density' mean in your own words?
4. Label the area on your drawing that has the highest number of people living in a small space.
5. If a new school was built, would it be more useful in a sparsely or densely populated area? Why?