

Finding Inspiration

Essential Questions

- *What features make a place just and joyful?*
- *How can the built environment create opportunity, encourage positive social interaction, and address inequities?*
- *What are inspiring 'best practices' that could be applied to this project?*

Objectives | Students will be able to...

- Identify best practices in urban design that create vibrant spaces.
- Discuss which of these practices could be incorporated into student recommendations.

Steps

1. Hook/Warm Up: Ask students to think about a place they enjoy. Invite 1-3 volunteers to share their choices and to describe what they like about their locations. To build on what they said, you can ask the class: *How does the design of places make you feel happy, safe, welcomed, etc.?*
2. Distribute Handout & Explain Directions: Pass out the ['Finding Inspiration' worksheet](#), and explain how they should fill it out when viewing the slide deck.
3. Show the Slide Deck: Present the [Digital Inspiration Tour](#) to students. Show each slide for 20-30 seconds so that students have time to take notes.
4. Break Into Small Groups: Divide students into their small teams (from 'Site Mapping'/site visit) to discuss how certain best practices could be applied to their project.
5. Record Observations: Write down group ideas on a large piece of paper or map. If you have enough time, you can first have groups share their thoughts with the class.



Digital Inspiration Tour

Public Space



Transportation



Housing



School, Services, & Amenities



Facilitator Tips

- Whether it is during this lesson or not, you may also want to show your class certain videos that are included in [Learn About City Planning](#), as some describe specific urban design strategies.

Extension

- You can also have your students visit [re:Streets](#) to see 'before and after' examples of urban design changes.

