This is version 1.0 of this text, released August 2017.

Information on the latest version and updates are available on the project homepage: [http://textbooks.wmisd.org/dashboard.html](http://textbooks.wmisd.org/dashboard.html)
About the Authors - Families and Schools

McAnn Bradford
KND Elementary
*Kaleva Normon Dickson Schools*
Avid lover of all things History and Technology. Loves to find and use new ways to get topics and information to my students. My goal is that every student learns one thing they didn’t know each day! When I am not teaching, I am reading, crafting, traveling, and spending time with people.

Tami Cronce
*Thomas Edison Elementary*
*Port Huron Area Schools*
Tami received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Michigan with a major in Language Arts and a minor in Social Studies. She obtained her Masters Degree from Marygrove College. She has taught for the Port Huron School District for 14 years, co-coaches an after school enrichment STEAM class, helps with the Running Club, and tutors K-2 students in her spare time. Recently, she was nominated for and accepted a position as active board member for the Port Huron Schools Endowment Fund. Her passions include attending church, watching U of M ball, hiking, Jeep off-roading, and spending time with her husband Rob and 2 children, Paige and Cam.

Tami Morris
*Thomas Edison Elementary*
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I earned my bachelors’ degree from Western Michigan University in Elementary Education with minors in elementary education, english, and science. My masters degree is in Educational Leadership from Eastern Michigan University. I have been teaching in Port Huron Area Schools for 26 years, I am a single mom of two children; Ashley and Matt. When I am not teaching I like to try my hand at photography, hang out with my kids, friends, or play with my two Yorkies; Elmer and Max.
Vicki Shearer  
**Holland West K-7**  
**Holland Public Schools**

I love my family! My husband, Tom, and I have two sons, Chris and Tim, one daughter in law, Amber, and one future daughter in law, Alina. We love walking on the beach of Lake Michigan from our house. We can often be seen riding bikes, canoeing, or hiking trails. We are trying to visit as many National Parks as we can. We feel very blessed to live in the greatest country of the world!

Carol Bacak-Egbo

**Editor**

*Oakland University Special Lecturer*

Carol Egbo has more than 40 years of experience in education as a teacher, curriculum developer, staff development specialist, and social studies consultant. She is currently a special lecturer in the Teacher Development and Educational Studies Department at Oakland University, and a contract consultant for the Oakland Intermediate School District. She has been the project director for two federal Teaching American History Grants, and was the primary curriculum designer and writer for grades 2-6 of the MC3 Project. She has extensive experience in presenting professional development for teachers including summer institutes at University of California-Los Angeles, institutes for the Michigan Department of Education, teacher networks, national and state conferences, teacher seminars sponsored by Michigan State University, Saginaw Valley State University and Oakland University. She is the recipient of numerous awards including the MCSS Elementary teacher of the year award, the MCSS Mentor Award, WDIV/Newsweek Teacher of the Year Award, and the WXYZ Michigan Teacher of the Year award.

David A. Johnson

**Project Manager**

*Michigan Open Book Project*

Dave began his career teaching 8th grade United States History in Mesick, Michigan. After almost a decade in the classroom, he took a job at Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District (WMISD) as an Instructional Consultant for Social Studies. He is shared across 11 ISDs in Northern Michigan that form the Northern Michigan Learning Consortium. He completed his Masters in Educational Leadership through Central Michigan University in 2011 and is Co-Project Director of the Performance Assessments of Social Studies Thinking (PASST) Project in addition to his duties as the Project Manager for MI Open Book.

The Michigan Open Book Project

Special Thanks to:

Jannan Cotto
Dorothy Perry
Amanda Weinert
from Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians for their assistance ensuring some of the cultural inclusiveness of our work!
About the Readers - Community Studies

Joseph Baumann -
Joe joined the Cadillac Footlitters in 2016, coming from having performed many times on the stage with Riverwalk Theater in Lansing, Michigan. Some of his favorite roles have been Lancelot in Camelot, Captain Scott in Terra Nova, and Nathan Rothschild in the Rothschilds.

Melissa Kendell -
Melissa has enjoyed performing in productions like Into the Woods and a Christmas Story. She's been a part of various charity performances including the annual United Way Murder Mystery and Dancing with the Y Stars.

Kelli Simons -
Kelli has been in many local theater productions including the Mother in a Christmas Story, the Baker's Wife in Into the Woods, Tansy McGinnis in the Nerd. She comes from a talented theatrical family.
Chapter 1

Why Do People Live in Communities?

What is a community?

How are communities alike?

How are communities different?
For Teachers
If you’ve taken time to glance at the Kindergarten “Myself and Others” book, or its sequel First Grade “Families and Schools”, you’ll know that the authors of those books envisioned them being “big books” which were meant to be experienced with the teacher projecting the materials on a big screen.

This book begins the transition from “big book” to an individualized tool. It doesn’t mean that the book is meant to be read without teacher interaction, but this resource was designed to be in the hands of students in conjunction with daily classroom instruction.

The first chapter examines the compelling question “Why do people live in communities?” We recommend asking students this question on the first day to get a sense of what they may already know. The compelling question for a chapter should be on the board during daily instruction as you move through the book. It is meant to guide student inquiry throughout the chapter and can serve as a form of a final assessment - allowing students the opportunity to write about what they’ve learned.

The supporting questions for the chapter appear at the start of each section. These further support the student inquiry into the compelling question. Underneath the questions you’ll find the important terms introduced in the section.
In Kindergarten and First Grade these terms are just lists of words. The teacher introduces the terms while exploring the reading with the students. This book begins the transition into later grades where they serve as a place for students to refer back to in conjunction with the glossary.

Stop and Think boxes appear in every section. These are opportunities to do just that - stop for a moment and think about the response to a question. These appear in every MI Open Book project resource from this point forward. Get students accustomed to stopping and thinking about their learning.

There is also interactive content throughout this book. It has been curated and/or created by the authors to enhance a students understanding of certain concepts. In later grades these appear smaller on the page, but in carefully constructing this book to be a transition from the early elementary into the upper elementary we’ve retained the look and feel of the K-2 books by including them as the graphic for the page they appear on.

Finally, over the course of the last few years the Open Book materials have been kept alive by diligent teachers who scout ahead and report when things have stopped working properly. If you run into a widget that doesn’t work when going through this book, return to this page and use the “bug report”. Generally, when a bug report comes in we have a fix in place within a few hours. If you leave your email address we'll contact you as soon as it is up and running again.
You probably learned about families in first grade. A family is a group of people who love each other. A family is a group of people who take care of each other. Who are the members of your family?

People like to live in families. Why do you think that is true?
All Different Kinds of Families

Complete the interactive above. How was your family like your partner’s family? How was it different? Was it the same size as your family? Families come in all different sizes! Some are small. Even two people can be a family! Some families are large. They might have many people.
Families and Basic Needs

Families help people meet their basic needs. **Basic needs** are things that all people need. Food is a basic need. Clothing is a basic need. Shelter is a basic need. **Shelter** is another word for house or home. Your family provides food, clothing and shelter for you.

**Interactive 1.3 Meet Some Special Families**

Click to see some family photographs. These show the families of the people who helped write this book! How are they alike? How are they different?
Families Live in Communities

Does your family grow all its own food? Probably not! Does your family make all its own clothing? Probably not! That is why families live in communities. A **community** is a place where people live, work and play together. A community helps families meet their basic needs. A community has places to help them get food and clothing.

Where does your family go to buy food in your community? Where does your family go to buy clothing in your community?

A community is a place where people live, work, and play together. Image credit: Olesia Bilkei Shutterstock
You will be learning all about communities in this book. You will learn how important they are to families.

Interactive 1.4 Time to Review

Move the words into the right places!

A ________ is a group of people who love and take care of each other.
Families help people meet their basic ________.
Food, ________ and shelter are basic needs.
Shelter is another word for ________.
A ________ is a place where people live, work and play together.

Click here to review some of the big ideas in this section.
You have learned that a community is a place where people live, work and play together. How are communities alike? Keep reading to find out!
Communities Have Places Where People Live

All communities have places where people live. People might live on a street with lots of houses. People might live in a building with many families. Where do people live in your community?
Communities Have Places Where People Work

All communities have places where people work. People might work in a **factory**. A factory is where people make things like toys. People might work in a store. People might work in a school. Where do people work in your community?
Communities Have Places Where People Play

All communities have places where people play. People might play at a park. People might play at a ball field. People might play at a pool. Where do people play in your community?

Interactive 1.5 Live, Work, Play

Test your knowledge here!
Communities Have Natural Characteristics

A characteristic is a way to describe something. People have characteristics. What are some of your characteristics? What color is your hair? What color are your eyes? Communities have characteristics, too!

All communities have natural characteristics. These are things that were not made by people. Trees are natural characteristics. Rivers are natural characteristics. What are some of the natural characteristics of your community?
Communities Have Human Characteristics

All communities have **human characteristics**. These are things that were made by people. Humans and people mean the same thing! Your school is a human characteristic. Bridges are human characteristics. Roads are human characteristics. What are some of the human characteristics of your community?

Look at the picture below. What is a natural characteristic in the picture? What is a human characteristic?

Image source: Radoman Durkovic/Shutterstock
Interactive 1.6 Human and Natural Characteristics

Can you tell the difference between a natural characteristic and a human characteristic?? Click here to find out!

**Something is Missing!**

You have learned that all communities have places to live. They all have places to work. They all have places to play. They all have natural characteristics such as trees. They all have human characteristics such as buildings. Something very important is missing!
Interactive 1.7 What is another thing all communities have?

Think about it for a minute, then click here to learn the answer! Did you have the same answer?
You have learned that communities are alike in many ways. Next, you will learn how they are different.
How Are Communities Different?

QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. What is a community?
2. How are communities alike?
3. How are communities different?

TERMS

city: a community with many people and many buildings

town: a community with fewer people and buildings than a city

village: a community with fewer people and buildings than a town

desert: a dry place where there is little water

You have learned that a community is a place where people live, work and play together. You have also learned that communities are alike in many ways.

What is one way communities are alike? Think of an answer and then share it with a partner.
Look at these pictures of three communities. Can you see any differences? What are some of the differences?
How are communities different? Click on this interactive to do an activity.

**Communities Can Be Different Sizes**

You just learned that communities can be different sizes. Some are very big. They have many people. They have many buildings. They have many roads. This kind of community is a **city**. Some communities are small. They have fewer people than a city. They have fewer buildings. They have fewer roads. This kind of community is a **town**. Some communities are even smaller than a town. This kind of community is a **village**.
Communities Can Be in Different Places.

Some communities are near a river. Some communities are near a lake. Is your community near water? Why do you think people build communities near water?
Some communities are not near water. They are in dry places. A desert is a dry place where there is little water.
Look at the pictures of two communities. One is near water. One is near a desert.

A city near a lake. Image source: Sean Pavone/Shutterstock

A city in a desert against a backdrop of mountains. Image source Turtix/Shutterstock

These communities are different. This is because they are in different places.
The world has many different kinds of communities. Click on the interactive above to visit some!
Every Community is Special

It does not matter if your community is big or small. It does not matter if your community is near water or near a desert. Your community is special to you. It is special to everyone who lives there.

Interactive 1.10 Drawing App

Draw a picture of your favorite place in your community. This place makes your community special to you!
You have learned that communities are different. They are different sizes. Some are big. Some are small. They are in different places. Some may be near water. Some may be near a desert.

It does not matter what size a community is. It does not matter where a community is. Every community is special!

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