Natural Disaster Remodel

Purpose of Activity: To have residents think about their community and its’ sustainability.

Objectives/Learning Outcomes:
By actively participating in this activity, participants will:
- Understand what a sustainable society can look like.
- Be inspired to take action in their current community.

Materials Needed:
- Scrap Paper/Old Newspaper
- Art Supplies (Pens, Markers, Tape, Scissors, etc.)
- Optional: Popsicle Sticks

Facilitation Guide:

1. Begin by informing residents that their community has been completely destroyed by a natural disaster; not even the roads survived. It is now their job to remodel their community in a more sustainable way.
2. Working in small groups and using the materials on hand, create a model of what the community would look like.
   a. What new features should be brought in?
   b. What do they want to keep?
3. When finished, have the residents present their models to the other groups and explain what sustainable features they incorporated.

Discussion Questions:
- What did we just do? What did you observe about your reactions and the reactions of those around you?
- How did you feel as you were responsible for rebuilding your community?
- How do you define sustainability (perpetual and cooperative environmental, social, and economic systems)? How can we make our communities more sustainable without starting from scratch?
- Why did we do this exercise?
- What can you do with this new information? What action will you take, if any? What messages will you now try to convey to others?

Helpful Hints:
- Remind students to think about energy sources, layout, and how they will create a sense of community
FAST FACTS

6+ People

45-60 Minutes

$0-$5

Low Risk