

How Cities Work:

Module 1



Activity: Whose Job is it Anyway?

1. Go for a short walk around your block, or look out the windows of your home or classroom and write down 10 different things you see that are part of your neighbourhood (i.e. houses, streets, telephone polls, garbage cans, etc.)
2. Now it's time to explore which level of government takes care of each of the items on your list:
 - a. **Level 1 (Grades K - 7):**
 - i. Start by guessing which level of government is responsible for each one. Is there a logo on it? Can you remember ever seeing the vehicle for the people who maintain or fix it? Have you ever heard an adult talk about it?
 - ii. Write your guess down next to each item on the list.
 - iii. After you've written down your guess for each, you can check your answers using the Government Jurisdiction Sheet.
 - b. **Level 2 (Grades 5 - 12):**
 - i. Do internet research to figure out which level of government is responsible for each: Who maintains it? Who would you contact if it was broken and needed to be fixed? Who makes laws or decisions about it?
 - ii. Write down your answers next to each item on your list.
 - iii. Verify your answers using the Government Jurisdiction Sheet.

Think about: Who makes the rules or laws? Who takes care of it? Who would you call if there was something wrong with it? Do different levels of government work together to install, maintain or fix it?