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2 YOUTH-FRIENDLY CITIES

01 GLOBAL RESEARCH

30 mins

Youth-friendly cities are urban areas designed with policies and infrastructure that prioritize young people's needs, safety, and well-being. These cities ensure accessible, inclusive, and engaging environments that promote children and adolescents' active participation, health, and development.

Your chapter's challenge is to explore youth-friendly policies and guidelines and assess their implementation in your community. Identify any gaps where these policies are lacking and propose innovative new policies that could enhance the well-being and engagement of young people in your area.

For 1UP Fellows: Track which team member can identify three (3) relevant policies first, and they'll win STICKERS!

First, research global policies related to youth-friendly communities!

These links will provide you with a foundational understanding and highlight some relevant policies:

- UNICEF's Child-Friendly Cities Initiative (CFCI)
  - UNICEF's Child- and Adolescent-Friendly Cities
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- UN-Habitat's Urban Agenda

Record your findings in a Google doc. It can be in point form.

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02 LOCAL RESEARCH

30 mins

Now that you have reviewed global policies for promoting youth-friendly communities, it's time to examine those implemented in your city. Look into your municipality's master plan or specific guidelines regarding youth-friendly community-making. Identify the policies that stand out, those actively fostered in your community, and those that have yet to be introduced.

Tips for reviewing municipal plans and guidelines:
- Start with the executive summary or introduction to get an overview of the main goals and priorities being addressed.
- Given that municipal plans, guidelines, and documents in general can be lengthy, use the table of contents and index to locate specific topics related to youth-friendly initiatives.
- It is helpful to search for keywords and phrases such as
  - *youth*
  - *age-friendly*
  - *education*
  - *recreation*
  - *inclusive communities*
- Some ideas you may want to focus your attention on are plans for *parks, playgrounds, sports facilities, cultural centres, mental health support, libraries,* and *accessible facilities for all youth including those with disabilities*

If your municipality does not have youth policies, look into other active organizations in your community such as the YMCA and YWCA, and summarize their program initiatives.

*Remember to record your findings in a Google doc!

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03 CREATE NEW POLICIES

15 mins

After reviewing both global and local policies on the topic of youth-friendly communities, identify areas of improvement.

Come up with 1-2 new policies that promote youth-friendly cities based on the needs of your community and provide a brief explanation on why it is significant.

TIP: You can adapt/modify policies from around the world to suit your municipality.

04 SUMMARIZE

10 mins

Appropriately reporting your findings ensures that the target audience is easily able to read and understand your research.

Please summarize the policies found and created along with an explanation as to their significance in a slideshow of up to ten (10) slides. Feel free to format it however you want (policies can be in point form). The main focus is on the quality of the content and the creativeness of your new policies.

05 SUBMISSION

Submit your research and policies by December 31st for a chance to win some awesome prizes!

Share Your Research and Policies!

- How to be eligible to win prizes:
  - Post on your chapter's Instagram account:
    Upload your slideshow to share your findings on how to make your community more child and adolescent-friendly.
  - Be sure to tag @urbanmindsTO and @1uptoronto in your post to be eligible to win awesome prizes.

Winner Selection

Urban Minds' Program Coordinators will review all submissions and select a winning chapter based on the following criteria:

- Quality of research
- Innovation of new policies

* Don't forget to join the 1UP Connect Webinars for deeper insights into this topic and valuable tips on enhancing your Activity Sheet submissions!

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