



This Is My Street

by Felix James

Overview

This book compares suburban and urban living environments.

Literacy Focus *Word Count: 229 words*

High Frequency Words
live, many, play, there, this, what, when

Content Words
street, house, building, apartment, yard, park, mall, stores, subway, suburbs, city

Decoding Skills

- **Initial Consonant Blends:**
bl, pl, cl, dr, fr, str, st, (blue, play, close, drives, friends, street, stores)

- **Vowel Digraphs:** *ee (street, sees, see)*

- **Possessives:** *Becky's*

**Comprehension/
Thinking Skills**

- Using prior knowledge
- Making predictions
- Comparing and contrasting

**Writing/Speaking
and Listening**

- Writing content words in a cloze activity
- Discussing differences in city and suburban life
- Answering questions about the text

Observe/Assess

See Using Retellings in the Assessment Handbook.

Social Studies Focus

**Content and
Thinking Skills**

- Understanding that people live in different environments
- Identifying the differences in urban and suburban environments
- Understanding that people do similar activities in the city and the suburbs

Background Information

This text allows children to gain an understanding of the ways in which urban and suburban communities are different and similar. Children are encouraged to compare life in the city to life in the suburbs. Children are also encouraged to understand that, in fundamental ways, life in the city is similar to life in the suburbs.

**Correlation to
National Standards**

Social Studies

- Individual Development and Identity

See Standards Chart on page 206.

Literacy Focus

Set the Scene

Discuss where children live. Work toward definitions of a city and a suburb. Ask:

What is the difference between a city and a suburb?

What would you see in a city?

What would you see in a suburb?

Make links to children's own experiences.

Read and Discuss

Cover and Title Page

Discuss different places people live. What places do children think will be discussed in the text?

Pages 2-3

Focus on the photographs. Ask:

What do you call the tall building?

Do you think the house and the building are on the same street?

Read the text to confirm children's predictions.

Pages 4-7

Examine the photos before reading the text with children.

What can be seen from the house's window?

What can be seen from the apartment window?

Where does the girl play?

Where does her friend Becky play?

What is different and what is the same about these two places?

Pages 8-12

Read the rest of the book, continuing to compare and contrast life in the suburbs and life in the city.

Respond

- Find words in the text with the long *e* sound. Ask children to think of words that rhyme.

- List words beginning with the following blends: *bl*, *cl*, *pl*, *dr*, *fr*, and *st*.

○	○	○
blue	black	blow
close	clown	clean
play	place	plan
drive	drink	drag
friends	front	frame
stores	step	stone

Compare and Contrast Activity Master, page 164

Have children complete the Activity Master, page 164, to contrast life in the city and life in the suburbs.

Meeting Individual Needs

For specific teaching strategies for meeting individual needs, see pages 198-203.

Social Studies Focus

Social Studies Concept

People live in different places. Where they live affects their everyday lives.

Activities

Where Do You Live?

Invite children to draw pictures showing where they live. They should include some of the features mentioned in the text.

Compare and Contrast

Make a Venn diagram showing how cities and suburbs are alike and different.

Class Survey

Have children survey their classmates to find out the following: *What can you see out of your bedroom window? Where do you play? Where do you go shopping? How do you travel to the store?* Children can make a bar graph of the results.

City Planning Activity Master, page 165

Invite children to use the Activity Master, page 165, to write a story about where they live. Encourage children to include details about their houses, where they play, and how they get to places.

Name _____

This Is My Street

Use words from the Word Bank to complete the chart showing how life is different in cities and suburbs.

Word Bank

apartment building park yard subway house car

I live in the suburbs. Becky lives in the city.

Suburbs	City
1. I live in a _____ .	2. Becky lives in an _____ .
3. I play in my _____ .	4. Becky plays in the _____ .
5. My mom drives a _____ to work.	6. Becky's mom takes the _____ to work.

