LESSON 3

Complicating the Concept of Community

GUIDING QUESTIONS

• What is a community?
• What would need to happen in order for the members of this classroom community to “see value in others” in the group?

ACTIVITIES

1. Reflect on the Concept of Community

• Have students complete the What Is Community? Anticipation Guide handout and the journal reflection [Slide 3].
• Debrief the activity by using the Four Corners teaching strategy [Slide 4].

2. Analyze the Definition of Community

• Explain to students that they will be analyzing a definition of community.
• Divide the class into groups of three. Then project and read aloud Goldsmith’s definition [Slide 5].
• Pass out the handout Exploring Community in Three Ways and have groups complete the graphic organizer.
• Debrief the activity by asking for volunteers to share ideas from their handouts. Then facilitate a class discussion of one or more of the following questions [Slide 6]:
  » Use Goldsmith’s definition to support your thinking: How can a history class be a kind of community?
  » What is the “shared enterprise” of a class community?
  » What does it mean to see someone as a “potential partner” in learning?
  » What would need to happen in order for the members of this classroom community to “see value in others” in the group?

3. Reflect on your Classroom Community

• Pass out and have students complete the My Classroom Community Exit Card [Slide 7].