



Enrichment Activity

How the World's People Live

Directions: Read the article below about the differences between developed and developing countries. Then answer the questions that follow on a separate sheet of paper.

Geographers use various ways to describe and classify the world in which we live. They categorize the world by climate zones, by continent, and by hemisphere. Geographers also describe the world's people by classifying them in such categories as languages spoken, government

systems, religious heritage, manner of dress, and economic systems. Some geographers divide the world into developed countries and developing countries. Study the chart below to learn the characteristics of these two categories of countries.

Characteristics of:	
Developed Countries (such as Australia, Canada, and Japan)	Developing Countries (such as Indonesia, Mexico, Pakistan, and Tanzania)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Countries have a great deal of manufacturing. 2. Farmland is highly productive, and few people work in agriculture. 3. Most people who work have skilled jobs that require education and training. 4. Countries have found productive ways to use their natural resources. The entire population benefits from their use. 5. Countries have good transportation and communication systems. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Countries have limited manufacturing capabilities. 2. Many people work as subsistence farmers, growing only the food they need for their own families. 3. Most people who work have unskilled or low-skilled jobs. Few people are trained for skilled jobs. 4. Countries lack good natural resources or make poor use of them. Others use their resources to benefit only a few people. 5. Countries lack good transportation and communication systems.

Taking Another Look

1. Would you classify the United States as a developed or a developing country? Explain your answer.
2. Which of the factors in the chart do you think need to change for a developing country to become a developed country?
3. Imagine that you travel to a developing country. Make a list of questions that you would ask of a person your age about what life is like in his or her country.