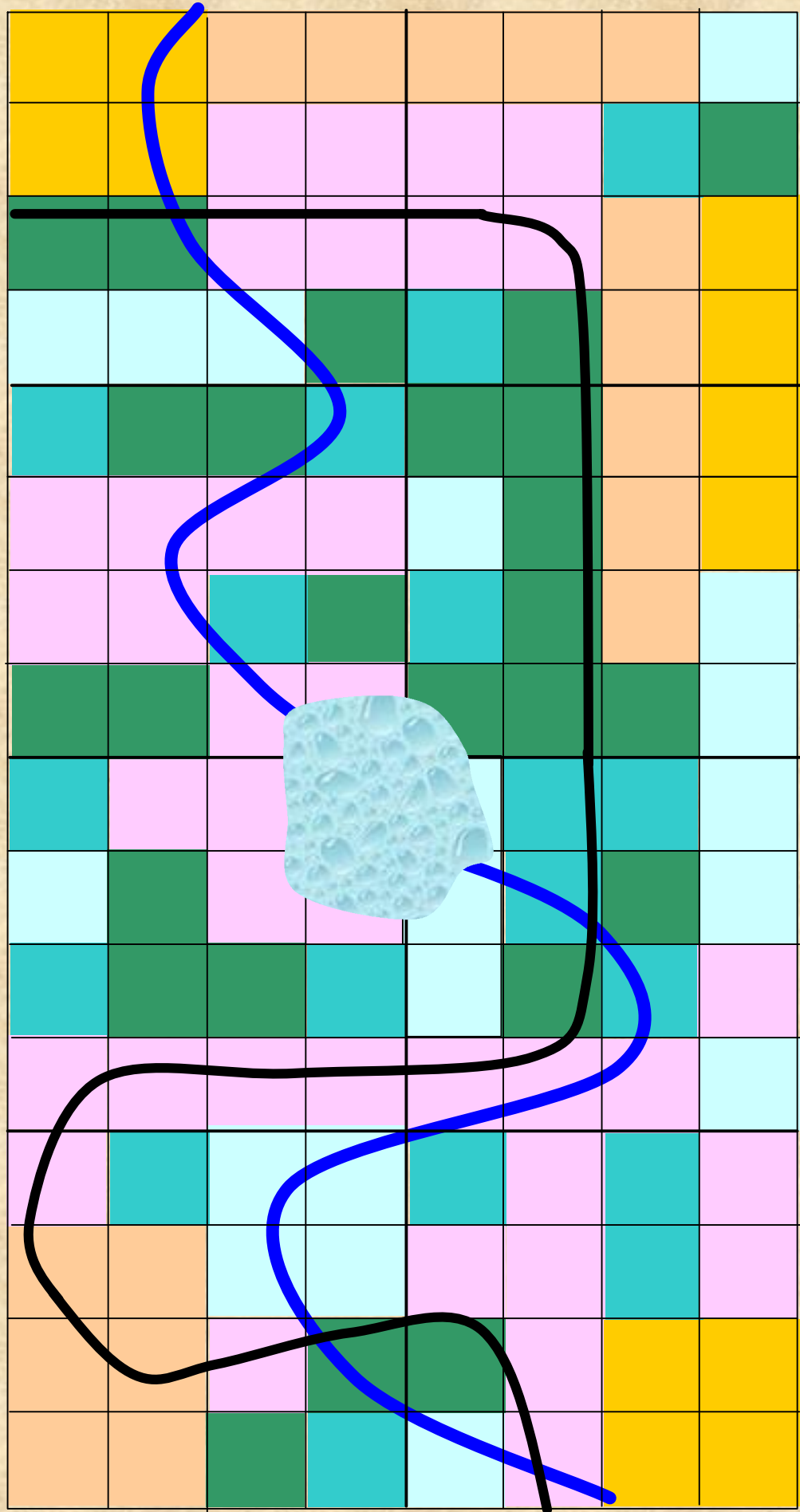


Our Town

A Classroom Simulation

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Lesson 1 Finding the Population

Objective: Students will determine the population breakdown of their town.

Skills Used:

- 1) Calculating the percent from a total
- 2) Writing percent as a decimal

Materials Needed:

- 1) One copy of Worksheet Lesson 1 for each student.
- 2) Calculators are optional
- 3) Statistics on the population breakdown of where you live.

Opening Activity

Have the students guess the number of people that live in your town. Share the population breakdown of your town.

Teaching Activity:

- 1) Show students how to change percents to decimals and back.
 - a) To change from a percent to a decimal, move the decimal point two places to the left.
 - b) To change from a decimal to a percent, move the decimal point two places to the right.

- 2) Have the students practice a few problems in class:
 - a) Change the following decimals to a percent:
1) .32 2) .5 3) .678 4) 1.35
 - b) Change the following percent to a decimal.
1) 46% 2) 8.9% 3) 3% 4) 123%

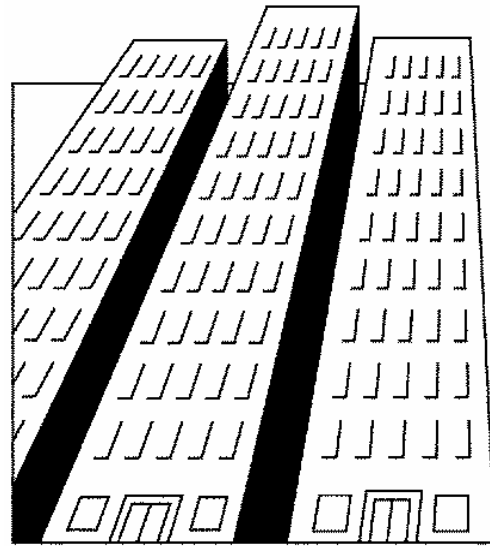
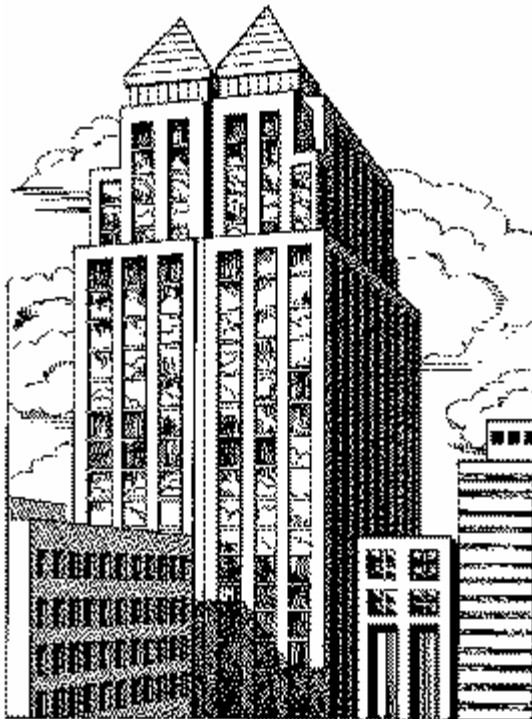
- 3) Show students how to find the percent of a total. To calculate this, multiply the total by the percent.

- 4) Practice the following problems. Round to the nearest hundredth.
 - a) What is 25% of 16?
 - b) What is 33% of 100?
 - c) What is 1% of 250?
 - d) What is 13.3% of 85?

- 5) Hand out Worksheet Lesson 1 to the students.
- 6) Have the students write down the population that they want their town to be. It should be a number around 100,000.
- 7) Have the students write down the percent breakdown for each category. For example, if they only want 10% to be elderly (65 or older), they should put 10% in the second column.
- 8) The third column shows the percent written as a decimal.
- 9) In the fourth column, the students should write down the actual population of each category. For example, how many are elderly? To do this, they multiply the percent for each category by the population of their town.

Closing Activity

Compare the age breakdown of where the students live to the town that they designed. Is it realistic?



Worksheet Lesson 1

- 1) Determine your population.
- 2) Write down the percent breakdown for each category. For example, 10% elderly. Write this in the second column.
- 3) Change the percent of a decimal. Write this in the third column.
- 4) Find the actual population by multiplying the decimal by the population. For example, 10% of 50,000 = $.10 * 50,000$). Write this in the fourth column.

Total Population _____

Type of Population	Percent	Decimal	Number
Elderly (65 or older)			
Working Age (16-64) Not in school anymore.			
University Students			
College Students			
High School Students			
Middle School Students			
Elementary Students			
Preschool			
TOTALS			

**Use this form to determine how many schools you will need.

Example of a finished map with buildings.

■ Non Developed Land

■ High Residential

■ Light Residential

■ High Industrial

■ Light Industrial

■ Commercial

■ Seaport

■ Police Precinct

■ Fire Department

■ Hospital

■ Coal Plant

■ Solar Plant

■ Dump

■ Recycling Center

■ Small Airport

■ Bus Station

■ Train Station

■ Arena

■ Elementary School

■ Middle School

■ High School

■ College

