

Kids Ride the Bus

Transit Route Planning

Overview

When planners create bus routes, they consider local current and future land use planning through the municipal plan, the origin and travel destination of residents, and available funding. Public engagement is used to gather comments on the proposed service. This learning activity helps students to understand the steps that go into building a bus route.

BIG IDEAS

- 🐛 **Mathematics 3**
Regular increases and decreases in patterns can be identified and used to make generalizations.
- 🐛 **Applied Design**
Designs grow out of natural curiosity

Activities

- 🐛 **Public Survey:** Students will ask their families and neighbours if they have ever used the local bus service and what are their favourite places to travel to by bus. The information would be used to create a class graph to compare how many people have used the local bus service and help in planning a route to a popular destination.
- 🐛 **Planning:** Students will identify where buses go and don't go and why (popular destinations). Using the public survey and a city map, each team will choose two popular destinations and develop a bus route to connect the two areas using different coloured strings and tape. The class will name their transit system, identify how many buses they need, how many drivers they need and how much the fare will be to ride the bus.
- 🐛 **Bus Shelter Architecture:** Students will design a bus shelter. As a class, list the important considerations in building a bus shelter such as design elements, location, setback from the road, safety issues, and number of people to shelter. In pairs or groups, make sketches of bus shelters incorporating the important elements. Share these designs, noting common features, and collaborate on a final shelter design. Place shelters at key locations in the transit system.

Resources

BC Transit Infrastructure Design Guidelines: Planning and design of transit infrastructure—PDF

Transit Future Plans: Check your local Transit Future Plan page for ideas and to see what has been planned for transit in your community. Check to see if there's a Transit Future Action Plan and what any future plans are for reference and ideas. www.bctransit.com