

## You Write it!

**Use an ebook that informs, explains, describes, or illustrates an idea, system, plan, problem, or phenomena.**

**Exploring text structure: students will read informational/expository text and write a guide to their community.**

Choose an ebook on VIA that informs or explains a topic relevant to students' current studies. Have students find and read the book. You may choose to allot class time for the reading or ask students to read the book at home outside of class.

Hold a discussion with the class about the book. Ask students to comment on the things they learned. What was the most interesting thing? What was the most surprising thing? What did they already know?

Expository writing usually involves research, which turns a writing assignment into something far more complicated. To keep this writing assignment simpler, ask students to write about something with which they are already familiar—their community.

Ask students to brainstorm aloud about your community's features. Where do people eat, work, and play? Is there a downtown or a community center? Get kids thinking broadly about schools, libraries, businesses (stores, restaurants, services, manufacturing), city government, parks, natural features, roads and parkways, and bus, subway, and train stations.

Have students write community guides that offer information about the points of interest you generate as a class. Students could work alone or collaboratively. If time allows, encourage them to incorporate photos into their pages.

To create a simple but fun ebook, have students work in MS Word or any word processing software that allows creation of a PDF file (in Word, you save a document as a PDF by printing to PDF). Once the file is a PDF, you can upload it to [flipsnack](#) to create a flipbook.

To see an example of a "My Community" flipbook, click here: [My Community](#).