

**Access English Centre**  
Immigrant Centre Manitoba  
**Conversation Circle**  
Intermediate Level

**Group Activity: My Neighbourhood**

**Facilitator Note:**

The following activities are aimed at helping newcomers to get around in their new neighbourhood and assisting them to build up their confidence through practicing English with their partners. There are three steps to conduct the activity.

**Step One: Warm up / ice-breaker (See worksheet 1)**

Place 3-4 people into small groups. Find someone whose house is close to a bank / Safeway / an elementary school/ Zellers/ Burger King / a restaurant / a clinic / a park / a store, etc.

**Step Two: My favorite place in my neighbourhood  
(See worksheet 2)**

Work together with the same group and take turns to ask the following questions about your favorite place in your neighborhood

**Step Three: Describe your neighbourhood – What kinds of services can you get there? (See worksheet 3)**

**Step Four: Have one from each group talk about his/her neighbourhood and ask the whole group to ask questions about his/her neighbourhood.**

**Worksheet 1: Vocabulary: Neighbourhood Pictures**

Neighbourhood, food store, bus stop, fire station, Zellers, clinic, restaurant, gas station, bank, theatre, library, hospital, school, park,
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**I. Ask your partner the following questions:**

1. Is there a bank close to your home? How far is it?
2. Is your home close to a library? Can you walk there?
3. Is Zellers close to your home? Do you have to take a bus there?
4. How far do you have to walk to a restaurant?
5. Is there a park close to your home?
6. Is Safeway not too far away from your home?
7. Are you close to a bus stop?
8. Is there a hospital in your neighbourhood?
9. Is your dental clinic not too far from you?
10. Is there a Burger King close to you?
11. Is there a hospital in your neighbourhood?
12. Is there gas station close by?

**II. Report to the whole group after the survey such as**

Eg. Jim told me that his home is very close to a school.

Eg. Sue said that her home is very close to a library.

Eg. Mark told me that he could walk to the bank.

**Worksheet 2: My favorite place in my neighbourhood**

**I. Vocabulary of prepositions:**

next to, across from, around the corner from, beside, kitty corner to, between, on the left / right
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Eg. My favorite place is Tim Horton's. It is very close to my house. It takes me ten minutes to walk there. I would like to go there in the morning. I often stay there for two hours as I always talk to my friends there. My second favorite place is the Dollar Store. I always pick up something interesting there.

## II. Ask the following questions

1. What is your favorite place in your neighbourhood?
2. How often do you go there?
3. Why do you like to go there?
4. How do you go there by bus or on foot?
5. What do you do there?
6. What is your second favorite place in your neighbourhood?
7. Where is it? What kind of business is it next to?
8. How often do you go there?
9. What makes you go there very often?
10. What place you would like to recommend in your neighbourhood?

**Work sheet three: Describing your neighbourhood by using the following words or phrases.**

Across from	a restaurant
Next to	a Safeway
Around the corner	a park
In front of	a bank
beside	a Dollar Store

Eg: My neighbourhood is a very nice community. There are quite a few businesses in the neighborhood. In the strip mall, there is a Safeway and Zellers. In between Safeway and Zellers, there are two small stores – a tailor shop and a dry cleaning store. There is a bank around the corner of the street and next to it is a Dollar Store. One block behind the strip mall, there is a park. It is a very popular place in the summer time.

- I. **Group work:** Share some interesting things about your neighbourhood or you can describe your old neighbourhood from your home country.

- II. Optional Exercises: Describe a picture of a neighbourhood (What do you see?) (Express Ways 1. P. 38) or (The Oxford Picture Beginning workbook p. 17)**
  
- III. Optional Exercises: Describe your favourite town/city in Canada or in your home country.**