

Some kids are lucky enough to have a playhouse or a tree house. Wouldn't it be fun to live in your own "luxury" playhouse—a beautiful, tiny house, with everything?

Some people are making this childhood dream come true. They are living in the tiniest possible houses. Some of these houses are less than 100 square feet—that's a house just 10 feet wide and 10 feet long! They have a bed, a kitchen, a bathroom with shower, comfy chairs, a desk or table, and room to store clothes, shoes, books, CDs, and other stuff . . . but not too much other stuff.

Why do people want to live in such a small space? There are many reasons:

- They are inexpensive to build.
- They are inexpensive to maintain.
- Utility bills (electricity, water, heating gas or oil) are tiny.
- They are quick and easy to clean.
- They are very efficient—everything is within reach.
- They make a tiny carbon footprint compared to regular-sized houses.

Maybe most important, people who live in these houses say they feel free! They don't have to spend all their money to pay for the house. They don't have to spend all their time fixing and cleaning the house—or earning the money to pay for the house. Maybe we should all think about down-sizing to a tiny house.

There are many different types of tiny houses. These particular tiny houses are built on trailers so they're easy to move.



Grades 3-6

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Common Core Standards /NGSS

ETS 1.1 Define simple design problem reflecting a need or a want that includes specified criteria for success and constraints on materials, time, or cost

Objective of Lesson

I know how to describe tiny house living because I can identify and evaluate reasons for living "tiny".

As evidenced by

Informal assessment: Scholar discussions about the benefits and drawbacks of living "tiny" will be informally assessed for understanding of simple design criteria.

Formal Assessment(s): Scholar will complete "Designing a Tiny House" writing prompt.

Instructional clusters

Do Now Opening: Scholars will watch video introducing Tiny House living.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BVovCDwrEn4>

Activity: Teacher will lead whole class discussion of what tiny living would be like using "Tiny House" video questions.

Closure Scholars will read "Tiny House Living" research sheet and create a "Pros and Cons of Living Tiny" list.

Activity: Whole class will watch <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AkaXfgOLhuc> to identify different design ideas for tiny houses.

Closure: Individual scholars will complete "Tiny House Challenge: Day 1" writing prompt.

Lesson notes

Scholars may read/watch (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pIVE6Pzb_Pl) childrens' book "The Big Adventures of Tiny House" by Susan Schaefer Bernardo to introduce the idea of tiny houses as an alternative provided. (coloring page is also included if needed for grades 3/4)

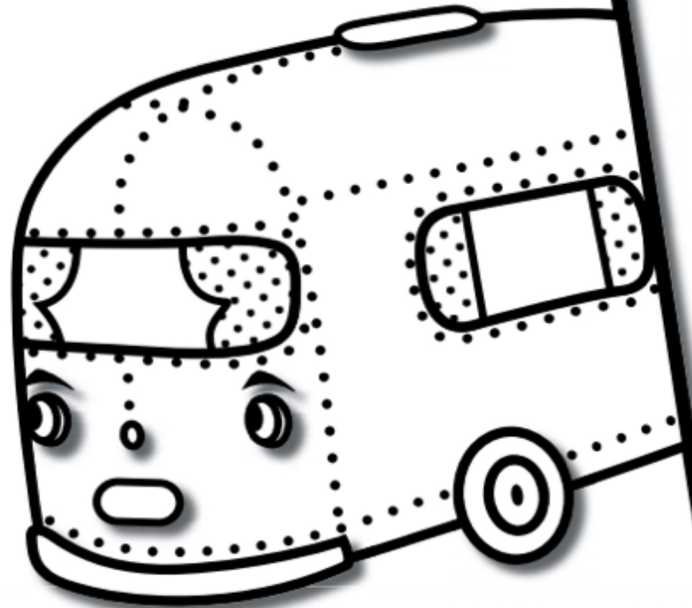
"Tiny House" video questions:

1. Who has heard about tiny houses before?
2. What do you know about tiny houses?
3. What would be cool about living in a tiny house?
4. What would be draw backs to living in a tiny house?

Homework:

Scholars will research tiny homes. Each scholar will provide a picture of their favorite tiny house and describe 3 likes and 3 dislikes of design.

What would Tiny & Shiny see if they drove through YOUR town?
Draw pictures of it below!



www.homeboundbuthopeful.com



The Big Adventures of Tiny House
By Susan Schaefer Bernardo
Illustrated by Courtenay Fletcher

Day 1 Writing Prompts



1. I would/would not (circle one) want to live in a tiny house because...

2. The thing I like the most about tiny houses is ... because ... (provide and explain at least 2 reasons)

3. If I were to create a tiny house, I would make sure it had ... because ...