

**Lesson Focus:** What can a community event tell us about that community?

**Materials:**

- Internet for videos
- Notebook and pencil (Optional: computer with word processing software)

**Invitation to Learn:**

In this lesson you will learn about characteristics of communities and cultures. You will also practice your critical thinking skills.

Where is Shirakawa, Japan?



**Watch this video:**

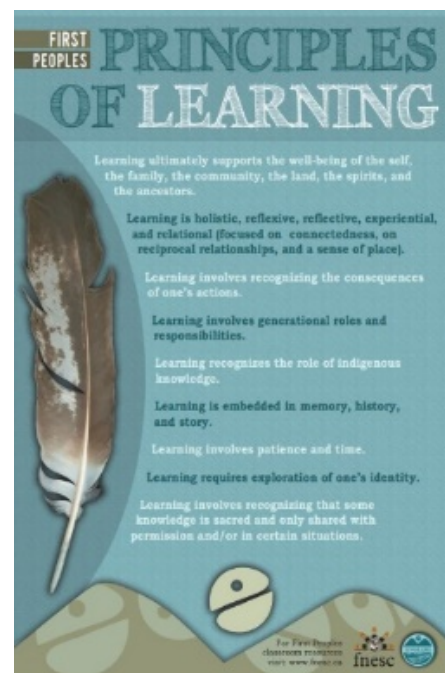
**Villages of Shirakawa-go** [https://www.youtube.com/watch\\_popup?v=47GreDExJns](https://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=47GreDExJns)

### Have a Discussion:

- What does the word "community" mean?
  - **A community is a group of people with the same interest or culture.**
- What are some communities that you belong to?
  - **Examples: family, team, church, cultural**

### Learning from First Peoples

First Peoples have always worked together as a community, sharing tasks, making decisions, and taking care of each other. This helps everyone learn knowledge and creates a sense of belonging and community spirit.



Look at these images.

*Figure 1: Completed home in Shirakawa-go, Japan*



*Figure 2: Community project*

**Ask:**

- What do you see in the photo that supports the idea that rebuilding a roof is a big job?
- What do you see in the photo that suggests teamwork is needed to rebuild the roof?
- Why do you think the community members choose to help each other?  
What does this tell you about the community spirit in Shirakawa-go?
  - **Example: Every part of the building of these homes takes teamwork. One person/family would not be able to do this on their own. The people of Shirakawa-go care for each other and come together to help each other. They are like one big family because they work together and support each other.**

**Have a Discussion:**

- Community of Shirakawa-go
  - Community members come together in the spring or summer to help rethatch each other's roofs. The sharing of knowledge and time spent together build a sense of community in the village. Each family knows that their hard work for others will be repaid.
  - Homes are reroofed in one day. At the end of the day, once they have finished building the roof, everyone comes together to eat and celebrate.

## Grade 2 Social Studies: December 7 – December 11, 2020

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### Notebook Time:

- Look at the image above – “Community Project”. You will need this to answer the following “SEE, WONDER, THINK” table.
- In each of the columns, record what you see, what you wonder about, what you think.

<b>What I see...</b>	<b>What I wonder...</b>	<b>What I think...</b>
(Eg. I see the sun shining and there is no snow on the ground)	(Eg. What time of year do roofs usually get rebuilt?)	(eg. I infer that it is not winter because it snows a lot in Shirakawa-go in the winter.)