Take the blocks, a scale, 2 packages of green construction paper and a couple of tape measures.

Make a short Powerpoint with the pictures under

Take a scale with you and show them that this is OUR “ruler”.

We use a scale very often called 1/8”=1’-0”

At that scale, 1 of the blocks is about the size of their classroom.

Put another one on top and you have the size of an American house. Put on the gable roof and you have a house. **Then show them the pictures of the gable houses that are historical AND modern.**

Hand out 2 blocks and a gable roof AND an 8x10 piece of green construction paper to each kid. With this group, we are going to build a neighborhood.

Put down the houses on the construction paper with streets. Put enough room on the sidewalk and street to have a tree. **Show them a picture of a street with trees.**

Measure all of the buildings and lots and calculate the acreage.

Then make the buildings into townhouse/brownstones (push them up against each other and put them near the street with shared greenspace behind. Make a rectangle with all of the houses. Measure space and calculate the acreage. Back yards are shared but protected and larger.

You can then add retail buildings (first floor) and offices (second floor) on the short elevations.

Go over the walkability of this neighborhood. (-this is illustrated at Sunnyside Queens but they won’t care). You can show them a picture that is in the file if you like.

Lastly have them make the community a skyscraper. Leave room for hallways. Put the greenspace on the roof and suggest balconies. Put the retail on the first floor and offices on the second to make it higher. Calculate the amount of space it takes up.

This concludes the lesson in DENSITY.

You might have time to work in pictures of cool parks from around the world (some images are included in the file.)