Our City, OakZilil

The idea behind our eco-friendly city is to build a place as it was in the past, before technology and the industrial revolution bloomed world-wide. In the beginning, we only wanted to make a city that was environmentally friendly with zero emissions, no pollution, global warming or the many other environmental issues that plague our world. Yet, in order to achieve a harmonious and environmentally safe environment we had to eliminate all the current sources of environmental problems. The use of electrical energy and energy from fossil fuels was most detrimental for our environment but they were the beginning of our journey to clean energy. Without discovering energy sources in the first place there would be no need to create clean energy. As a result we decided our city would not have access to the level of technology we do today, and instead they live somewhat 'medievally'.

Agriculture

Agriculture is really important for a city because it is used to keep the people living in it alive by providing food to them. It should have livestock such as pigs, sheep, cattle and chicken. There would also be crops such as fruit, vegetables, wheat and grains. There are two farms in the sample city- one behind the hospital and one in front of the town hall. Each place has a barn with pigs, sheep, cattle and chicken. Next to it, there are crops with wheat, pumpkins, beetroot, melons and much more. All crops in this city use a self-watering irrigation system which (in minecraft), is one row of crops and one row of water next to it. This provides the perfect amount of water for the crops and it would then be much more efficient and effortless for farmers. There is a lake that runs through the whole city, providing it with water and a good and convenient transport system for the community, with some wooden boats provided by the council.

Health

Health is such a major component in our lives, it's something that all humans experience and face hardships in. Even now, our own world is now facing a pandemic which prevents us from even taking a step outside, due to our consciousness of our current health. Therefore, we need our population to be able to access healthcare wherever possible, avoiding any future sickness that may cause chaos to our world again. So in order to prioritise health in our city, we built our hospital on the same road that connects to the Town Hall and the houses, allowing the citizens to easily find and access it. We also put a ramp at the back of the building for emergency patients and lead to the underground level. Considering exposure to nature, our ramp has a glass "ceiling" to allow natural light to penetrate through it onto the underground level. Our patient's beds are spatially aligned and separated due to hygiene on the underground, 2nd and 3rd levels, as the beds occupy a lot of space. On the top of the Hospital, there is also an area to observe the city, with farms that surround the area, the Oak River that flows throughout the city and trees that grow directly next to the hospital.

Population and Government

The city's government is democratic and partially socialist, meaning all citizens have access to health care, education and other essential needs. The members of government would have been elected so as to represent all of society. People of all races, genders and ages would become part of the government to properly embody the community and to make decisions for the city with different perspectives and ideas in mind. Variety in powerful figures allows the city to be an equal and fair place for the citizens to live. To "continue to fulfil the environmentally friendly theme of our city", the ideal population density per square kilometre is 50-100 people. The exact dimensions and area of our city have not been determined but it is crucial that the population is dense enough to encourage growth and development both in the city's physical and technological boundaries. A population too large for the area results in many problems we see today. Famine, disease, lack of resources and high levels of competition for jobs and necessary resources. Not only is the population sustainable for living space but the community should be a diverse range of people so as to give the community a multicultural perspective.

Culture and Arts

Culture is developed based on the environment of a community. For example, Australia's First People had a long history of unique cultures that developed because of their surroundings. Ochre painting and their traditional didgeridoo were a result of the particular rocks and minerals in the Earth as well as the long thin trees. Consequently, the culture of our city is developed from the environment. The climate of our city is cool but not cold enough to regularly have snow and ice, there are many trees and wildflowers and a large river. Every year on the 20th October, the City hosts The River Flower festival, celebrating the river that has brought fertile soils, improved hygiene and made travel possible. It is joined with the celebration of nature and all citizens wear their favourite flower in any way they desire. And subsequently, fashion and makeup/ face paint (especially with floral designs) has become an integral part of the community. Artists within the city take inspiration for their creations from the abundance of flowers and the winding river.

By Pia, Chloe P, Katelyn and Margaret