



AMERICAN  
LITERATURE

# Finding Mango street

from the Esri GeoInquiries™ collection for American Literature

Target audience – American literature learners

Time required – 15 minutes

## Activity

Explore the ethnic diversity of U.S. states and neighborhoods. Book: *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros

## Standards

**CCSS: ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.1.** Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly, as well as inferences drawn from the text.  
**CCSS: ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.5.** Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it, and manipulate time create such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise.

## Learning Outcomes

- Students will explain how scale (the granularity of information) changes our understanding of a place.
- Students will identify how the ethnically diverse neighborhoods of suburban Chicago influenced Cisneros' childhood and her writing.

Map URL: <http://esriurl.com/litGeoInquiry13>

## ? Ask

### Are Americans of differing ethnicities spread across the U.S. evenly?

- Click the link above to launch the map. .
- ? What states have high diversity?
- Click states with high diversity to identify the diversity index. [*California: 81; Arizona: 69; New Mexico: 76; Texas: 73; Florida: 62; Illinois: 61; Nevada: 73; New Jersey: 65; Georgia: 62; Maryland: 64; and New York: 67*]
- Click the pie graph to identify the largest ethnic group.
- ? Which state has the highest percent of Hispanic people? [*New Mexico*]

## ! Acquire

### Does scale matter?

- Scale offers more detailed information as you zoom into county and neighborhood units.
- Click the button, Bookmarks. Select the bookmark, County Diversity Index.
- ? What differences do you see if the scale of the map is changed? [*More detail is available.*]
- ? This is county-level data; what differences across space do we see within a state like California or Florida? [*Concentrations of low and high diversity*]
- ? Why do concentrations exist? [*People are often more comfortable with people who speak their own language and share customs.*]

## 🔍 Explore

### What is the relationship between high concentrations of diversity and cities?

- With the Details button depressed, click the button, Content.
- Click the checkbox to the left of the layer name, USA Major Cities.
- ? What U.S. cities are ports of entry for international immigrants? [*San Diego, Chicago, New York, Miami*]
- ? Why might cities be more diverse? [*High immigration rates to cities for economic opportunities*]
- Select the bookmark, Chicago Diversity Index.
- Click two neighborhoods — one with high diversity and one with low diversity.
- Describe neighborhoods in terms of diversity & ethnicity. [*Answers vary but may note patterns.*] more ►

## Analyze

### What do immigrant neighborhoods in large cities look like?

- Turn on the layer, Humboldt Park Community and click the house symbol.
- Select the bookmark, Humboldt Park Neighborhood.
- ? Click the Census Block Group for Humboldt Park; what is the Diversity Index? [92]
- Click the pie graph; identify the dominant ethnicity and estimate the percentage. [Hispanic at 75%]
- ? What is the second largest ethnicity? [Black/African American at 18%]

## Act

### How diverse is your state, county, city, and neighborhood?

- Using the search field, type the name of your state.
- Examine the diversity of your state, county, city, and neighborhood block at multiple zoom levels.
- ? What geographic patterns do you see? Why? [Answers vary but may include patterns like: clustering, circular/linear, regions, bounding lines or areas, dispersion]
- ? Does this picture of diversity fit with your day-to-day experiences walking in your neighborhoods, at school, or at work? [Answers will vary but may include observations like: Most of my neighbors are of a different ethnicity.]

### IDENTIFY A MAP FEATURE

- Click a feature on the map, and a pop-up window will open with information.
- Links and images in the pop-up are often clickable.
- An arrow icon in the upper-right of the window indicates that multiple features have been selected.
- Click the button to scroll through the features.

### SEARCH BY LOCATION

- In the Find Address Or Place field, type a place name or keyword.
- Choose a search option that appears below the field or click the Search button.

## Next Steps

**DID YOU KNOW?** ArcGIS Online is a mapping platform freely available to public, private, and home schools. A school subscription provides additional security, privacy, and content features. Learn more about ArcGIS Online and how to get a school subscription at <http://www.esri.com/schools>.

THEN TRY THIS...

- Explore the diversity of your community in the Demographics and Statistics Atlas story map: <http://esriurl.com/Geo3213>.

## TEXT REFERENCES

This GIS map has been cross-referenced to material in chapters of the following book.

- *The House on Mango Street*, Sandra Cisneros