

Civically Engaged Ikigai Diagram

Teaching Artist: Susana Arellano

Goal:

Use art and design to create a map of people, places and things that are important to us.

Guiding Question:

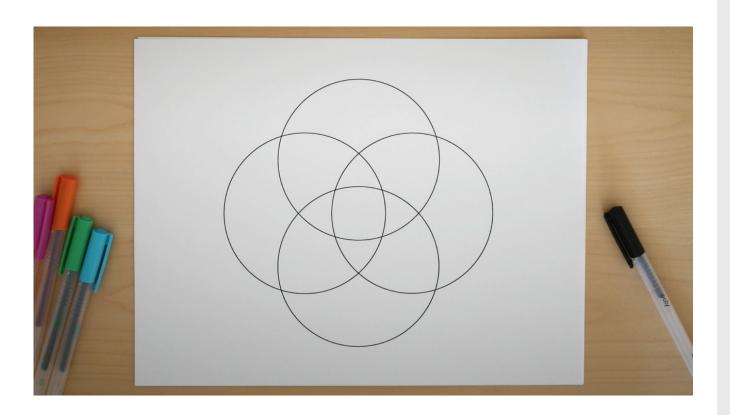
How can we use our passions and skills to impact our communities?

Materials:

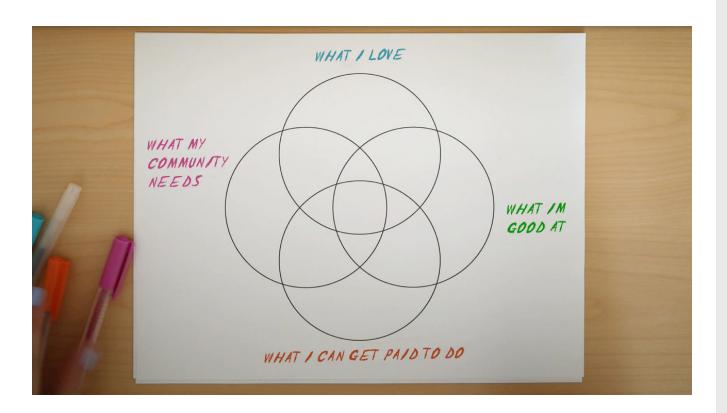
Paper, Pens in four different colors (optional), Glass for tracing (optional)

Steps:

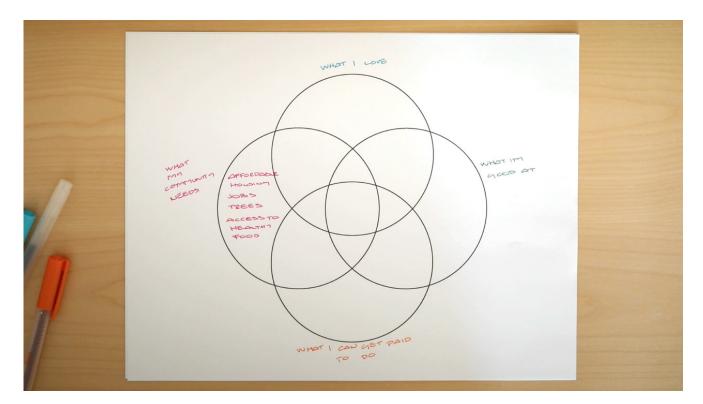
Draw four interconnecting circles, or use the print out at the end of this lesson.



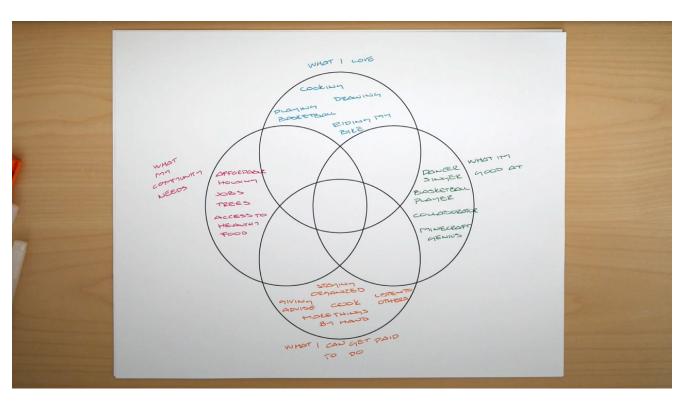
Label the four circles: What My Community Needs, What I Love, What I'm Good At, What I Can Get Paid To Do



Start with the circle labeled What My Community Needs. Choose a color and begin to fill in the circle. Consider big things like more jobs and affordable housing, as well as smaller things like more trees and playgrounds.

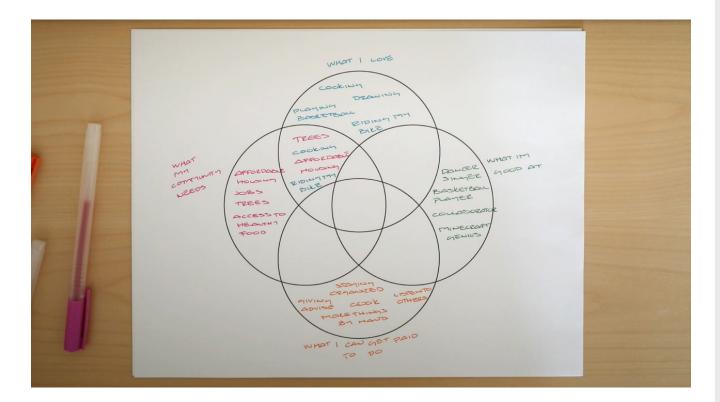


Fill in the rest of the big, outside circles.

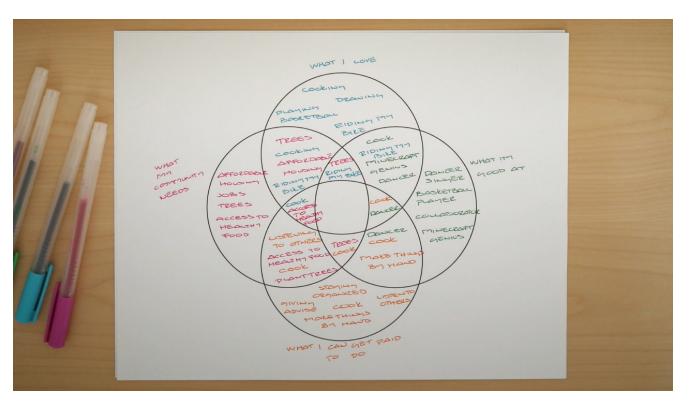


Choose a space where two circles overlap. For example, write down the things that your community needs and that you would like helping out with. Then write down the things that you love and that would be helpful for your community.

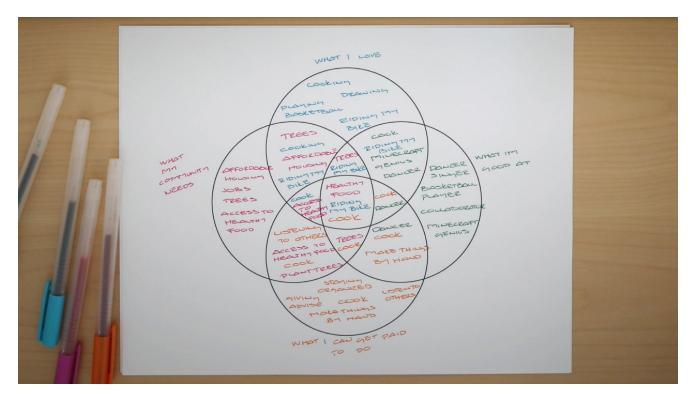
Tip: use the same colors you selected for the outside circles!



• Repeat the same process for all the spaces where the circles overlap.



In the center, write the thing that repeat several times. These are probably the things that you feel most strongly about.



REFLECT: This activity is based on an Ikigai diagram. The center represents what the Japanese call "Ikigai," which means "a reason for being." Do you think the center accurately represents your reason for being? Is there anything missing? If so, add that!

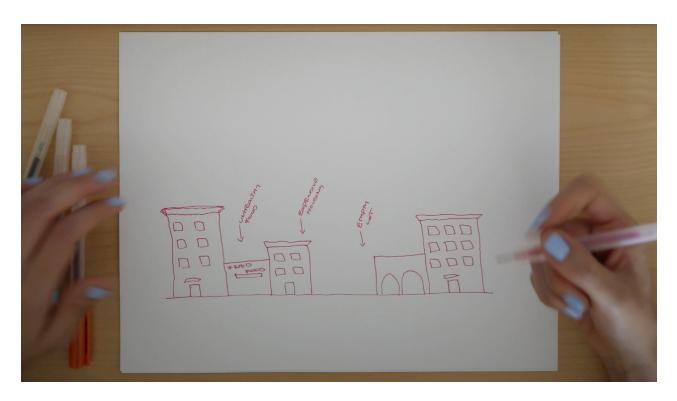


Share your diagram with others! They might have some good ideas about what kind of jobs or school programs might combine all your interests and skills!



Go Further!

Take a close look at the center of your diagram. Look at what you wrote down for What My Community Needs. Choose one color and sketch an image of what this community need looks like in real life.



Choose a different pen or color. Based on what you wrote in the center of your diagram, sketch how you could use your skills, passions, and interests to address this community need in real life. Get creative and have fun!

