

Self-Portrait Mind Map

Creating a self-portrait mind map can be a creative and introspective activity for students. The following activity can be used in conjunction with *Experience Art*, Unit 3: Identity, and *Discovering Drawing*, Unit 6: The Figure or Unit 7: Portraits.

Prompt

- Create a mind map that represents you.
- Experiment with a variety of artistic techniques and media to share your visual voice.

Activity

Remember to adapt these steps based on the age and grade level of the students, and feel free to adjust based on your specific teaching context.

1. Select Central Theme

Ask students to choose a central theme for their self-portrait mind map. It could be "My Identity," "Who I Am," or any other theme that reflects self-discovery.

2. Discuss Self-Portrait

Discuss self-awareness and introspection. Talk about the various aspects that make up an individual's identity, such as interests, skills, values, goals, and personal experiences.

3. Choose Materials

Provide students with the necessary materials, such as large sheets of paper, colored markers, pens, or pencils. Encourage creativity by using a variety of colors and symbols.

4. Create Mind Map

Use the following general structure to guide students through creating their maps:

- **Main Branches:** Instruct students to create main branches radiating from the center, each representing a significant aspect of their identity. For example, branches could include "Interests," "Skills," "Goals," "Values," and "Personal Experiences."
- **Sub-branches:** Under each main branch, students can add sub-branches to elaborate on specific details. For instance, under "Interests," sub-branches could include hobbies, favorite subjects, or activities they enjoy.
- **Connections:** Emphasize the interconnectedness of different aspects of their identity. Have students draw lines or use arrows to connect related elements, showing how different aspects influence each other.
- **Visual Elements:** Encourage the use of visual elements, such as drawings or symbols, to represent each aspect. This adds a creative touch to the mind map and helps in better understanding.

Reflection*

Allocate time for reflection. Ask students to write a brief explanation or thoughts next to each branch or element, explaining why it's significant in their self-portrait.

*As a preparatory exercise this is optional.

Self-Portrait Mind Map (continued)

