

# Community educator asset map

## A resource to help you identify community educators

An asset map is a visual way to identify resources within your community. An asset map focused on identifying community educators can help your team compile your collective knowledge into a useful resource of community educator lists by topic or essential question. The act of creating a map of expertise can help you discover connections you already have, organizations you'd love to know about, and talents and resources near your school or available virtually.

Use this resource to build a map of community educators in your local area, or virtually, that will bring new perspectives and skillsets to students' projects. Complete this map as a team or with your students. Use the guiding questions below to help your team move beyond personal networks and into new perspectives and expertise that may enhance your students' understanding of the topic.

### Map overview

- **Center circle:** Essential question, goal or topic
- **Medium circles:** Types of expertise that would help your project
- **Small circles:** Specific organizations, jobs or people in your community with expertise

### Guiding questions:

- Whose perspective, different from our own, do we need to solicit to add to the map?
- How can I support my students in finding their identity and interests through this experience?
- What community educators could provide an opportunity to view this topic through a different lens?
- What community educators could help our students to learn more about the socio-cultural and historical contexts of our topic or essential question?
- Does this map represent the cultural wealth of the people in our community?
- What perspectives have we left off of the map that could be helpful in our project?

The questions used in this resource are inspired by the work of MLFTC's Principled Innovation team. Principled Innovation is the ability to imagine new concepts, catalyze ideas and form new solutions guided by principles that create positive change for humanity. Learn more at [principled-innovation.org](http://principled-innovation.org).

## Example community educator asset map

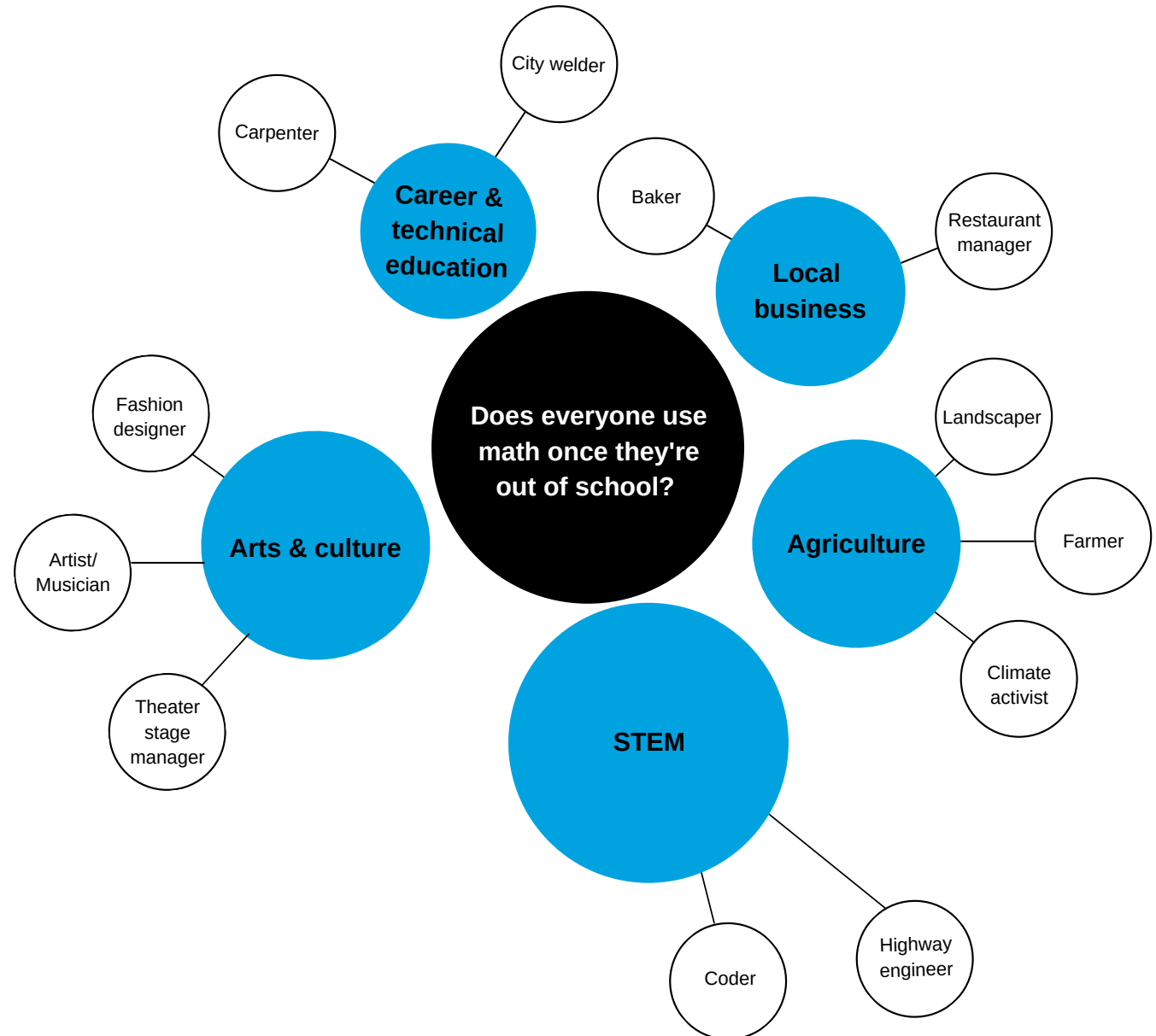
The project that was used to create this example is based on a project-based learning unit from a 9th grade team. The unit focused on math's application in the community and how math is used beyond school walls.

The unit's essential question appears in the large center circle.

Medium-sized circles hold students' areas of interest.

The professions appearing in the small circles are the result of brainstorming jobs that bring an interesting perspective on how math is applied in our community.

## Human library: math in the real world



# Community educator asset map

Work as a team or with your students to think about community educators in your local area, or virtually, who would bring new perspectives and skillsets to a given project.

## Map overview:

- **Center circle:** Essential question or topic
- **Medium circles:** Types of expertise that would help your project
- **Small circles:** Specific organizations, jobs, or people in your community who have that expertise

## Guiding questions:

- Whose perspective, different from our own, do we need to solicit to add to the map?
- How can I support my students in finding their identity and interests through this experience?
- What community educators could provide an opportunity to view this topic through a different lens?
- What community educators could help our students to learn more about the socio-cultural and historical contexts of our topic or essential question?
- Does this map represent the cultural wealth of the people in our community?
- What perspectives have we left off of the map that could be helpful in our project?

**Project:**

