

Our Special School



Concept
Mindset



Length
20-30 Minutes

Inquiry Prompts

- What makes a community special?
- What roles do people have in the school community, and why are they important?
- What do you think your role in the school community is?

Instructions

In this activity, students create a map of their school, labeling the important people who make up the school community, and describing their roles.

- 1 As a class, brainstorm some things that make your school special. Why is this a place where everyone can feel like they belong?
- 2 Have students draw a map of their school on some paper. (To make it easier, you can have them copy an outline or map from a projection.)
- 3 Ask students to think of all the people in the school community and the roles/jobs they hold. As a class, list as many as you can (for example, principal, teacher, school nurse, counselor, maintenance staff, cafeteria staff, crossing guards, bus driver, other students, etc.).
- 4 Help students label their school maps with the locations of all of the people who help make the school feel like a special place to belong.

Message for students: A community isn't made up of just one person; it's many people working together to make everyone feel special and included. At a school, that means more than just teachers and students. What do you think would happen if some workers in the school community didn't show up one day?

Materials Required

- Paper
- Construction paper
- Pencils, colored pencils, or markers
- Computers (tablets, phones) with Internet access (if you want students to upload their artifacts or create a goal)

Artifacts

Upload students' graphic organizers to **Storyboard**, where they can reflect on what it means to them to belong. They might also want to commit to the ways they will help others feel like they belong by creating a goal in Xello.