



MAINE MUSEUM OF  
INNOVATION  
LEARNING +  
LABOR

# Create an Identity Tree

Teacher's Guide and Worksheets



# Create an Identity Tree

All Ages

**Time:** 1-2 class periods

## Learning Objectives:

Students will:

- identify and document key people, places, and experiences that have shaped their identity.
- articulate how they see themselves, including personality traits, interests, cultural identity, and values.
- express hopes and dreams for their personal future, their community, and the world.
- use a tree as a metaphor for identity, demonstrating how visual symbols can represent personal growth and complexity.
- design and decorate an identity tree that integrates written and artistic expression.

## Materials Needed

1. Copy of attached activity sheet.
2. Pencils/markers/crayons/colored pencils

## Pre-reading/Preparation

It is recommended that students be familiar with the Immigration section of our website. Reviewing this material can be done together as a class, or assigned for homework prior to the lesson below.

## Set Up

1. Copies of the attached student worksheet. Students may use the tree template or they can draw a tree of their own creation.
2. Pencils
3. Markers/colored pencils/crayons

## Instruction, Teacher Modeling, Guided Practice

1. Explain to students that our identity makes us who we are, like our experiences, beliefs, hobbies, and more. It can include who we think we are, who others say we are, and who we hope to be. Have students discuss what else do they think our identity includes?
2. Hand out the student worksheet and review the directions. Teachers may choose to create a tree of their own to share with the class as a visual aid. If choosing to have students create their own tree, rather than follow the template make sure they include roots, trunk and leaves.
3. Consider having a few students share their completed tree with the class. Display trees around the classroom/hallways.



Name:

## Create an Identity Tree

Our identity makes us who we are, like our experiences, beliefs, hobbies, and more. It can include who we think we are, who others say we are, and who we hope to be.

You will create a tree that will help us learn about you. Follow the directions below to complete your tree. You may use the template on the back of this page or create your own tree.

1. The roots of the tree represent your past. On and around the roots of your tree write those people, places, events and activities that have meant the most to you.
2. The trunk represents who you are. On the trunk write who you think you are, both on the inside and the outside. Think about how you would describe yourself to a friend or how someone might describe you.
3. The leaves represent your hopes and dreams for the future. On the leaves write goals you have for yourself, hopes you have for your community or country or even the world.
4. Color your tree.

