EdCamp 2025 July 2025



### Mapping Meaningful Learning

Turning Wichita into a Living Classroom

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### Setting the Stage

<u>Goal</u>: To reimagine Wichita as a dynamic classroom by identifying local assets and designing authentic learning experiences.

Place-based learning creates deeper roots, increases empathy, and makes learning relevant.

Why does it matter?

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### Game Plan

01 Warm-Up: Personal Connection to Place

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- 02 **Mapping Local Learning Assets**
- 03 **Designing Learning Experiences**
- 04 **Overcoming Barriers**
- 05 Reflection & Call to Action



# O1 Warm-Up: Personal Connection to Place



"Think of a place in Wichita that holds meaning for you - where you learned something important, felt inspired, or made a memory. What made that place meaningful?"





## Mapping Local Learning Assets

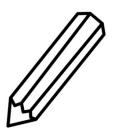


## The opportunities are endless.

Your Task: Mark cultural sites, natural spaces, community hubs, and hidden gems on a map of Wichita.

#### Consider:

- What stories live in this place?
- What subjects or standards could this place help teach?
- Who in the community could be a co-teacher or guide here?

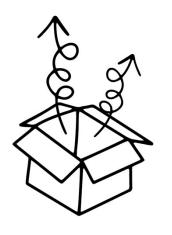




## Designing Learning Experiences



### Let's bring it to life.



Small Group Challenge: Design a mini learning experience for a specific grade level or subject.

#### **Guiding Questions:**

- What is the essential question or learning goal?
- What will students do, create, or investigate?
- How will this experience be authentic and studentcentered?



## Overcoming Barriers



## Your community is full of assets too.

We used downtown Wichita as our learning environment because it surrounds Learning Lab. What similar opportunities exist in your neighborhood? <u>Discussion</u>: What might prevent you and others from using the community as a classroom?

### **Challenge Prompts:**

- How might we bring the community into the classroom when we can't go out?
- What partnerships could help remove these barriers?
- How can we advocate for place-based learning in our schools?



## O5 Reflection & Call to Action

### So now what?

#### Reflection:

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- What's one place in Wichita you're now seeing with new eyes?
- What's one small step you can take this month to connect your students with the community?

Activity: Write your commitment on a sticky note and post it.