

THE **EDIBLE**
SCHOOLYARD
PROJECT

CIRCLES OF CONNECTIONS

Summary: This lesson will introduce students to a worksheet that prompts them to reflect on what they have been learning, exploring, and discussing around the topic of Organic. The worksheet asks students to consider how their learning impacts their own lives, their communities, and society at large.

Time: 15-30 Minutes

Teacher Notes:

- The worksheet provided here was designed as a resource for students to return to throughout the curriculum. Many of the lessons in the [Understanding Organic](#) curriculum will prompt students to use this worksheet to answer closing prompts. You could have students fill out the worksheet individually or create a class version of the worksheet and have students fill it out together.
- The “READ” and “DISCUSS” sections of this lesson plan can be used as talking points or a script to introduce activities.
- The “ANSWER” sections of the lesson could be answered in small group discussions or class discussions.
- If you are teaching this lesson asynchronously or assigning it as homework, for the sections that instruct students to READ, consider recording yourself reading the sections aloud and sending the recording to students. This adaptation offers a helpful strategy for differentiating learning that supports all students, especially English Language Learners.
- This lesson is from the Edible Schoolyard Project’s [Understanding Organic](#) curriculum and is part of the preparatory lessons of the curriculum.



CIRCLES OF CONNECTIONS

READ: When we learn about new ideas that encourage critical thought about the world around us, it can be helpful to have tools that help us reflect on the connections between what we are learning and how it impacts our own lives, our communities, and beyond.

ANSWER: First, it's important to think about what we mean when we say, "your community." Think about or discuss the following questions that can help you define what "community" means to you.

- Where do you feel you belong? Who do you feel comfortable with?
- Who shares common experiences, ideas, and identities with you?
- Who matters to you?

A space to put answers:

READ: A community is a group of people who have something in common. A community might be a group who lives in a particular area, family, friends, peers, neighbors, etc. A community can also include people who don't live near you but are important to you and/or share the same identities, values, and interests as you.

FILL-OUT: On your worksheet, you will see three circles. In the middle is a circle that says **You**, then a circle that says **Community**, and finally a circle that says **Beyond Your Community** (which includes society at large, and larger structures and systems). The first time you use the worksheet, turn to page two of the worksheet. Follow the directions to answer the questions on that page.



CIRCLES OF CONNECTIONS

Using the Circles of Connections Worksheet Following a Lesson

ANSWER OR DISCUSS: Throughout this curriculum, you will be asked to use your [Circle of Connections](#) worksheet to reflect on what you are learning. In some of the lessons, you will see the title “REFLECT ON CONNECTIONS”. When you see that prompt, you will be asked to use the circles of connections to record your answers to a number of provided questions.