



Curiosity mapping in the context of civic engagement for students is an educational strategy that helps learners connect their personal interests and questions to real-world civic issues.

Curiosity Mapping



What is Curiosity Mapping?

It's a process where students **identify what they're curious about**—their passions, questions, and areas of interest—and then **map those curiosities to civic themes or community challenges**.

The goal is to make civic engagement **student-driven**, so they see how their own interests can lead to meaningful action in society.

Personalization: Instead of starting with abstract civic concepts (like voting or policy), students begin with what excites them—sports, art, technology, social justice—and explore how those areas intersect with civic life.

Empowerment: By linking curiosity to civic issues, students feel ownership over their learning and engagement. For example:

A student curious about food might explore food insecurity in their community.

Someone interested in technology could look at digital equity or cybersecurity laws.

How it relates to Civic Engagement



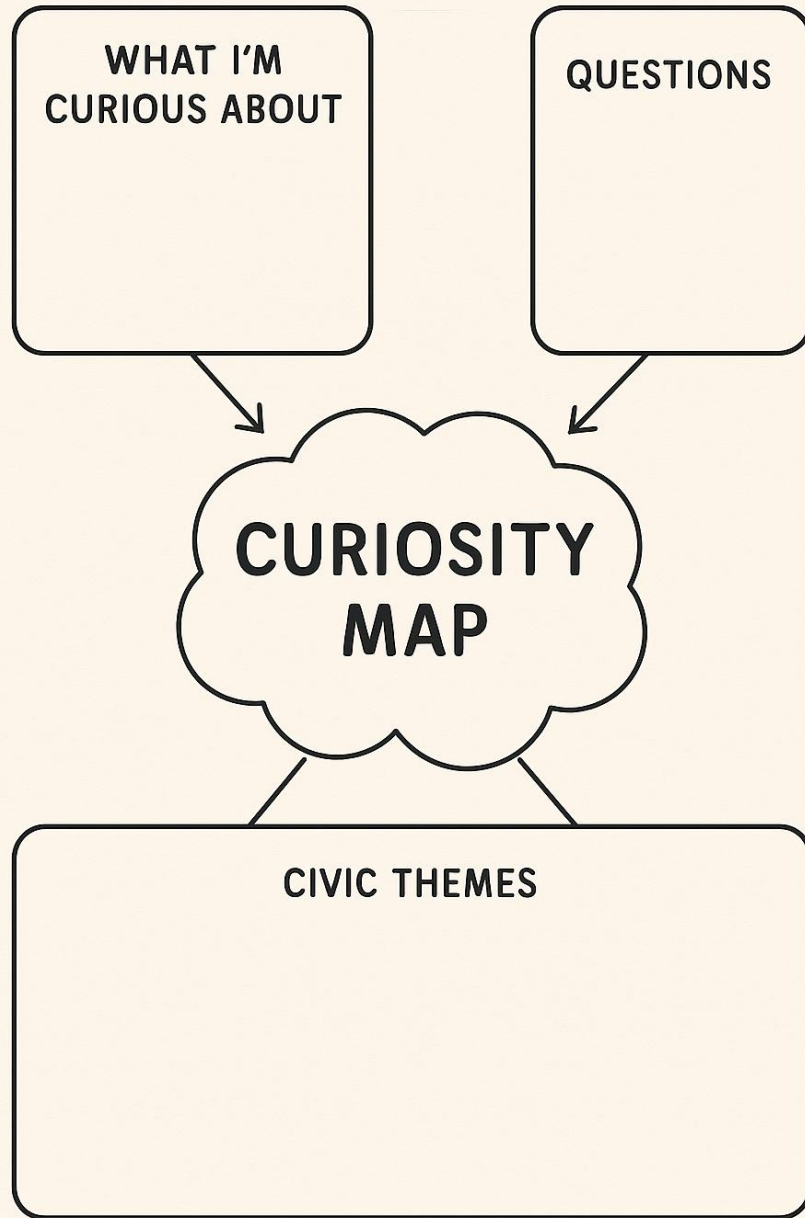
Critical Thinking: Mapping encourages students to ask deeper questions:

- ☐ Why does this issue exist?
- ☐ Who is affected?
- ☐ What can be done?

Action-Oriented: It often leads to projects like advocacy campaigns, service-learning, or policy proposals based on their mapped interests.

How it relates to Civic Engagement





What I'm Curious About: Students list their interests or passions.

Questions: Students write questions related to those interests.

Civic Themes: Students connect their curiosity to broader civic issues (e.g., equity, sustainability, community health).



All About Me...

passions. talents. strengths

you could...

Make a list of the things you do when you have free time. Which activities do you most enjoy?

Think about your favorite unit of inquiry. What did you love about it?

What are you awesome at? How might you use your talents to make the world a better place?

Action!

how might I make the world
a better place?



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Idea 1

Idea 2

Idea 3

Top 3 Choices

I would love to explore...



Read through your interests and community needs.
Are there any ideas that connect the two?
What might you want to explore during your exhibition?



Choice 1:	Choice 2:	Choice 3:
I know...	I know...	I know...
I'd love to learn...	I'd love to learn...	I'd love to learn...



Benefits for Students

Builds **agency** and **voice** in civic matters.

Makes civic education **relevant** and **engaging**.

Encourages **interdisciplinary thinking**, connecting personal passions to social responsibility.

Implementation Guide for Teachers

[Curiosity Mapping Lesson.docx](#)

Example Prompts & Activities

Prompts:

- ☐ If you could change one thing in your community, what would it be?
- ☐ What do you wonder about how laws affect your favorite hobby?
- ☐ How does technology impact fairness in society?

Activities:

- ☐ Gallery Walk: Students post their maps and walk around to see connections.
- ☐ Community Interview: Students interview someone about a civic issue related to their curiosity.
- ☐ Action Brainstorm: Groups brainstorm ways to address mapped civic themes.