

DRAW YOUR HISTORY

Preparation

- Paper and pencil

Purpose

In this activity, you'll draw a history of yourself, and then you'll reflect upon the scale at which you examined your own history. This will help show you how your own personal narrative has a lot in common with much larger history narratives. This activity also introduces the concept of both temporal (time) and spatial (geographical) scale. This will help you understand why historians will occasionally zoom out (in terms of both time and geography) to create a larger context for understanding a single history.

Process

Take 5 minutes to draw a “history of you”—your own personal history. This won't be graded, and you shouldn't get stressed out about whether you're a good artist. You can use text to label your pictures, stick figures for people, however you want to do it is fine.