

## ELDER WISDOM MAPPING

PEOPLE	PLACES	NATURE	WORDS	OBJECTS	SOUNDS	OTHER (WRITE YOUR OWN)
MOM/DAD	HOME	LAKE	POETRY	?	WIND	?
GRANDMOTHER GRANDFATHER	LIBRARY	MOUNTAIN	STORYTELLING	ART	WAVES	?
AUNT	CITY	WOODS	SONG LYRICS	SYMBOL	ORCHESTRA	?
TEACHER	FARM	OPEN FIELDS	NOVELS	RING/JEWELRY	DRUMS	?
BEST FRIEND	KITCHEN TABLE	WATERFALL	ANCIENT WRITINGS	?	HYMNS	?
?	?	?	?	?	?	?

## ELDER WISDOM MAPPING

### *Where do you seek wisdom?*

**“Every moment instructs, and every object: for wisdom is infused into every form.” *Ralph Waldo Emerson***

**“Imagine the access we would have to different perspectives, the things we might see through other eyes, the wisdom that surrounds us. We don’t have to figure out everything by ourselves: there are intelligences other than our own, teachers all around us. Imagine how much less lonely the world would be.” *Robin Wall Kimmerer***

**“We are a part of nature, and it is a part of us.” *Sally Cole-Misch***

**“People say to think seven generations ahead when making big decisions, because our future ancestors – those yet to arrive, who will one day become the Elders – live with the choices we make today.” *Angeline Boulley***

#### **Instructions:**

**This can be a solo or small group activity or shared with family and friends.**

Create your own “map” by placing markers on the appropriate squares that answer the question: ***Where do you seek wisdom?***

Reflect on or share with others the wisdom you gained from that source. There are many sources of wisdom! Write your own.

#### **Additional Questions:**

What are your words of wisdom?

What would you share with others about place, nature and family?

#### **Elder Wisdom Mapping Concept:**

To trace where one seeks advice, wisdom, opportunity for realizations.

Elder Wisdom Mapping was conceived when reading the Michigan’s Monroe County OBOC choice: *Firekeepers Daughter* by Angeline Boulley and the companion book: *The Best Part of Us*, by Sally Cole-Misch. Both books consider the question: How can we best carry our elders’ knowledge of the Great Lakes region forward to face the challenges and opportunities we encounter today? We invite you to discuss your experiences and ideas of where you have sought wisdom and what you might want to share with others going forward.

Ages 3 and up