

**Barry Ace Worksheet:**

Scan this page and hand it out to your students to prepare them for their mapping project. If you have the time, encourage the students to take this worksheet home as preparation work!

*“Maps really overwrite everything, they overwrite who we are. If you hold up a map of Ottawa, for example, it doesn’t tell you anything, other than a bunch of street names. When you’re looking at a map you don’t know the history of the place, or who was there. You also don’t know the history of who is there now, like you! You’re a part of this map, but you’re invisible on this document. So today I want you to think about how you would put yourself on this map. What would you do with this map to tell your story? How would you tell people who you are and where you come from? You can talk about issues that you’re concerned about like environmental issues or other issues. But I want you to tell a story by cutting up this map and re-doing it with yourself on it in some way.” – Barry Ace*

**How can you put yourself, your culture or your identity on a map?**

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*“A lot of my work is informed by Anishinaabe culture. ‘Anishinaabe’ is what we call ourselves. You’ll see in textbooks Ojibwe, Chippewa and other names. Those names were applied to us. Anishinaabe means ‘the original people.’ That’s what we call ourselves. With those applied names comes a lot of stereotypes about who people really are . . . I want you to start thinking about stereotypes in your own culture, about your own place in Ottawa— the stereotypes that you want to challenge about yourself.” – Barry Ace*

**What is a name or stereotype that has been applied to you? How can your map project challenge this?**

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*“I can remember sitting in class, and they [the teachers] would talk about North America but they would exclude [Anishinaabe people] from history. I took a map that shows all the applied names like Chippewa and I crossed them out. The map becomes more representative of my perspective. I’m overlaying my history, my knowledge and my symbols on top of a map that was created as an act of ownership. Make sure to draw from your own imagery, don’t try to replicate somebody else’s imagery. I think it’s really important that if you use a symbol, make sure you have the authority to use it or that you know about it.” – Barry Ace*

**Are there symbols that represent you or your culture? Draw them below and find a way to incorporate them on your map!**

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