Gibbs Smith Education

Lesson Plan

Community Food Map

• As a class, brainstorm or research places in your community that reflect the diversity of Asian and Asian American foods. Students may wish to include restaurants, grocery stores, food trucks, or their own homes.

• Check that each student has a different location or that if students share a location they will be exploring different dishes, ingredients, etc. Set a deadline for students to visit their assigned location and submit two of the following artifacts:

- photos of dishes
- photos of recipes they use at home
- student-generated drawings or paintings of dishes
- brief videos of themselves cooking or eating a dish
- three-paragraph, sensory-laden description of their experiences at the location or preparing food

• Students may also wish to collect disposable items such as paper menus, (clean) branded napkins, or drink sleeves to enhance the map.

• Create a virtual interactive map or paper map on a bulletin board that connects artifacts to the locations of venues that bring Asian and Asian American foods to your community. Bulletin board maps may use string to connect artifacts from a location and use string or yard to connect map points to artifacts. Virtual maps may include images of student artifacts and links to restaurant or store websites. *Mapme* provides free trials or discounted classroom plans for student projects.

• Publish your map or images of your bulletin board map along with virtual artifacts on a class blog.

Approx. Time

- 30 minutes

Learning Target

- Students will analyze maps and data to engage with race in the United States.

Big Questions

- What can the foods in your community tell you about culture?
- What aspects of the foods in your community tie different cultures together?

Lesson Source

- **Mosaic: Themes in Asian American Studies**