

A Sense of Place

What is place?

Some would define place as a particular spot on a map (such as a city, state, or nation). Others would say that place is any area set aside for a particular purpose (such as a soccer field, a garden, a library, or a park). Still others would define place as community...or *home*.

What is a special place for you in Tempe? Who is there? Where is it? What is there? How does Tempe fit in as part of your place?



This activity lets you use the facts and your feelings to tell us about your place.

Why is it important to you?

What stories or memories does it hold for you?

What feelings do you have when you think about your place?

Do you think your place may change?

What will you do to keep it the same – or to help it change or make it better?

What is your sense of place?

To complete this “sense of place” activity, perhaps you would like to write an essay. Think about how your essay answers all of these questions (and more)? Maybe you’d like to create a map of your place using drawings, photos, or a collage to let us see what your place looks like and how it feels to you

Once you have completed your “sense of place” creation, take some time to think about what you’ve made and how it helps others “know” your place.

How is it similar to the way other people have described Tempe in the past? (Think about the oral histories from the “Living Together” section of the museum.)

What makes your place different from how others might describe their own place in Tempe?

Share your thoughts with your classmates.

