



*Creative Hustle*, copyright © 2022 by The Board of Trustees of the Leland Stanford Junior University on behalf of Hasso Plattner Institute of Design. Published in the United States by Ten Speed Press, an imprint of Random House, a division of Penguin Random House LLC, New York.

## EDUCATORS' GUIDE

# Creative Hustle

## Uncovering Your Gifts and Goals

We live in a world where so much is determined for us. When and where we are born, who our family is and knows, how much money is in our bank accounts, and how much melanin is in our skin – all of these factors indicate precise paths we are expected to follow. Too many of us silence our creativity and let our hustle calcify as we settle for the path set for us. And in doing so, we trade our potential fulfillment and impact for a facsimile of comfort.

How can we bring our creative ingenuity to the challenges in the world today and not just do what might be expected of us?

This activity from *Creative Hustle* by sam seidel and Olatunde Sobomehin is their foundational exercise for learning how to see your gifts and understand your goals so that you can make a living doing things that matter. It has been adapted for use in both K12 and higher education classrooms.

# Activity: The Gifts and Goals Canvas

## LEARNING GOAL

To help learners better understand their own values, how to connect with their networks, and create practices in their lives that allow them to both work and reflect.

## WHERE TO USE THIS ACTIVITY

Classrooms | Virtual learning sessions (Zoom, etc.) | Workshops

## MATERIALS

Paper | Writing instrument

## FORMAT

Individual work, with opportunity for individual or paired reflection

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Ask students to draw their own blank canvas** on a piece of paper, based on the image included below.
2. **Give students 3-5 minutes to fill out each section of the canvas**, using the prompts included here. Play some music while they think and write (music always helps). Students should also feel free to draw instead of writing words or phrases—whatever works best for them.

Fill out the **Gifts** section. Ask: *What do people compliment you for?*

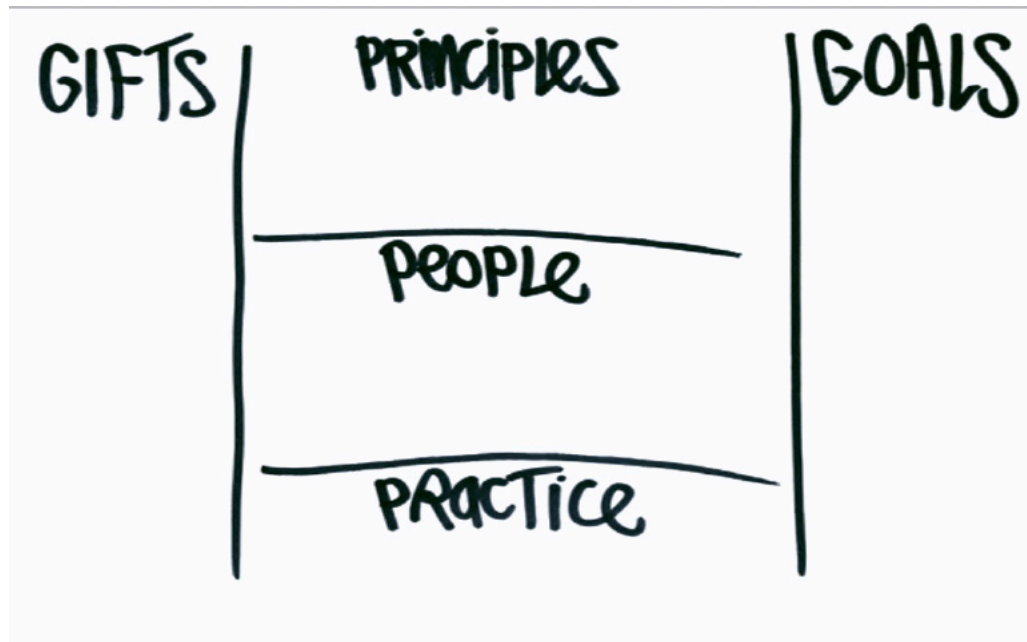
Fill out the **Goals** section. Ask: *What are you trying to make happen in the world? And what will success look like to you?* They should include both ambitious goals and more attainable goals.

Fill out the **Principles** section. Ask: *What are the founding principles in your personal constitution? What are the three beliefs you hold onto in a tough situation? What is most important to you?*

Fill out the **People** section. Ask: *Who do you learn the most from, and how could you spend more time with them? Whose approach to creative work do you admire, and how could you spend more time with them?*

Fill out the **Practice** section. Ask: *What is your daily routine to ensure you are meeting your goals? What practices keep you grounded and connected to the source of your creativity? What new rituals are you trying to cultivate?*

3. **When your learners have finished**, ask them to mentally pick a place where they will hang up this canvas, and to plan a time when they will revisit this canvas to make adjustments.
4. **Don't forget to reflect!** Allow students, individually or in pairs, to reflect on an aspect of this canvas that relates to the class or topic on hand.



## WE'D LOVE YOUR FEEDBACK!



This educators' guide is a prototype (hooray!). We're hoping to understand what types of materials are useful to educators and learners in K12 and higher education classrooms. If you used this, please share your feedback with us in this four-question survey.

## WANT TO READ MORE?

Check out *Creative Hustle!* The book offers even more ways to help identify and navigate your own creative path.

Learn about all of our d.school books at [dschool.stanford.edu/books](https://dschool.stanford.edu/books).

To request a complimentary examination copy to review for use in your classroom, contact Penguin Random House Education at [k12education@penguinrandomhouse.com](mailto:k12education@penguinrandomhouse.com) for PreK–12 Education or [highereducation@penguinrandomhouse.com](mailto:highereducation@penguinrandomhouse.com) for Higher Education.