



## Middle School Project Heart Preview Lesson



### Learning Target

- Students will identify how their personal passions connect with the 3Ts of philanthropy and use that learning to create a mission statement.



- Time: 25-45 Minutes

### Lesson Overview and Teacher Prep



- **Connect (5-10 min):** Small group discussions about 3Ts and definition of philanthropy as something every person can do to make a difference.

- **Engage (15-25 min):** Students record thinking and reflect on the opening discussion, then create mission statements after brief instruction.

- **Leave Changed (5-10 min):** Students discuss how they can use resources to make their personal passions and mission statement a reality.

- Materials Needed: 3Ts & Mission Mini Lesson worksheet, Example Mission Statements from non-profits

- Document student progress by posting pictures, videos, stories, and “a-ha” moments to Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter @ottercares #projectheart



### Connect

Explain philanthropy and ask students to turn and talk about their 3Ts.

**Philanthropy** - The act of donating money, goods, services, time or effort to support a beneficial cause and create a lasting impact. Anyone can use their 3Ts (time, talent, or treasure) to make a difference and meet a need.

#### Time

- We all have 24 hours in day in which we choose to pursue certain interests and activities.



#### Talent

- Natural ability and preferences that can be practiced and turned into skill.



#### Treasure

- Something of value like money, ideas, or prized possessions.



### Engage

Distribute worksheets to students and instruct to record some of their personal passions in the circle where it fits best. Examples: playing a musical instrument could be in the time or talent circles, and treasure could include a pair of outgrown ice skates or tap shoes.

Once all students have recorded their thinking, say, “Now that you’ve connected with your personal passions, we’re going to think about a personal mission that will help you utilize your 3Ts to make an impact.” Show the selected mission statement examples and explain that a good mission statement should (1) be based on what you want to achieve and why, (2) short (1-2 sentences), (3) based on what you are good at or feel strongly about, (4) involve reflecting on how you want to be remembered, and (5) be a starting point to creating goals towards your dreams

### Leave Changed

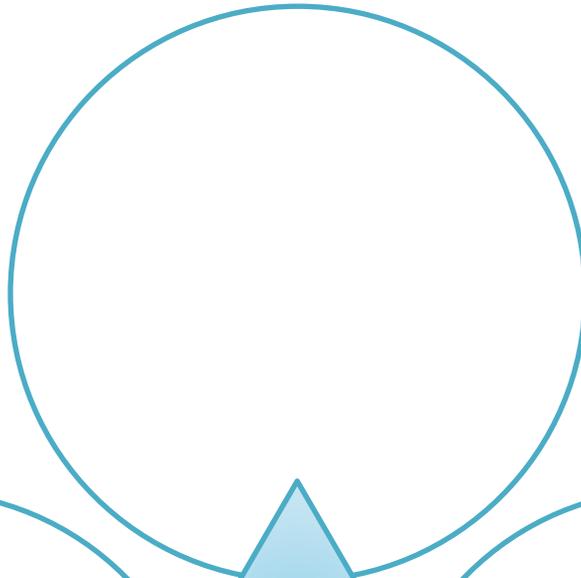
Have students take turns sharing their mission statement to the whole class, in small groups, or with partners. Brainstorm some nonprofit organizations that align with some of these missions.



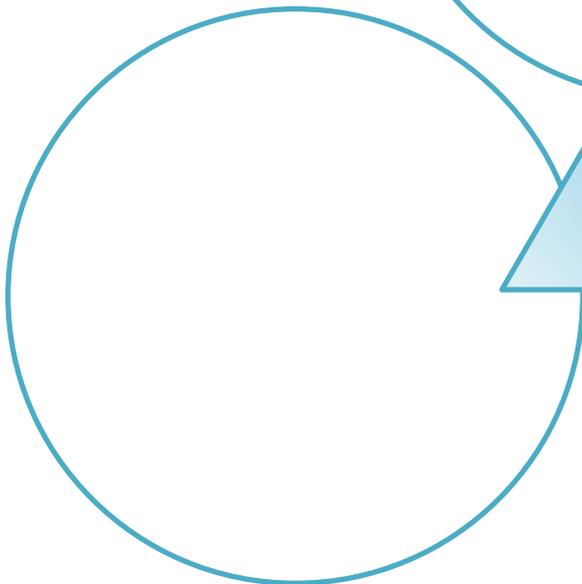


## My Personal Passions Intersect with Needs

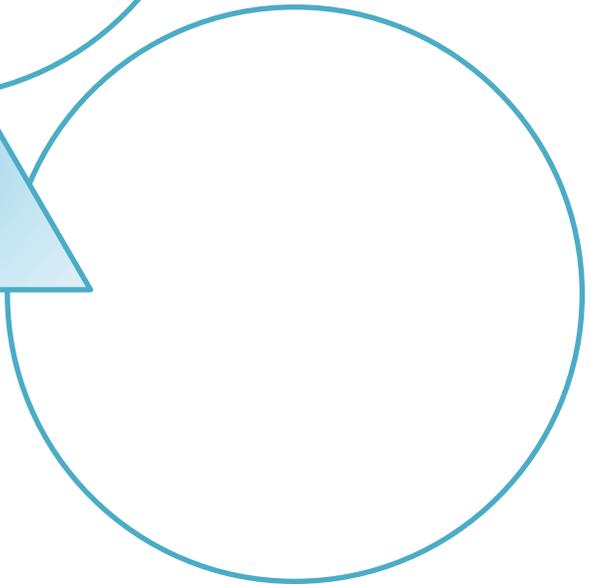
*These are the things I enjoy  
spending my **time** doing.*



*I have these natural abilities that I  
practice to develop my **talents**.*



*My **treasure** includes the things and  
ideas I value.*



**My  
3Ts**

## My Mission Statement

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