

Deirdre Nelson Map your Commons craftspace.co.uk/wac-deirdrenelson

Deirdre works across art, design and craft creating textiles that combine traditional techniques, such as stitching, with digital processes. Exploring places, people and social issues in her work, Deirdre's mapping project for We are Commoners celebrates the shared, free, open and accessible resources generated by acts of commoning in her community.

Find the commons in your local area – the spaces and resources that anyone can use. Create a map showing your findings. You could organise your map around a theme, an interest you have, a type of resource, or include as many projects, places and activities as you can find.

Your map is a commons resource too! Who might find your map helpful? Where could you display it? Could your map be copied and shared?

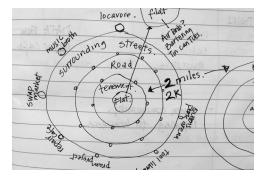
Develop your map using different artforms and techniques. You could use printmaking, photography, illustration, textiles, embroidery or a combination of artforms. Find out how Deirdre created her map: https://craftspace.co.uk/ wac-deirdrenelson/#dnmake



1 Find a paper or digital map of your local area. Pinpoint your home, and measure a 2km radius around it. Draw the radius onto your map, or screen grab it if you are using a digital map. This tool might be useful: radiusmap.traveltime.com



2 Locate the green spaces – areas of vegetated land or water that offer different purposes and benefits to the people who use them. Look for: parks, community gardens, city farms, playing fields, playgrounds, woodland, cemeteries, grassed areas, allotments, brooks, rivers and canals.



3 Find projects and places that provide a resource or a shared activity that anyone can use. These could be: tool, toy, music and book libraries; knitting, reading and running groups; stay and plays, meet and mingles; book exchanges and repair cafes; places of sanctuary and worship; collection points and banks for food and clothing; women's centres, LGBTQ+* hubs, youth clubs and men's sheds.

*Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus other orientations and identities.



4 Working on a paper version, a print out or a drawing of your map, fill in the green spaces. Next, create badges for activities and resources using symbols, text and colour. Work onto your map with drawing, colouring and collage, or back your map with card or thick paper and stitch directly into it.



