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## Recreate Place

*The collaboration with Recreate Place created the unit entitled « Seeing Ourselves Reflected in our Space – Art Activity. »*

Recreate Place works with educators and school communities, to engage children and youth in transforming their school spaces using art and creative expression. Our team uses a participatory and student voice centred approach, collaborating with teachers, students, local artists and designers to create more inclusive, welcoming and climate-resilient spaces. We design age appropriate and fun experiences for students, where they deepen their awareness of their role in the wider school community. They build the skills and confidence to bring forward a community vision to guide the ideas and concepts of the creation of their spaces, whether through collaborative art installations or the redesign of their outdoor spaces.

These are some of the areas in which Recreate Place works:

- Collaborative Art Projects in Schools
- Schoolground Reimagining
- Child-Friendly Placekeeping
- Neighbourhood Transformation
- Capacity Building with Educators

We are experienced educators who have co-designed innovative child-friendly engagement experiences with numerous schools, school boards, municipalities, conservation authorities and community organizations. They have worked with the Toronto District School Board, the Toronto Region Conservation Authority, Evergreen and the City of Toronto. They are passionate about building capacity and fostering community agency through art, nature, and education.

We were thrilled to work with OSSTF and their amazing teaching team on this exciting project, co-designing a series of new lesson plans for the Common Threads resource: In Search of Safety, Creating Safe Harbour and Evolving



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Communities. Our team had the opportunity to pilot these activities with students in London and Ottawa, gathering meaningful feedback from both teachers and students to help design the final resource. We're so grateful to the students and staff at these schools for their participation, creative ideas and openness to trying something new.

We want to extend a big thank you to Karla Hernandez and Nathalie MacDonald at École secondaire Gabriel-Dumont in London, and to Krista Pilgrim and Rachelle Bergen at Woodroff High School in Ottawa. And to all the amazing and creative students at both schools who were so willing to jump in and pilot these collage activities, we send a big shout out to all of you!

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