What’s In My Head?

Overview
In this activity, students will create collages that represent their interests and identities. This activity will allow them to see what makes them unique, as well as explore what they have in common with classmates.

Grades
Any

Activity Type
Individual

Materials
- Large sheets of construction paper or art paper
- Overhead projector
- Art supplies
- Magazines, newspapers, brochures/Advertisements, and/or other printed material than can be cut up

Duration
45 minutes

Instructions
1. After telling students the name of the activity and its purpose, have each student stand in front of the overhead projector so that the profile of their head is projected on the wall. Tape a piece of paper where the silhouette falls, and trace the outline of the students head onto the paper. (While students are waiting for their head to be traced, they should go ahead and begin collecting items for their collage, as described in step 2.)

2. Students will cut words, phrases, pictures, etc. from the various printed materials available that represent who they are in some way (things they like/dislike, places they have visited or hope to visit, pictures of activities they enjoy, etc.) Students will then paste these items into the shape of their head. Students can also add any type of artistic decoration that they feel represents their identity.

3. Once students have finished “filling their head” hang their heads up so that students may view one another’s work.

4. Process the activity by discussing:
   - What types of things did you learn about one another by viewing each other’s work?
• Did you notice any similarities between your head and those your classmates created? What things do you all have in common?
• What things stood out as unique or original?
• Other than your own, which of the heads do you relate to and why?

5. To expand this activity, students can be instructed to write a brief paragraph description to accompany “what’s in their head.”