Choose an idea from your brainstorm to sharpen and transfer into a unit template:

1. **DRAFT YOUR VISION**
   - MIND MAP A UNIT IDEA
   - WHAT IS YOUR ENTRY POINT?
     - Standard
     - Idea
     - Topic
     - Project
   - WHAT IS THE Hook? WHERE IS THE MAGIC?
     - Is there an interesting concept or profound idea that can spark students’ imaginations?
     - Is there an idea you can use to build an emotional connection or place the curiosity of students?

2. **NOW ASK YOURSELF SOME QUESTIONS TO HELP SHARPEN THE FOCUS OF YOUR UNIT**
   - The Big Why:
     - WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR UNIT?
       - From the top 2 or 3 goals of the unit, what are the top 2 or 3 things you want your students to gain from this unit?
   - WHAT SKILLS DO YOU WANT STUDENTS TO DEVELOP?
   - WHAT PROJECTS OR ASSESSMENTS ARE YOU THINKING OF INCLUDING?
   - NOW GIVE IT A LITTLE MORE SHAPE BY EXAMINING THE IDENTIFIED STANDARDS, BENCHMARKS, OBJECTIVES AND CREATING THE CONTENT AND SKILLS NEEDED TO ENSURE UNDERSTANDING.

3. **TRANSFER YOUR UNIT TO A TEMPLATE**
   - This is your opportunity to organize your unit and begin to align key components.
   - UNPACK
     - After you enter each element, mentally “unpack” it to check for alignment and detail.

4. **DON’T STOP THERE, CHECK YOUR WORK**
   - MAKE YOUR PURPOSE CLEAR THROUGHOUT THE UNIT
   - IDENTIFY NEW VOCABULARY TERMS (INSTEAD OF LISTING ALL TERMS)
     - Don’t create clutter by confusing the new/important vocabulary with other terms.
     - Students should have them clearly presented.
   - BREAK DOWN SKILLS INTO LEARNING ACTIVITIES
     - This allows you to easily see how students will practice the skills in engaging activities.

   If aligning to standards, ensure they are unpacked into content & skills.

   Make sure that the assessments, projects, and activities tie back to the purpose and hook for the unit. Double check that the unit reflects the skills and content students need to be successful.

   Be sure to use consistent formatting. Color coding, creating headers/titles, and utilizing bullets and bolding make your unit easy on the eyes.

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**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE UNIT? WHAT ARE THE MAJOR TAKE-AWAYS?**

**HOW WILL YOU GAUGE STUDENT LEARNING?**

**HOW WILL STUDENTS LEARN?**
Are you feeling inspired or Intrigued by an innovative resource, current event, or even pop culture? If you have been chewing on a curriculum idea, use the white space to begin brainstorming: