

Practical Classroom Applications and Engagement for Common Reading

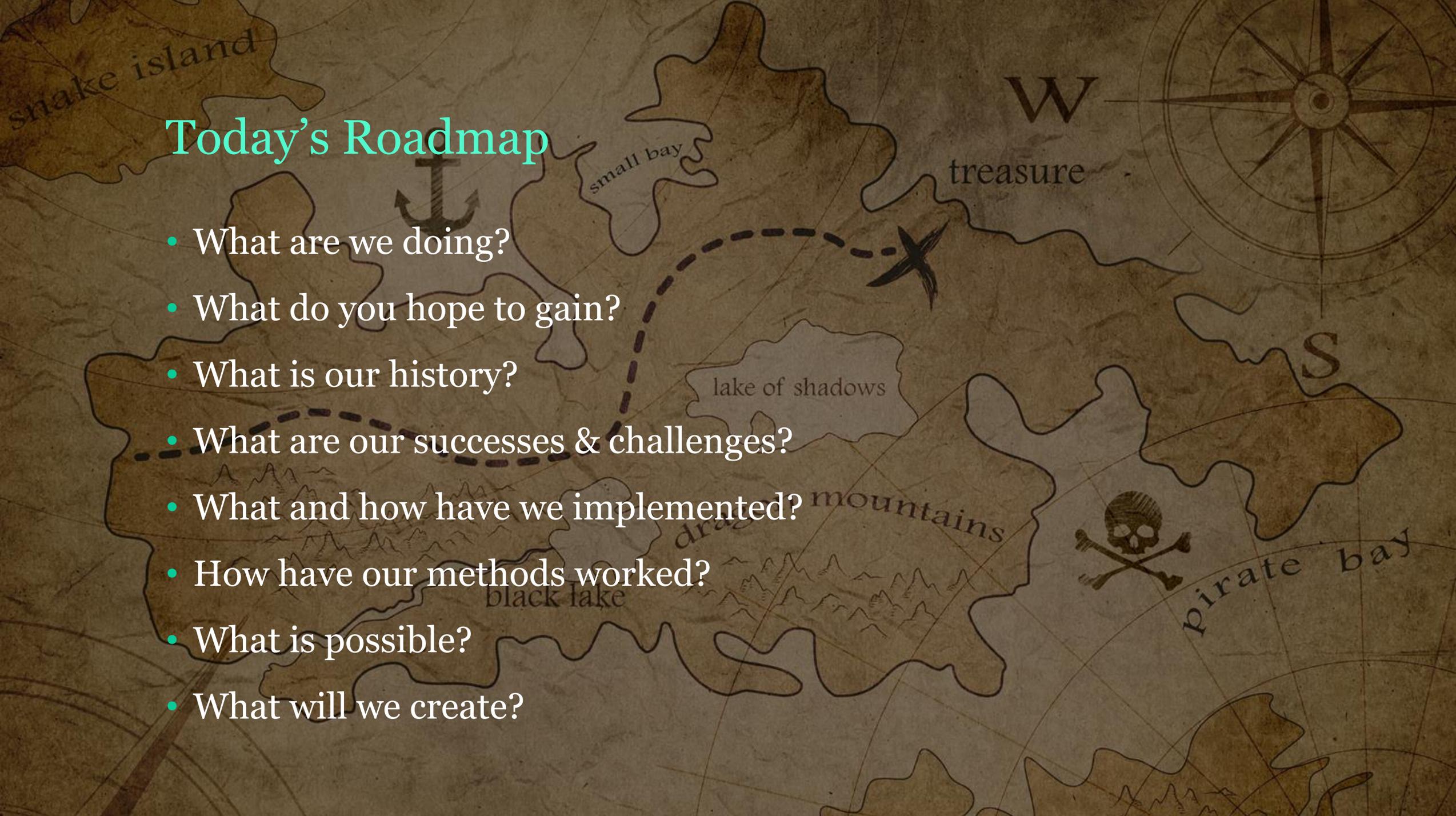
Erika K. Nielson, Ph.D.

Assistant Director of the Common Experience
Common Reading Coordinator



Today's Roadmap

- What are we doing?
- What do you hope to gain?
- What is our history?
- What are our successes & challenges?
- What and how have we implemented?
- How have our methods worked?
- What is possible?
- What will we create?



What Are We Going to Do Today?



An institution's common reading choice can create challenges when developing...

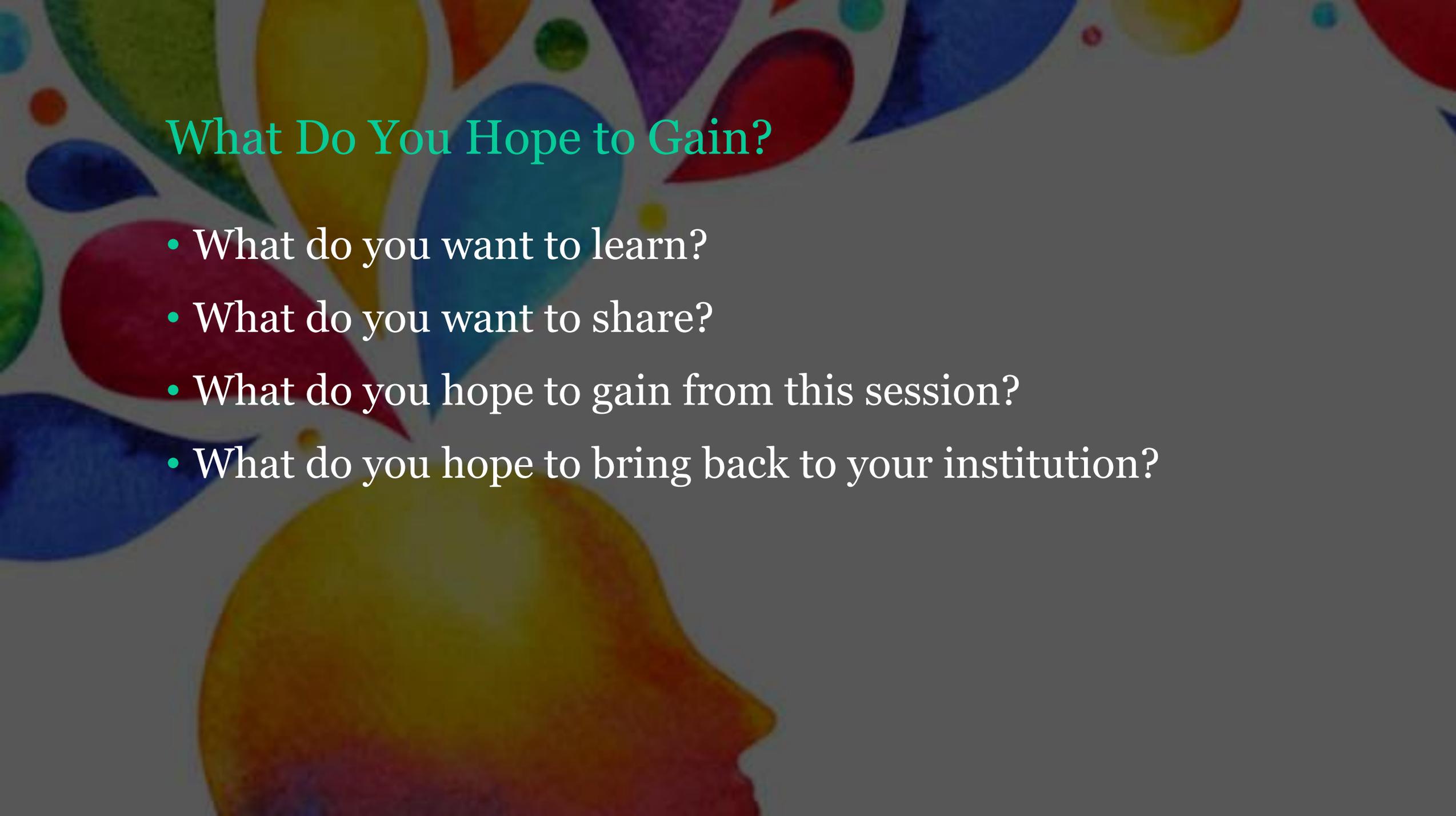
- Meaningful lesson plans
- Engaging discussions
- Valuable engagements

We will explore ways to create and implement CR activities, such as...

- Faculty guides
- Book clubs
- Social media involvement
- Professional development for faculty who teach first-years

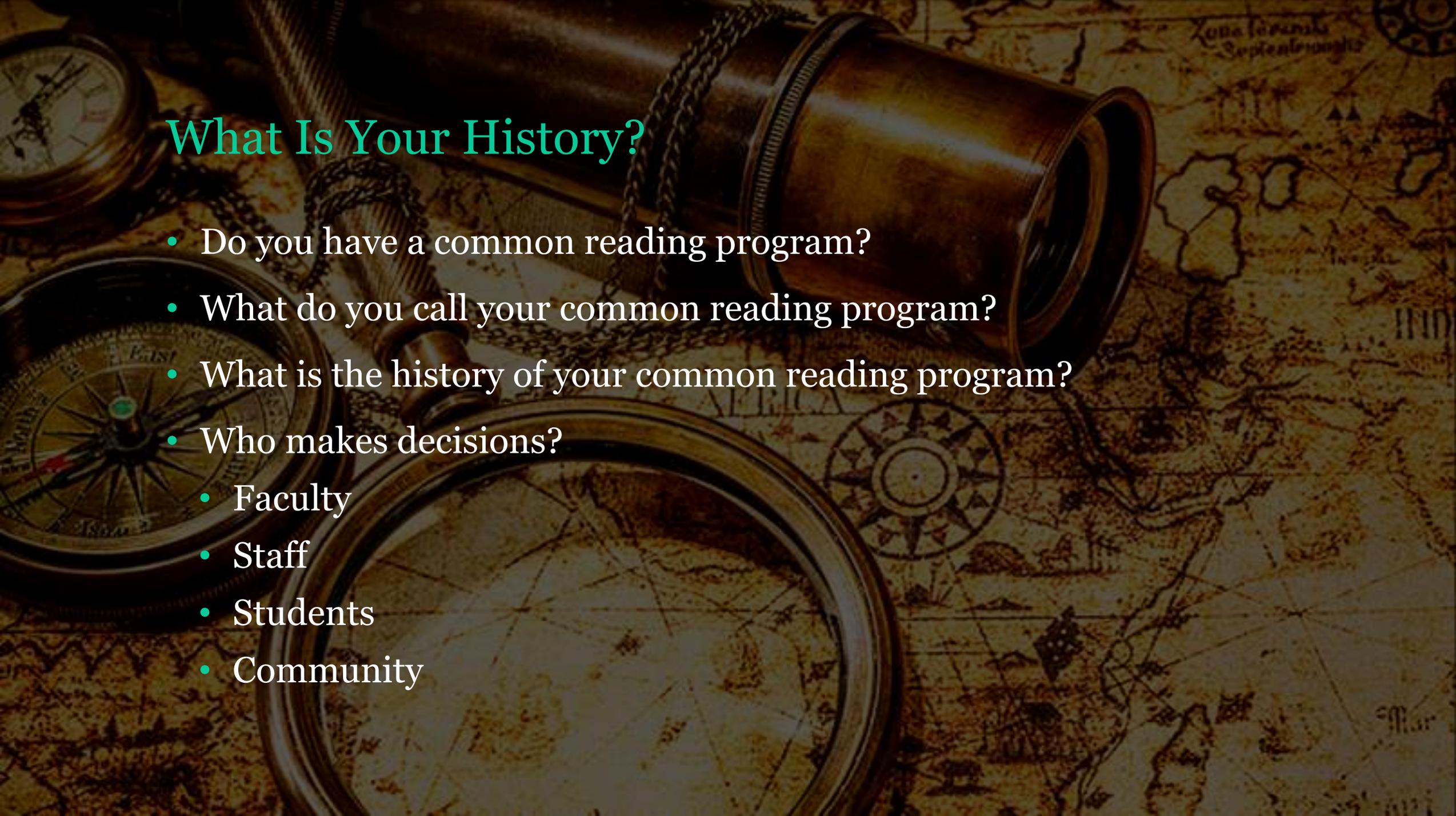
I will share strategies for common reading engagement with...

- Faculty
- Staff
- Students
- Community

The background features a collection of colorful, watercolor-style shapes in various colors including green, yellow, orange, purple, blue, red, and pink. These shapes are scattered across the top and left sides of the slide. In the bottom right corner, there is a faint, light-colored silhouette of a human head in profile, facing right.

What Do You Hope to Gain?

- What do you want to learn?
- What do you want to share?
- What do you hope to gain from this session?
- What do you hope to bring back to your institution?



What Is Your History?

- Do you have a common reading program?
- What do you call your common reading program?
- What is the history of your common reading program?
- Who makes decisions?
 - Faculty
 - Staff
 - Students
 - Community



What Are Our Successes & Challenges?

- CR links to students' academic skills development, multicultural understanding, & appreciation (Soria, Snyder, & Reinhard, 2015)
 - CR helps students become stronger learners, create community, fully participate, & increase chances of persistence & graduation (Soria, Snyder, & Reinhard, 2015)
 - Creates conversations with faculty & staff (Ferguson, Brown, & Piper, 2018)
 - Is everyone reading the book?
 - How much does this cost exactly?
 - Do you have data to support common reading success?
 - And...what are your additional successes & challenges?
- CHALLENGE** **SUCCESS**

What & How Have We Implemented?

A hand holding a blue box with arrows pointing up and out, symbolizing implementation or growth.

- Theme(s) used?
- Book only?
- Author talk/presentation?
- Common reading faculty guide?
- Faculty professional development?
- Book clubs/discussions?
- Community events?
- What do you do?

What Are Best Ways to Incorporate?

- CR incorporation must...
 - Use students' prior knowledge
 - Give students autonomy in learning
 - Foster metacognitive abilities (National Research Council, 2000)
- Choose a CR that supports students' growth with deliberate and meaningful choice (Nadelson & Nadelson, 2012)
- Reflection, clear goals, and patience are necessary for CR involvement (Nadelson & Nadelson, 2012)
- Social media use
 - Movement from Twitter to Instagram & other platforms
- And...what about you?

How Have Texas State's Methods Worked?

- An average of **81.1%** of University Seminar students reported reading part or all of the Common Reading book over the past five fall semesters
- **259 events** during 2019-20 academic year...so far
- **86.6% of first-year students** reported participating in a Common Experience activity over the past five fall semesters
- **64 partners** on campus (colleges, departments, et al.)
- Twitter engagement rate **1,759%** higher than industry average for higher education accounts for summer and fall 2019
- Instagram stats
 - Best reach: **8,813** impressions
 - Highest # of reactions: 716
 - Lowest # of reactions: 106
- **2,247** users visited the Common Experience website **37,242** times since mid-June 2019

What Is Possible?

- Create connections and relationships through conversation, assignments, and projects based on the common reading (Soria, 2015)
- “Student development can occur when readings (and the associated curriculum) prompt students to question their beliefs, explore their feelings, build a sense of community, and relate their emotions to others” (Nadelson & Nadelson, 2012, p. 62)
- Use of social media & knowledge of trends in social media
- What do you think is possible?



What Will We Create?

Think – Pair – Share

CREATE

Please Complete the Session Evaluation

- Please visit the Guidebook for the 39th Annual Conference on the *First Year Experience*
 - *Practical Classroom Applications and Engagement for Common Reading*, Erika K. Nielson, Ph.D.
 - <https://guidebook.com/guide/147249/event/25090723/>
 - <https://bit.ly/3bKcpSP>

References

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