Cultivate_ResearchFindings-PrototypePlan
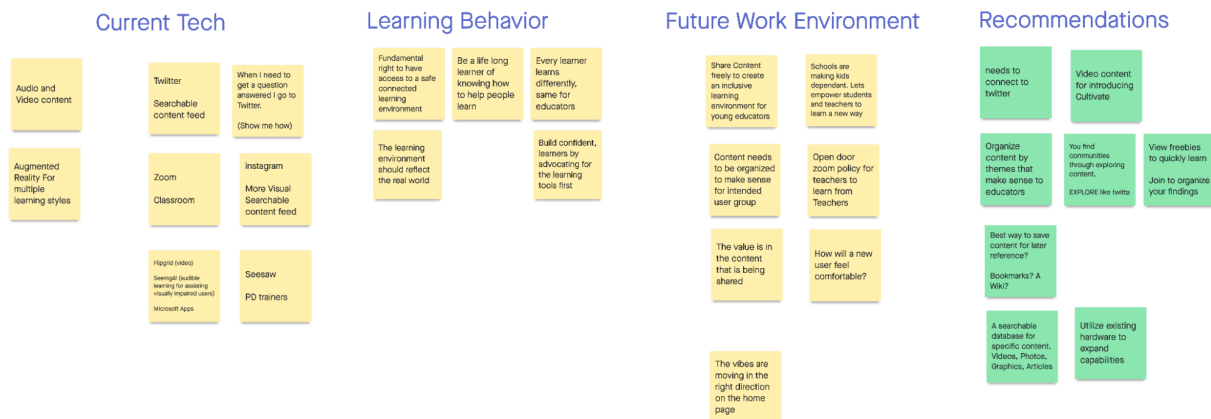
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Summary:

Cultivate is a web-based platform that serves as a community and practice-building marketplace for K-12 educators. For all life-long learners, there is a need for a central location for saving helpful educational content, asking questions to a community, and managing all of the new advancements in education.

The Cultivate platform is in the early stages of creating a learning portal for educators. When conducting a contextual inquiry it was noted that the color scheme of the application is inviting for sharing information Users in the study found the site to have potential as a catch-all system for helping educators with their professional development (PD). The site is in need of a stronger organizational system, integration with other social media apps, and a more visually focused way to explore.

A cognitive walkthrough of the Cultivate platform revealed a need for more user freedom to explore before "making a community". By proposing a question to the audience, a user would be able to find users with similar interests more organically. Thus feeling safe to join a new community.

"Every learner learns differently, and the same is true for Educators"

The educational industry is in need of a useful tool for helping teachers navigate vast amounts of content and staying organized with their professional development. At its current state, Cultivate is in need of more content organization and hierarchy, video/audio content, clear distinctions between levels of user, and more ways to explore the content.

Synthesized findings from a contextual inquiry session with a public school consultant in the field of occupational therapy

User Stories:

As a **new teacher** I want to absorb new teacher content in order to gain more inclusive teaching practice.

(Because it is important to make my classroom simulate the real world we are all learning in)

As a **tenure educator** I want to Cultivate educational content in order to share my knowledge and expertise with a community of educators.

(Because I know how important it is to have helpful resources when starting out as a teacher)

As a **Lead Cultivator** I want to bring my network together in order to help educators build a stronger community of inclusive learners.

(Because I am at the fore-front of educational tools and have a vast array of expertise)
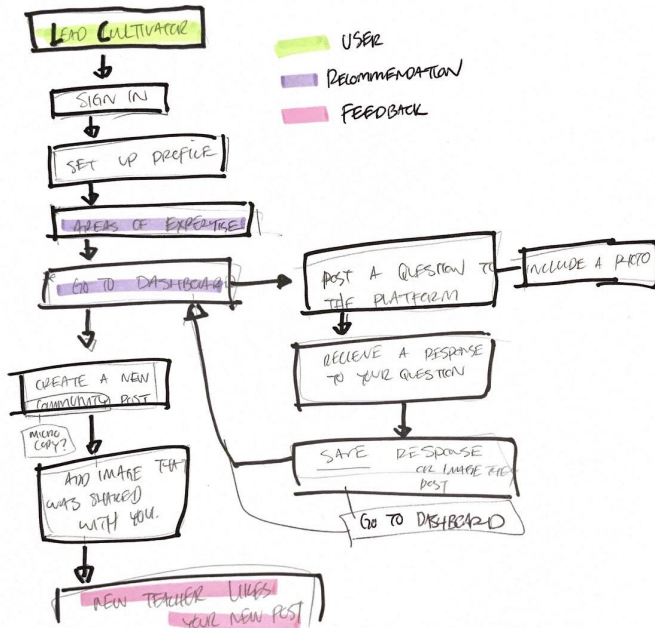
Realistic Scenario:

As a new teacher to your district Sign Up for Cultivate and fill out your profile. Once you have filled out who you are and your **educational interests.** Browse **the new dashboard** and find a post that interests you. Save the post for later, and leave a thankful message. If you are really feeling active, **ask a question to the platform** as a whole
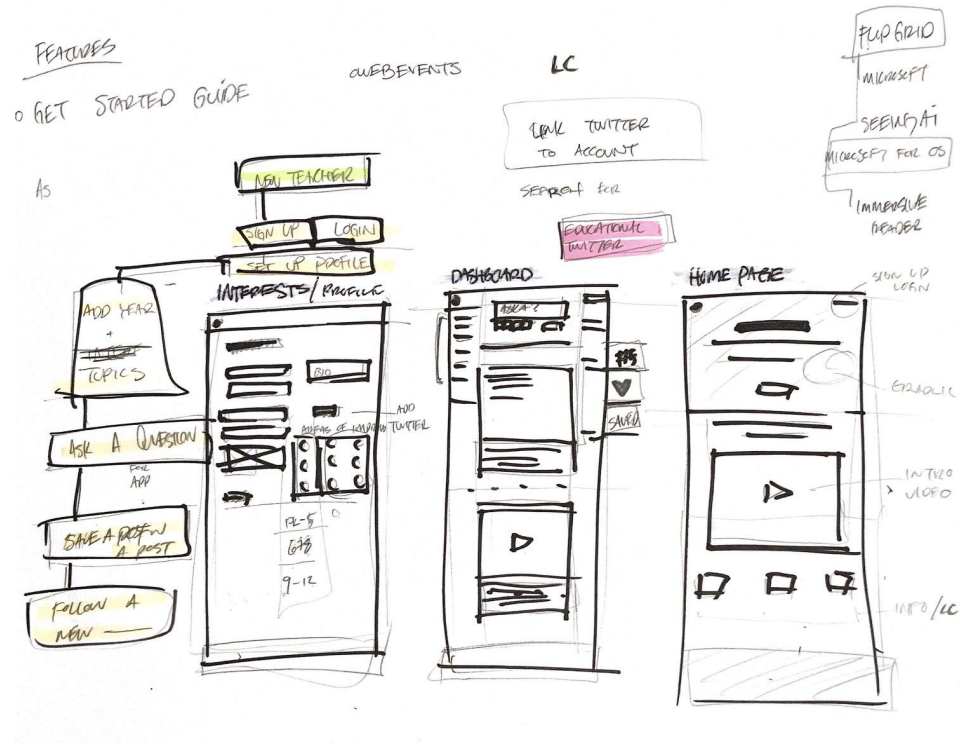
You are a new Lead Cultivator on Cultivate and are looking to see what the talk is all about. You have received your approval and are ready to login. Sign in with existing information. Set up a profile with **areas of expertise**. Now you are ready to **post a question** to the app about your special interest. After your question is answered you decide to create a new community about what you found.
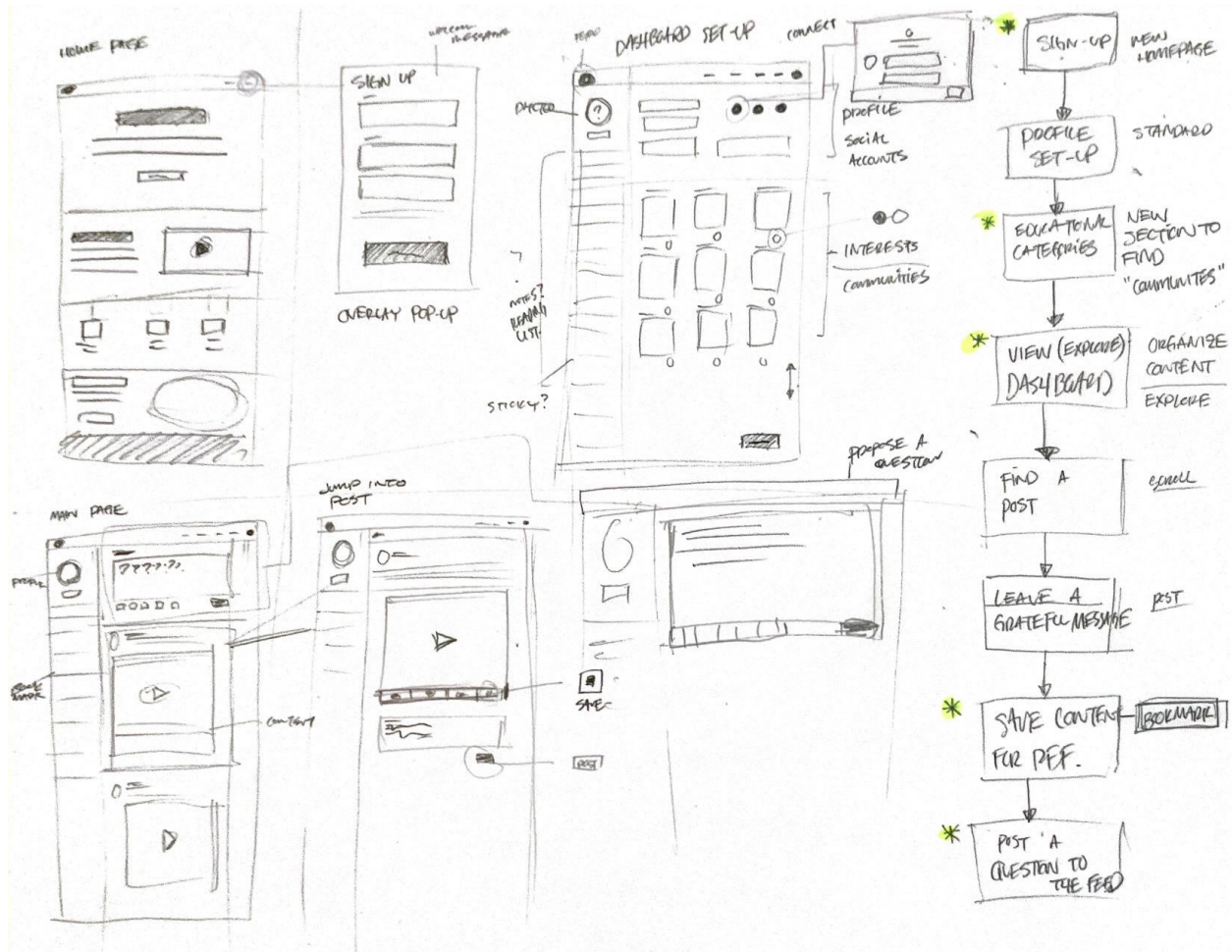
Screen Flow Diagrams:

Screen Flow for a Lead Cultivator

Quick Wireframes and New Teacher screen flow

New Teacher Scenario:

Sign up for Cultivate * New Homepage layout
Set up Profile
Checkmark Areas of Interest * New Content/Interaction
Save Profile
View Dashboard * New Layout
Find a Post
Leave a Grateful message to a post
Save content from post for Reference * New Bookmarking organization
Post a Question to Cultivate Community * New Feature