

INNOVATE YOUR FUTURE

Entrepreneurship &
Out-of-the-Box Career Paths

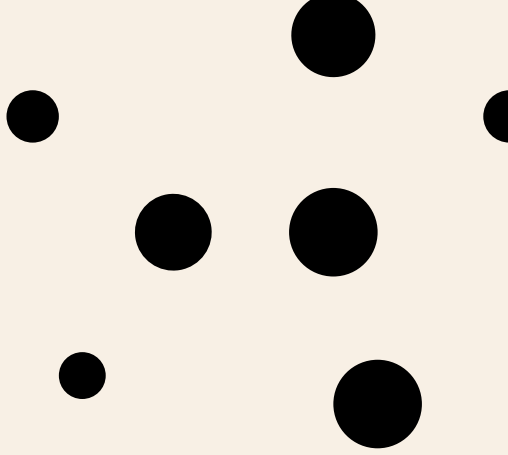
ABOUT ME

I am a passionate storyteller and entrepreneur! I love writing, public speaking, and highlighting other people's stories about causes I'm passionate about. I am an autistic nonprofit leader, disability advocate, policy professional, and freelance writer.





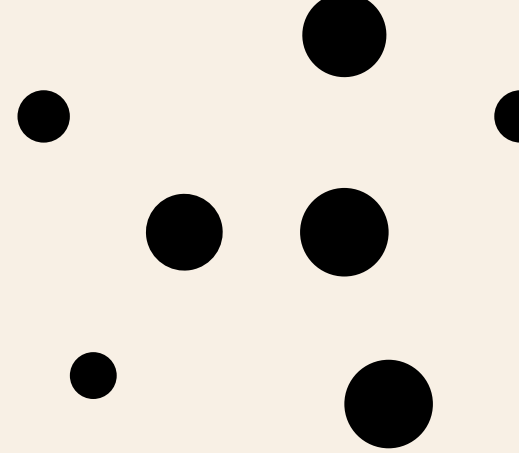
WHAT IS ENTREPRENEURSHIP?



ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Simply put, entrepreneurship is the process of finding problems in life, community, or society, and creating solutions. These solutions can be businesses, products, nonprofit organizations, or anything else you create! That makes you an **entrepreneur**.





EXAMPLE

Here's a story from my own entrepreneurial journey:

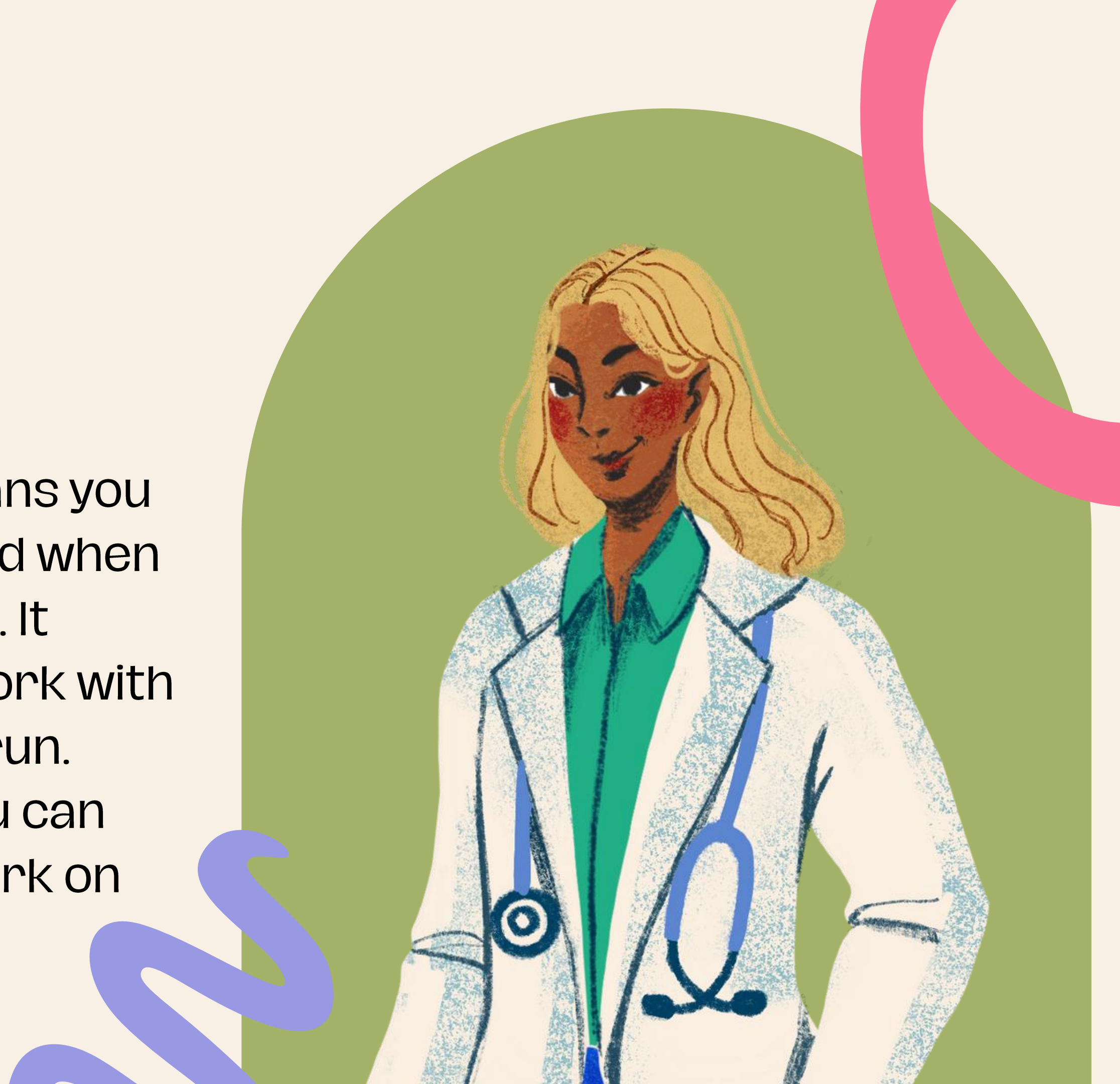


The background is a vibrant, abstract composition of various colors and shapes. It includes broad brushstrokes in shades of purple, green, and orange. There are also geometric elements like circles and triangles, some in solid colors and others as outlines. The overall style is modern and artistic, with a focus on bold colors and dynamic forms.

BENEFITS OF BEING AN ENTREPRENEUR

FREEDOM

Being an entrepreneur means you can work when you want and when it's most convenient for you. It means choosing who you work with and how your business will run. Most of all, it means that you can follow your passions and work on things that are fun for you!



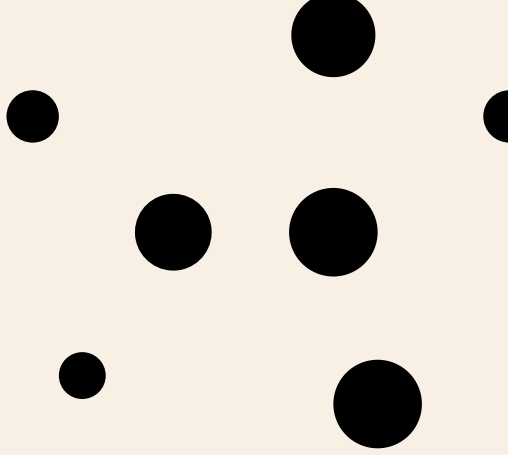


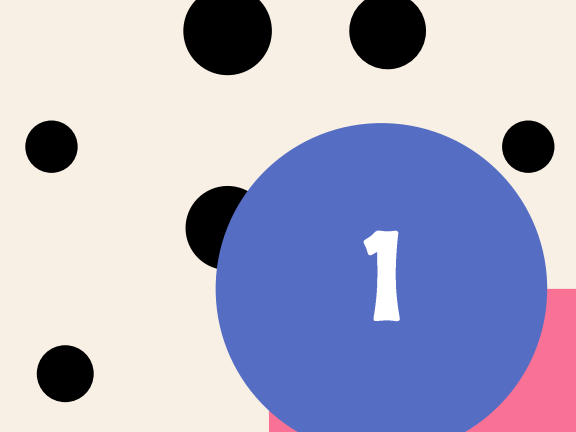
LEADERSHIP

Being an entrepreneur makes you a leader. It allows you to innovate, make change, choose the focus and strategy of your company, and help others how you want to.



STEPS TO GET STARTED





1

Find a Problem, Make a Plan:

Find something you want to make better and think of the best way to make it better. Ask others whether your solution would help them too. Make a plan on how you will tell others about your idea.

2

Raise Funds, Build a Team

Try to find others who see your solution and the value it brings. Find people who can be mentors, volunteers, staff, or even partners in bringing your idea to life. This includes looking for people who will help fund your idea, adding cashflow to get it off the ground.

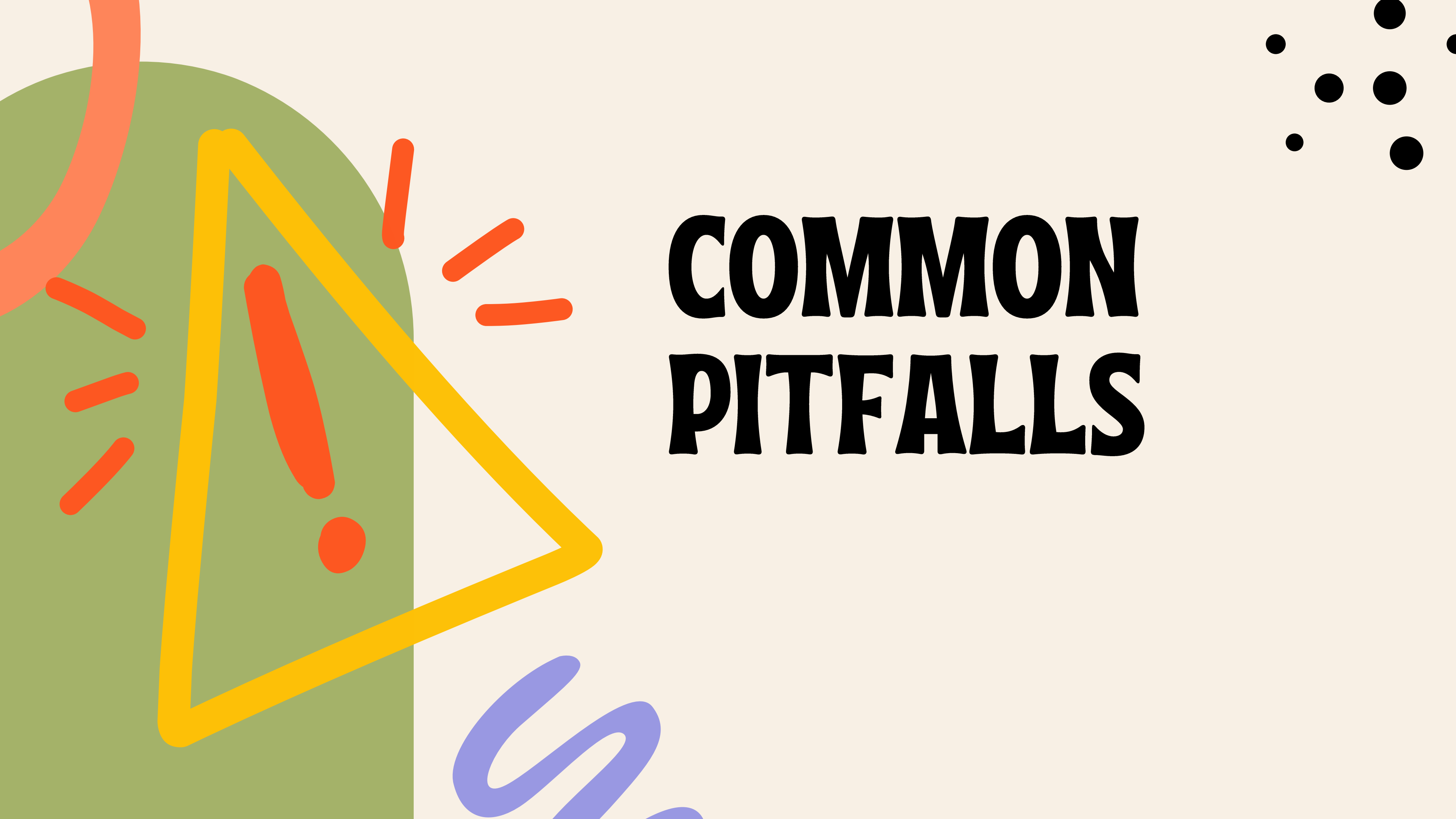
3

Show the World!

It's important to fundraise, share your idea, and build your brand so more people begin to see and recognize what you do. It makes it easier for people to look at your success and want to continue investing and supporting your cause.

KEY TERMS TO KNOW

- **Grants** - free money provided to a good idea meant for the public good
- **Investors** - people who want to pay to see your dream become reality, mostly in exchange for a piece of your company's success
- **Pitch Deck** - a presentation showcasing your idea's merit, benefits, timeline of success, and goals
- **Nonprofit** - businesses made to help those in need, not to make money
- **For-profit** - businesses made to make money (profit)
- **LLC** - limited liability corporation
- **Sole Proprietorship** - no specific designation, just you running your business alone
- **Elevator Pitch** - a 1-min speech about why your idea is worth believing in



COMMON PITFALLS

THINK • PAIR • SHARE

Discuss the following questions with the person sitting next to you:

- What is one problem you see in the world? What could you create to solve it?
- What kind of business would you run as an entrepreneur?

**THANKS FOR
LISTENING!**

