



Oide

Tacú leis an bhFoghlaim
Ghairmiúil i measc Ceannairí
Scoile agus Múinteoirí

Supporting the Professional
Learning of School Leaders
and Teachers

Fieldwork in History and Geography

Workshop

2024/2025





Workshop Protocols



**No
Recording**



**Safety
First**



**Questions
Welcome**



**Feedback
Appreciated**



Structure of the Workshop

15:00

Section One:

Introduction

16:00

Section Two:

Inquiry-Based
Fieldwork



Key Messages



Sense of
Place



Outdoor
Learning



Active
Child-Led
Participation



Key Messages




Sense of
Place

Children can connect with
their local area through fieldwork
and become fascinated by it.



Key Messages



Outdoor Learning

Opportunities for outdoor learning can be seized through any of the five types of fieldwork mentioned today.



Key Messages



Active Child-Led Participation

Learning which is active and child-led is important to ensure the engagement of the children in our classes.



What is Fieldwork?

Fieldwork is the process of observing and collecting data about people, cultures, and natural environments.

(National Geographic, 2023)





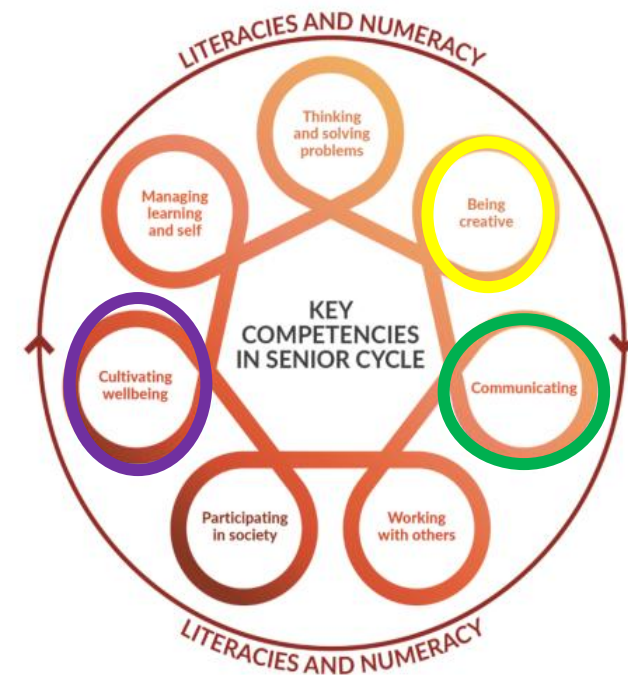
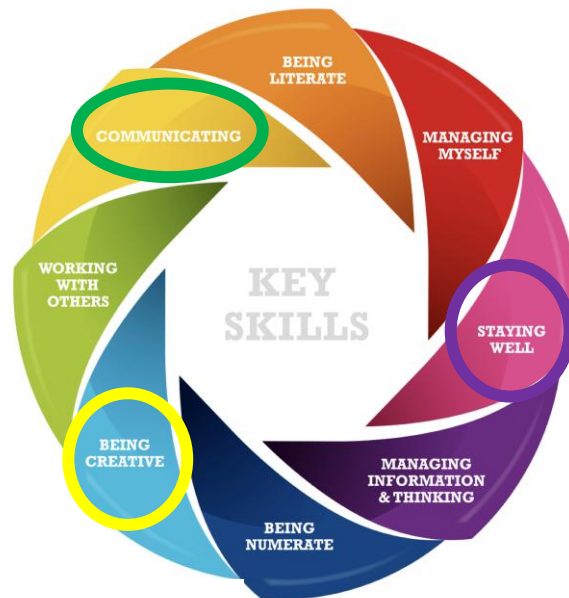
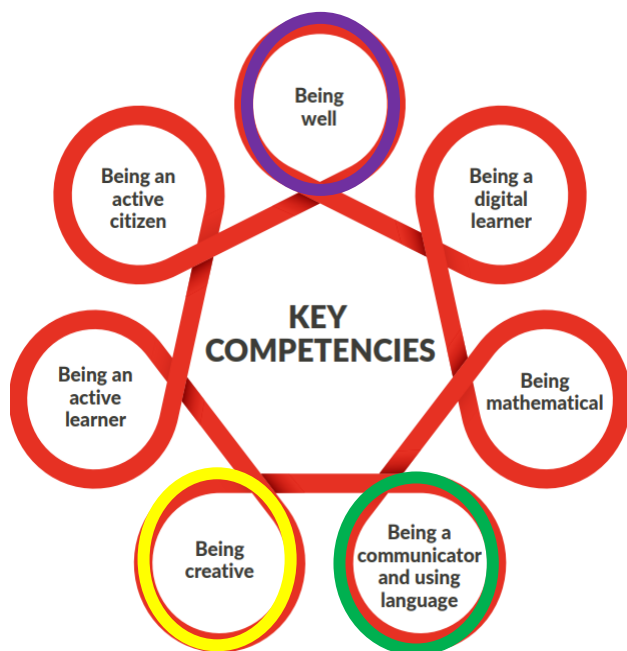
Agree or Disagree?

"Children outdoors are an endangered species." (Dolan, 2024)





From Early Years to Post-Primary



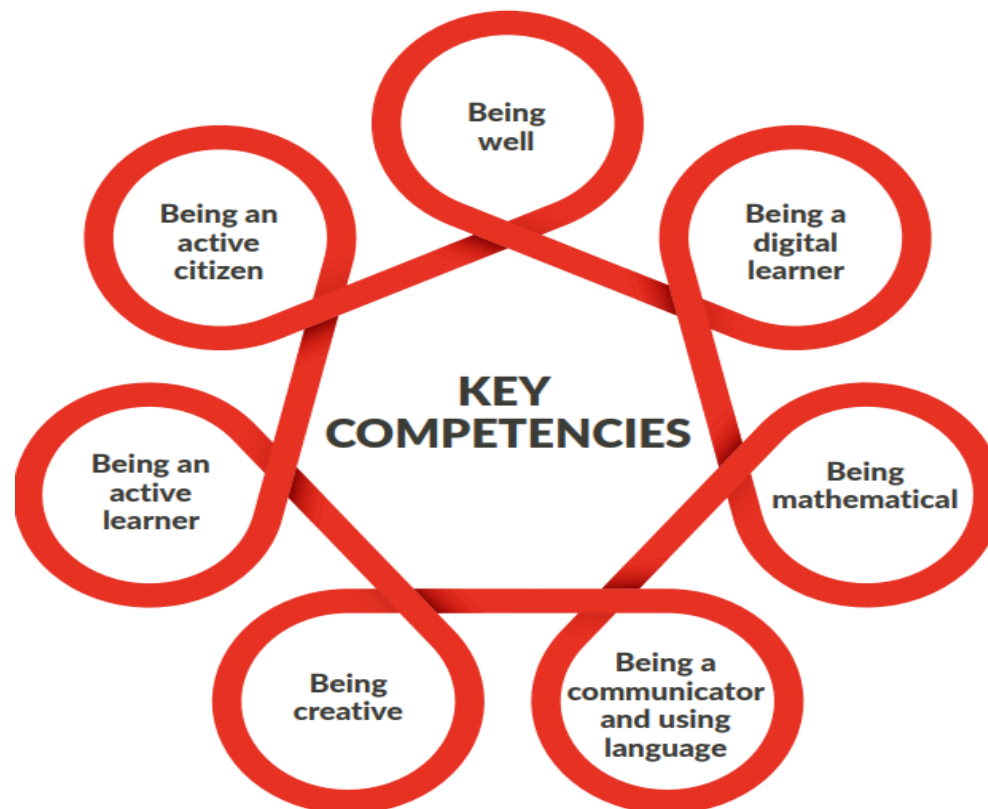
Primary
Curriculum

Junior Cycle

Senior Cycle



Focusing on Primary





Fieldwork in the Curriculum



Essential



Questioning



Local
Focus



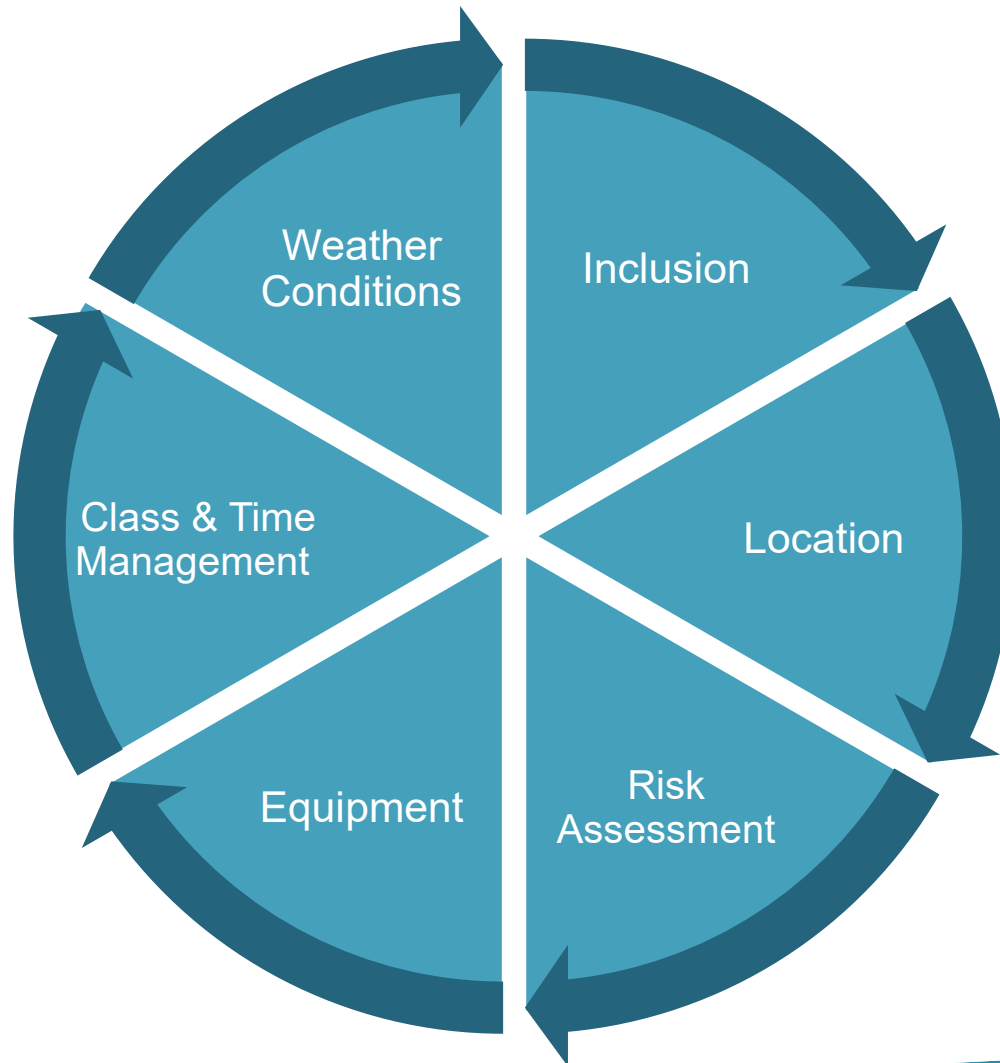
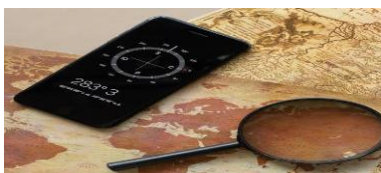
Applying
Skills



Groupwork



Preparation for Fieldwork





Fieldwork Types



Inquiry Based
Fieldwork



Hypothesis
Testing



Sensory
Fieldwork



Discovery
Fieldwork



Field Visit

Teacher-Led

Child-Led



Fieldwork Types



Field Visit

Children are guided by teacher or local expert often using a pre-made trail booklet.



Fieldwork Types



Inquiry Based
Fieldwork



Hypothesis
Testing



Sensory
Fieldwork



Field Visit



Discovery
Fieldwork

Teacher-Led

Child-Led



Fieldwork Types



**Discovery
Fieldwork**

Children are given the opportunity to freely explore environments outside the classroom.



Fieldwork Types



Inquiry Based
Fieldwork



Hypothesis
Testing



Sensory
Fieldwork



Field Visit



Discovery
Fieldwork

Teacher-Led

Child-Led



Fieldwork Types



**Sensory
Fieldwork**

Children use their senses, and can explore emotional responses to the environment.



Fieldwork Types



Inquiry Based
Fieldwork



Hypothesis
Testing



Sensory
Fieldwork



Field Visit



Discovery
Fieldwork

Teacher-Led

Child-Led



Fieldwork Types



**Hypothesis
Testing**

Children test out an assumption
or an idea.



Fieldwork Types



Inquiry Based
Fieldwork



Hypothesis
Testing



Sensory
Fieldwork



Field Visit



Discovery
Fieldwork

Teacher-Led

Child-Led



Fieldwork Types



**Inquiry Based
Fieldwork**

Children answer an inquiry question using data collection and analysis to build conclusions.



What is an Inquiry Question?

“...aims to solve a problem, uncover new knowledge and understandings...”

(learningbyinquiry.com)





Examples of Inquiry Questions

What area of the school has the most noise pollution?

How has the school building changed over the last 50 years?

Where would the best place be to build an adult gym on the school grounds?



How to Generate an Inquiry Question

- Clarify roles
- Define
- Examples
- Model
- Scaffold





Activity

- Who is the president of America?
- What was this school like 100 years ago?
- What area of our school has the most wildlife?





Inquiry Cycle



(Murdoch, 2010)



Inquiry Cycle



(Murdoch, 2010)



Inquiry Cycle



(Murdoch, 2010)



Inquiry Cycle



(Murdoch, 2010)



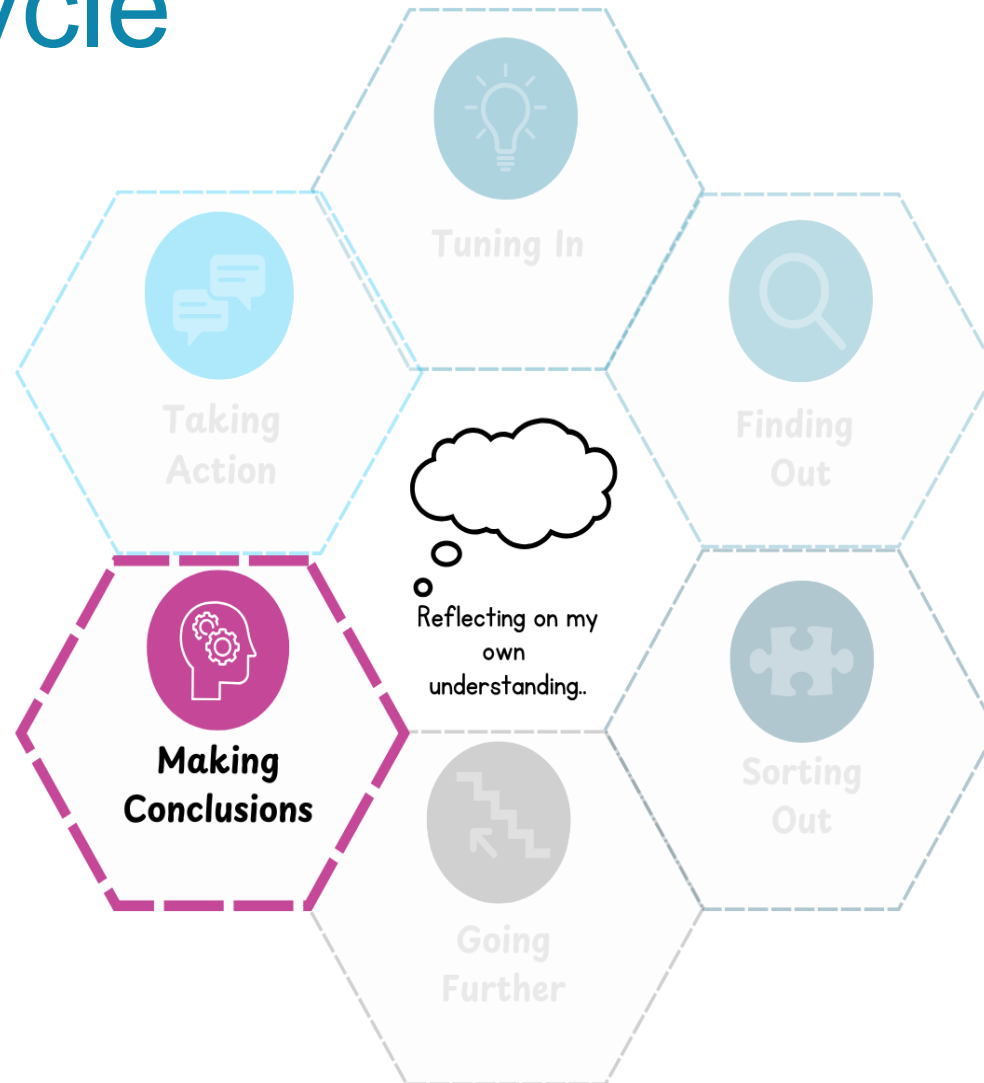
Inquiry Cycle



(Murdoch, 2010)



Inquiry Cycle



(Murdoch, 2010)



Inquiry Cycle



(Murdoch, 2010)



Inquiry Cycle



(Murdoch, 2010)



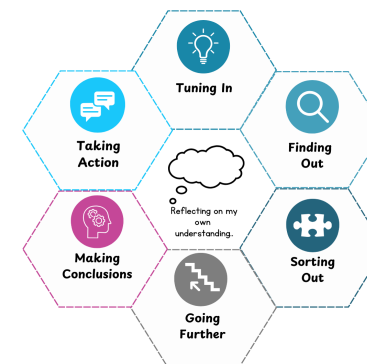
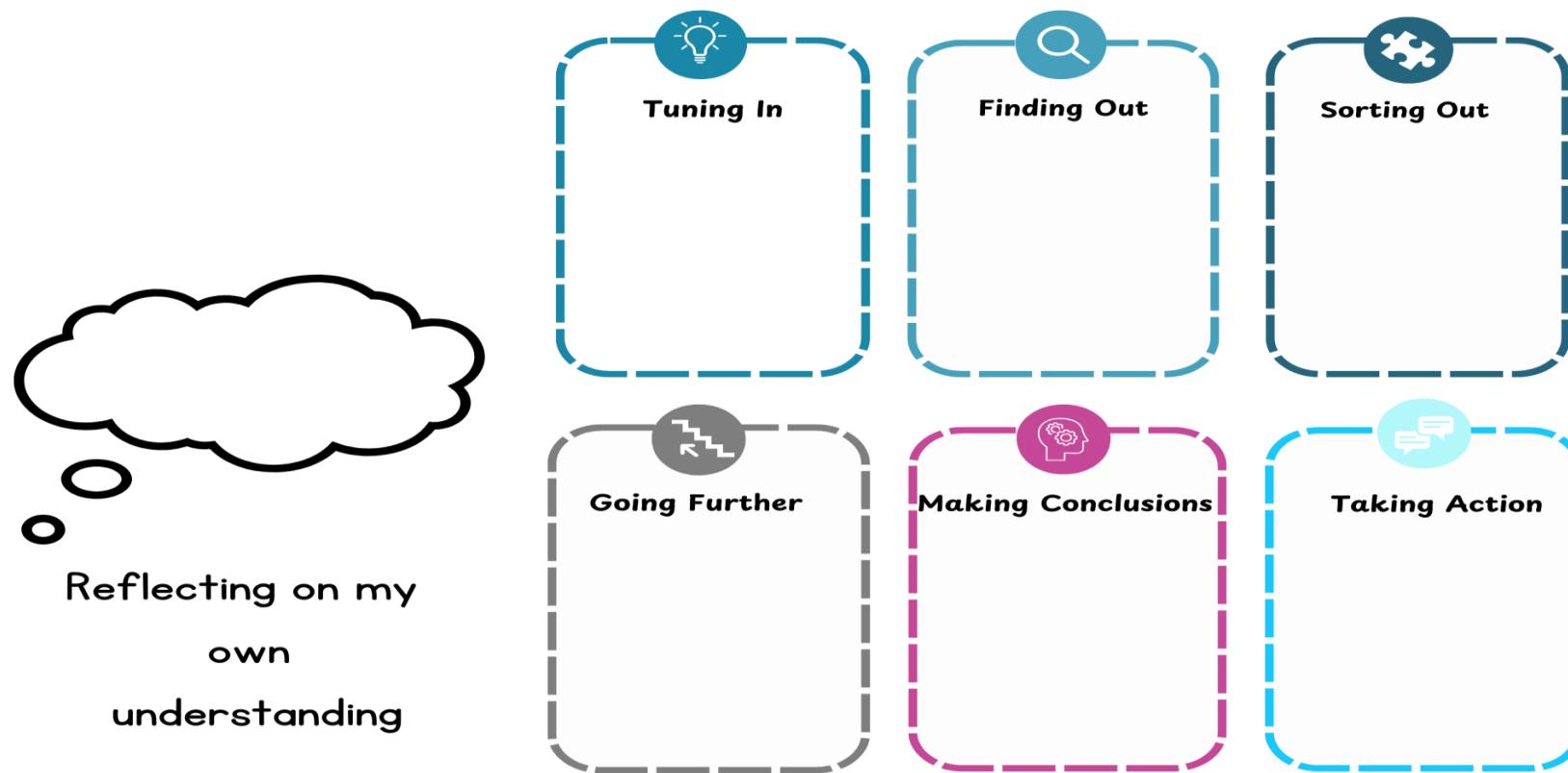
Inquiry Cycle



(Murdoch, 2010)



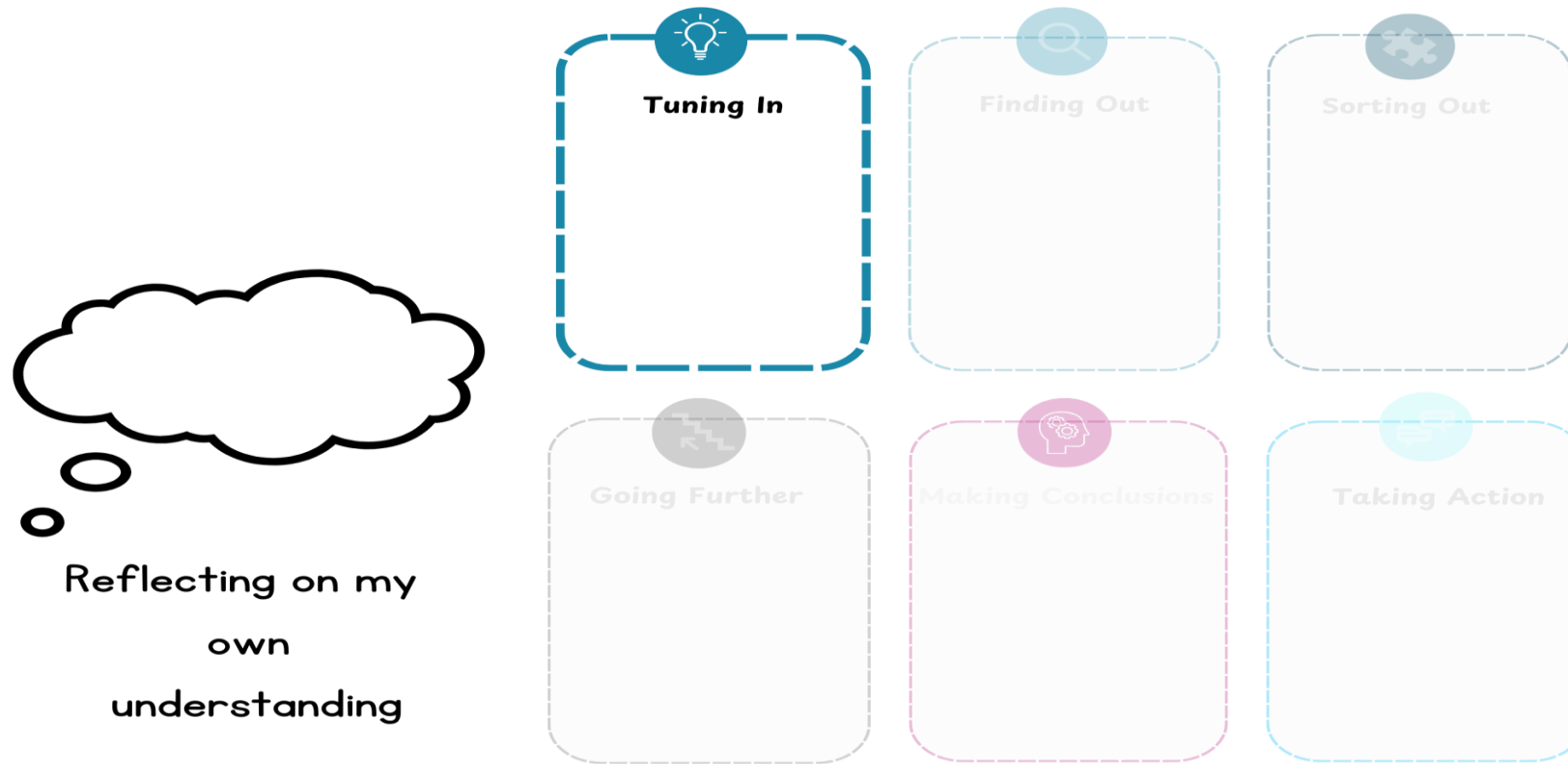
Inquiry-Based Fieldwork



(Murdoch, 2010)



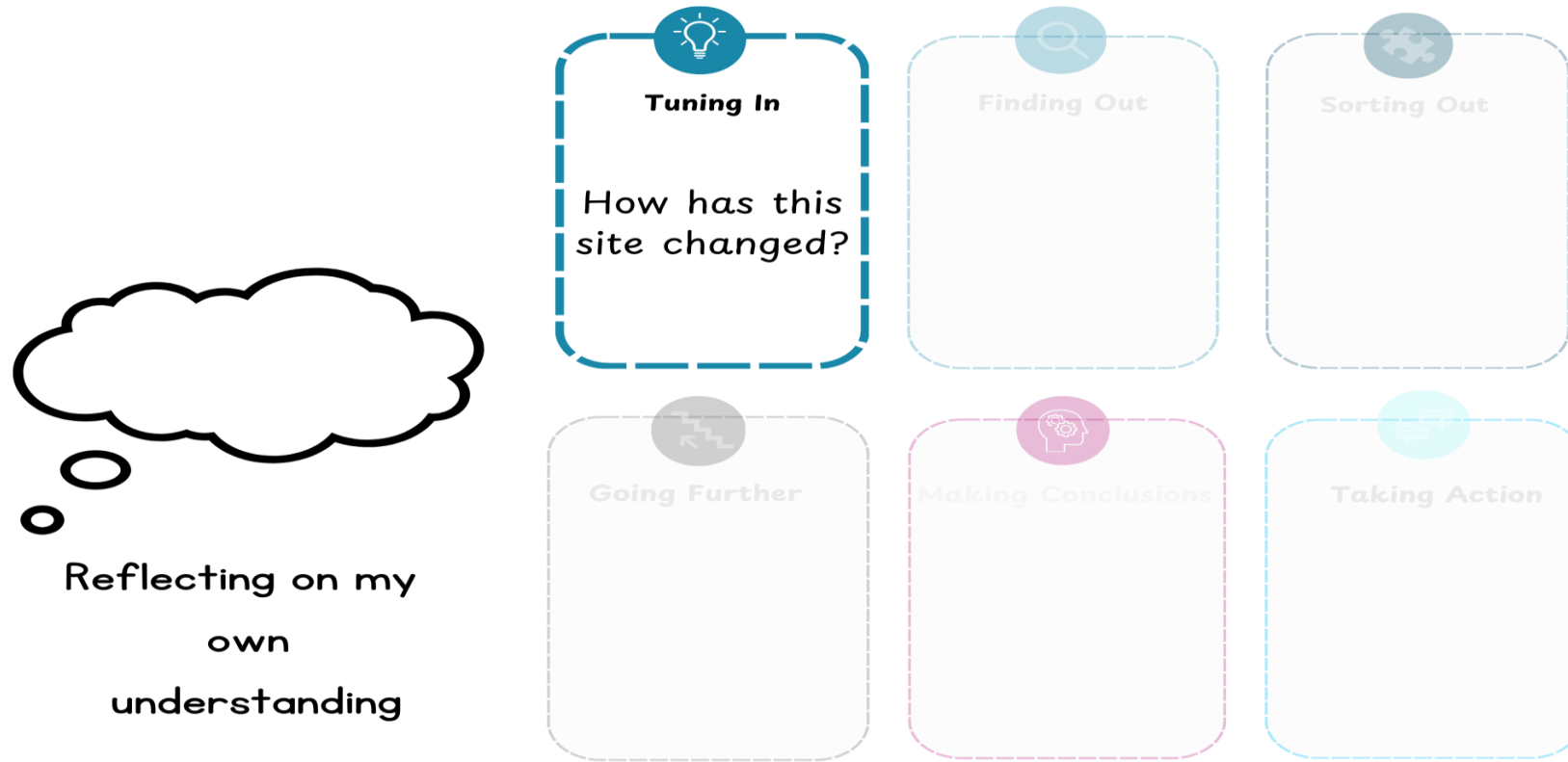
Inquiry-Based Fieldwork



(Murdoch, 2010)



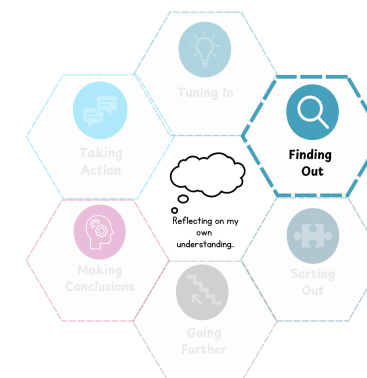
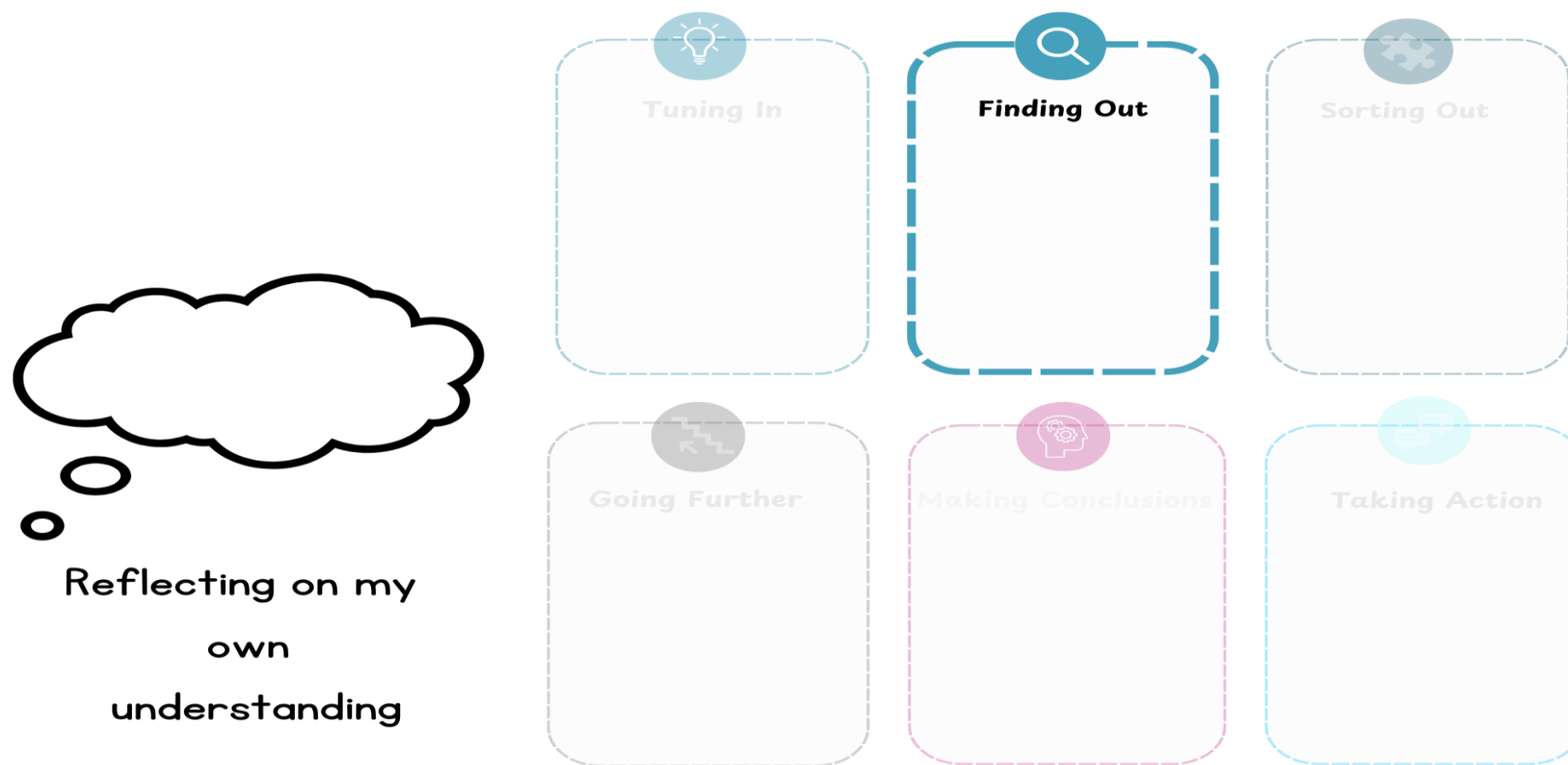
Inquiry-Based Fieldwork



(Murdoch, 2010)



Inquiry-Based Fieldwork



(Murdoch, 2010)



What can I do to learn more?

Observation



Examining Historical
Artefacts



Sketching and
Taking Photographs



Mapping



Conducting
Interviews

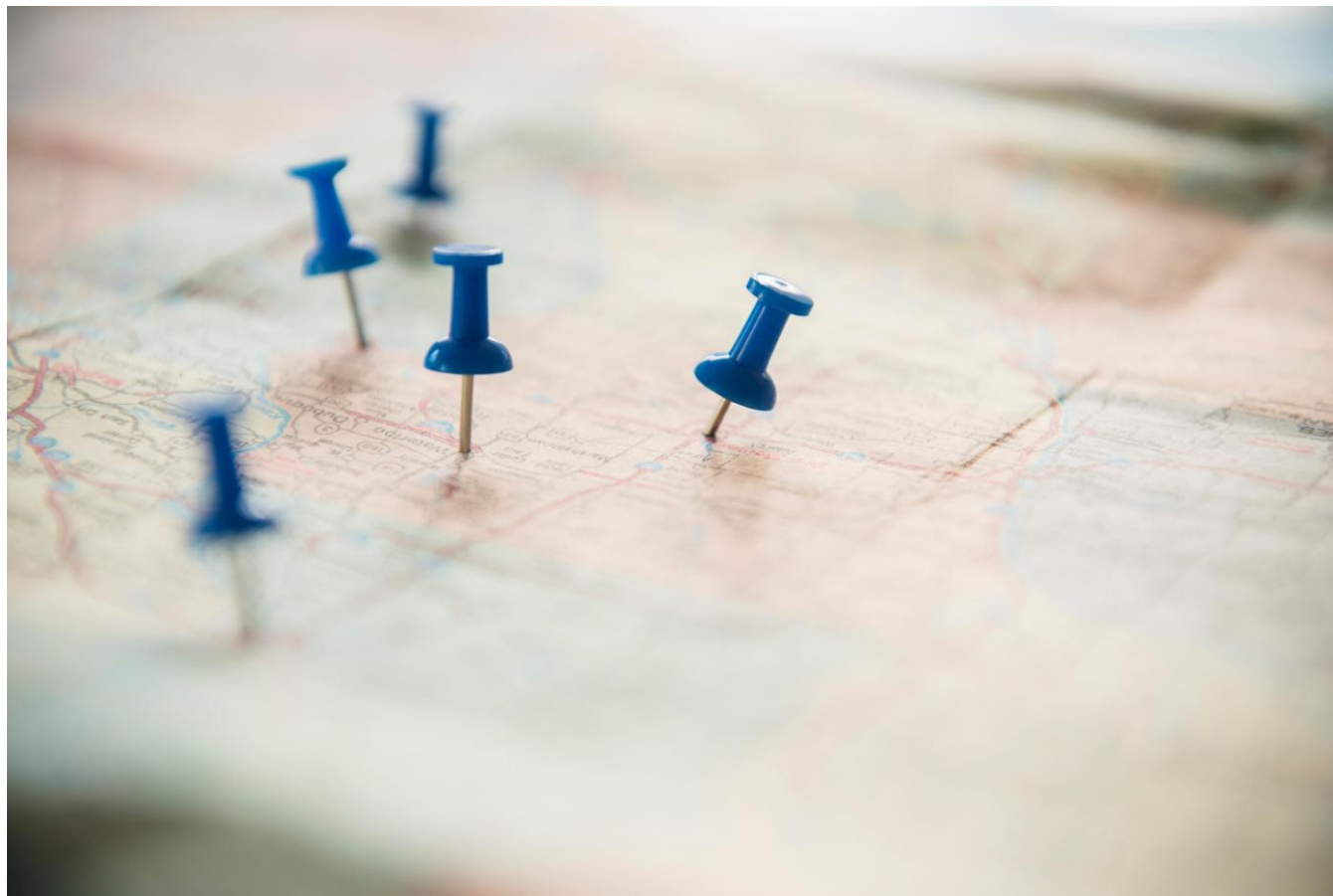


Geographic Information
Systems (GIS)



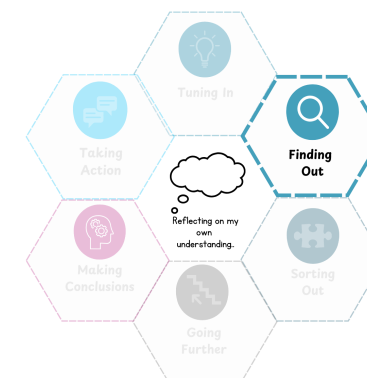
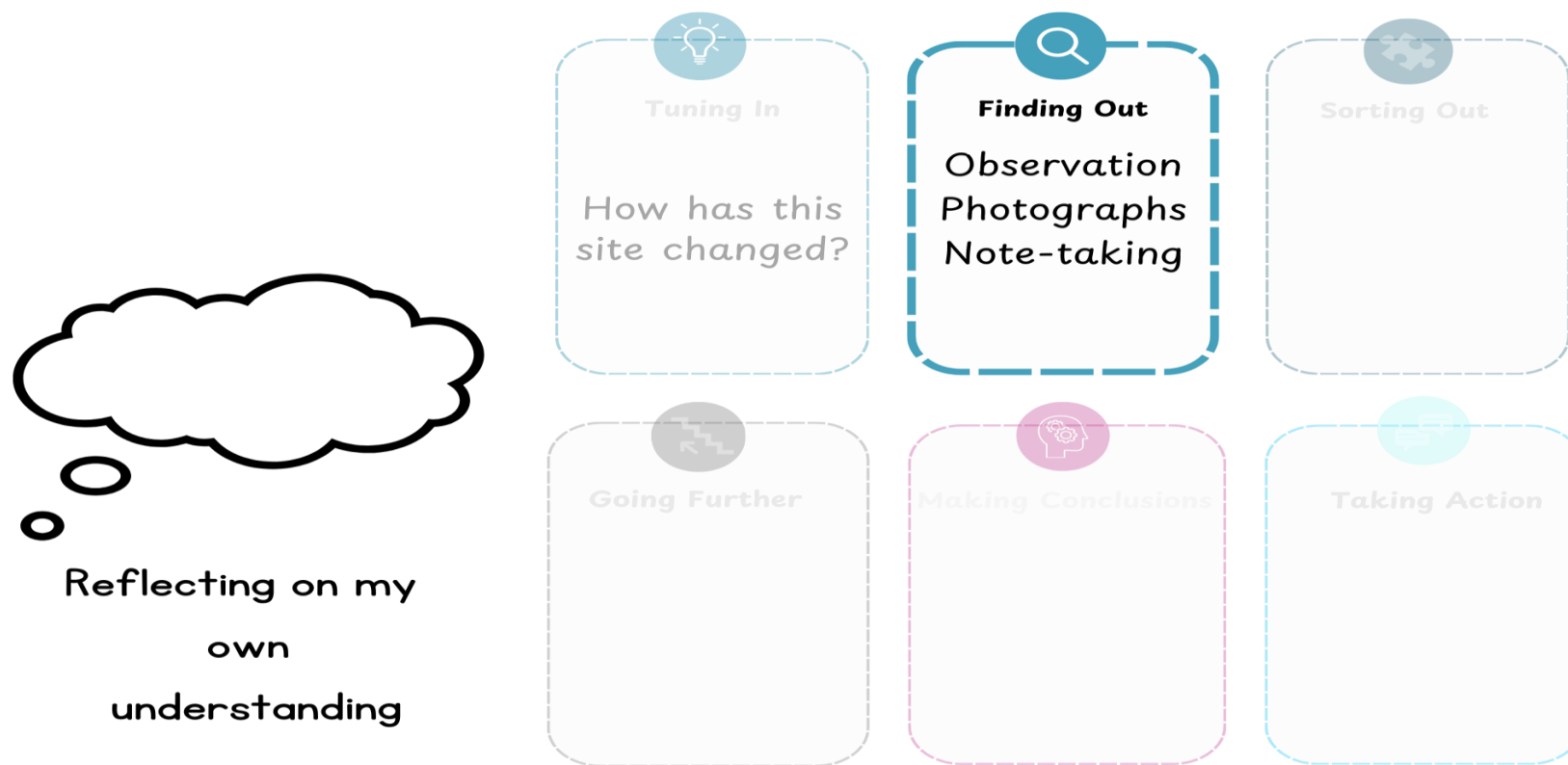


Map Resources





Inquiry-Based Fieldwork



(Murdoch, 2010)



Time to Gather Evidence



“How has this site changed?”



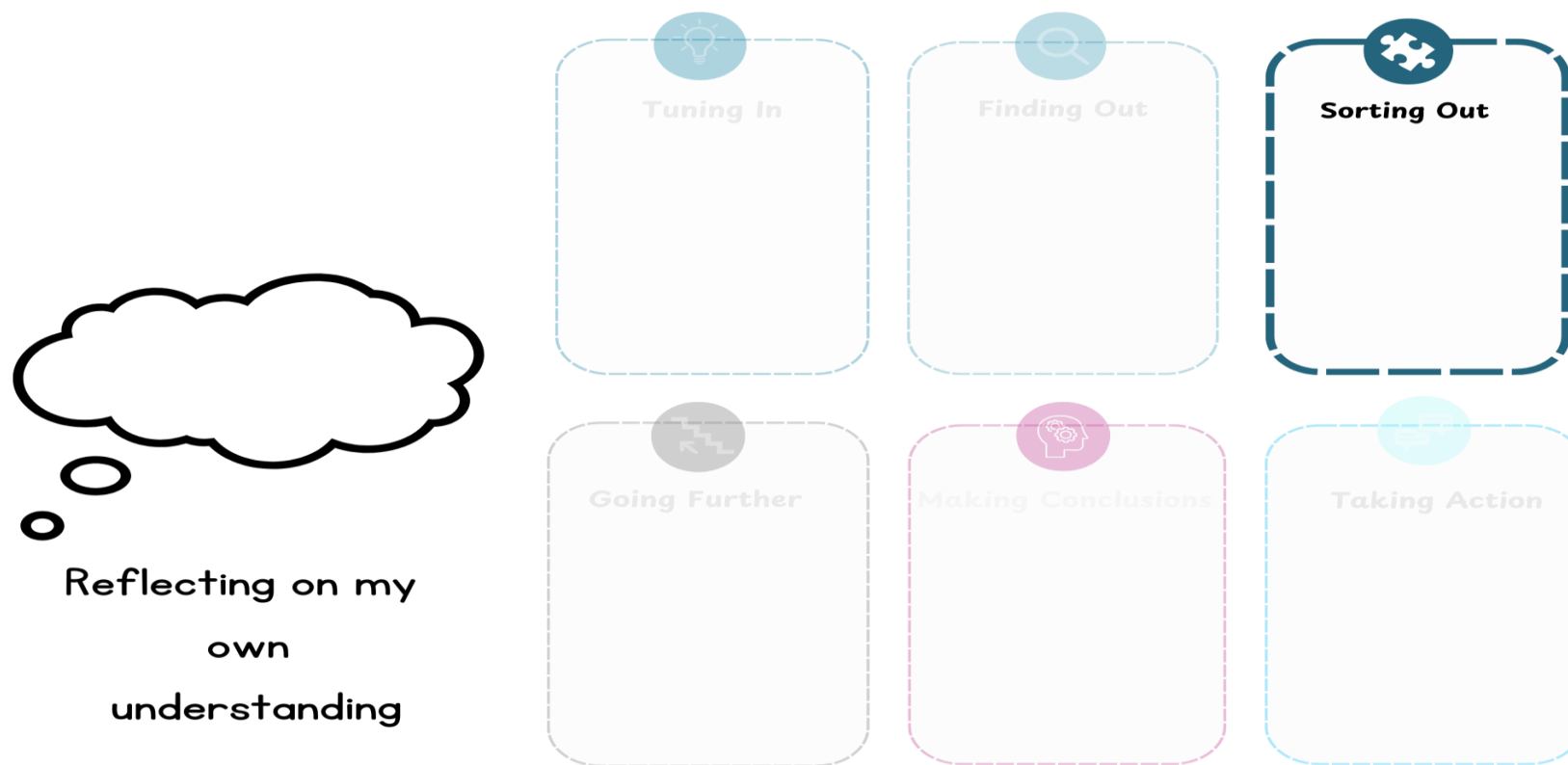
20
minutes



(Murdoch, 2010)



Inquiry-Based Fieldwork



(Murdoch, 2010)



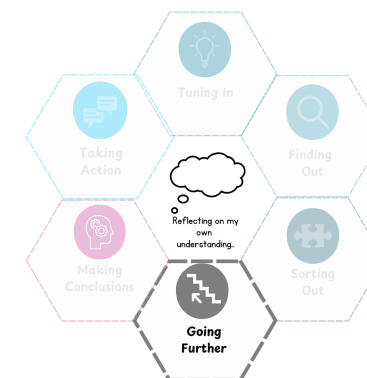
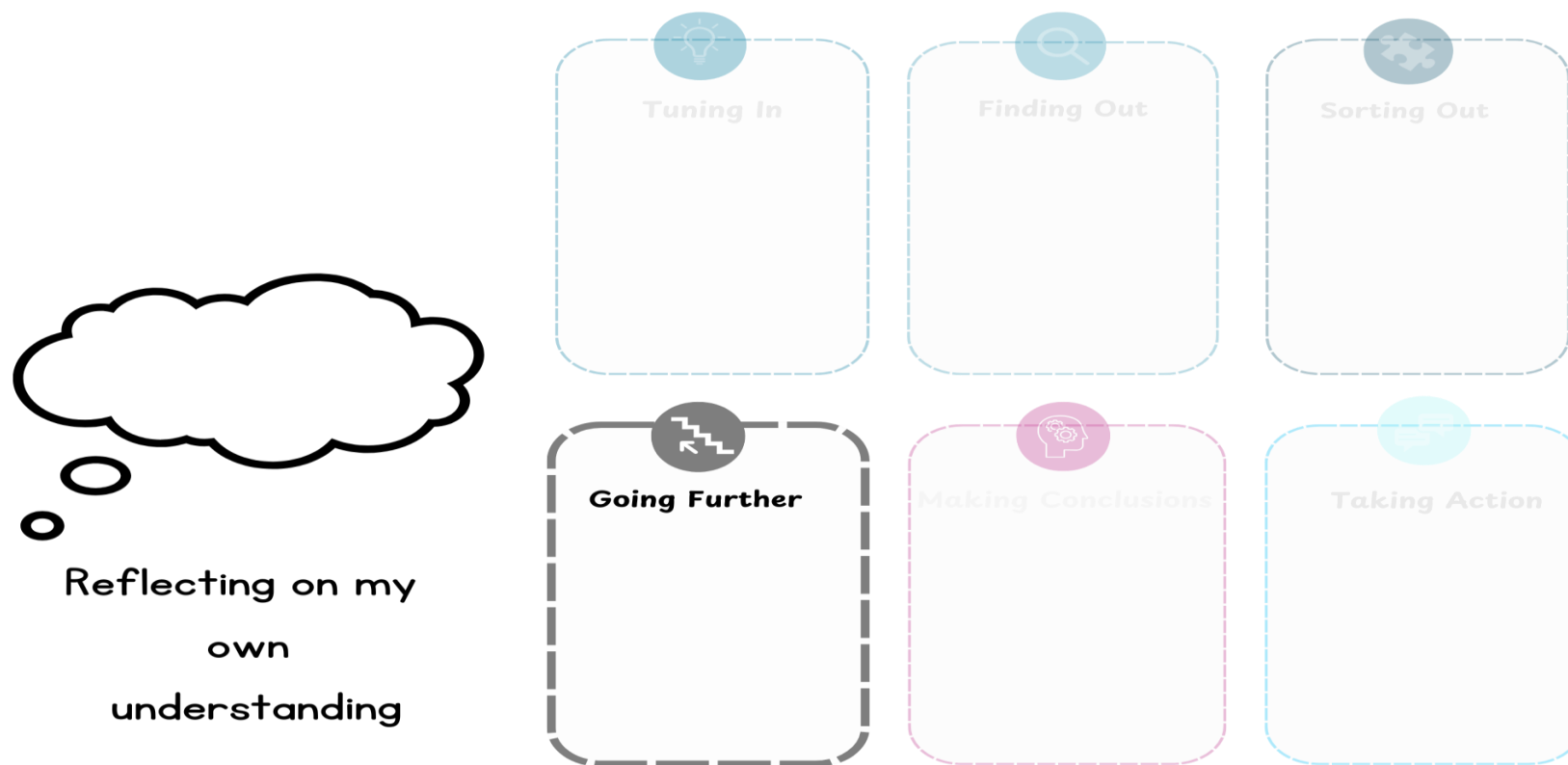
Sorting Out Activity

How can I sort out the information I gathered today?





Inquiry-Based Fieldwork



(Murdoch, 2010)



Going Further

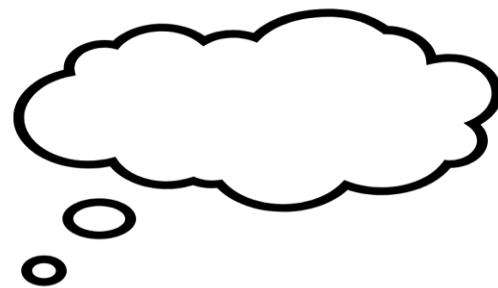
Do you think we have done enough investigating?

Do we need to investigate further?

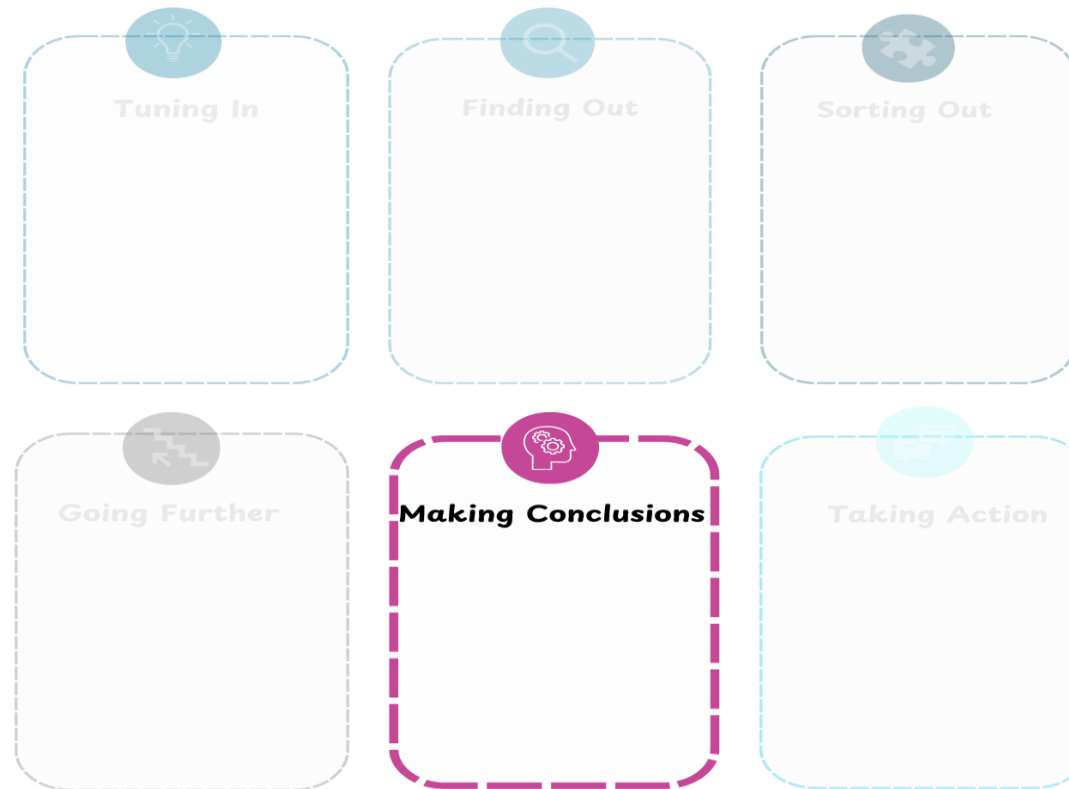




Inquiry-Based Fieldwork



Reflecting on my
own
understanding



(Murdoch, 2010)



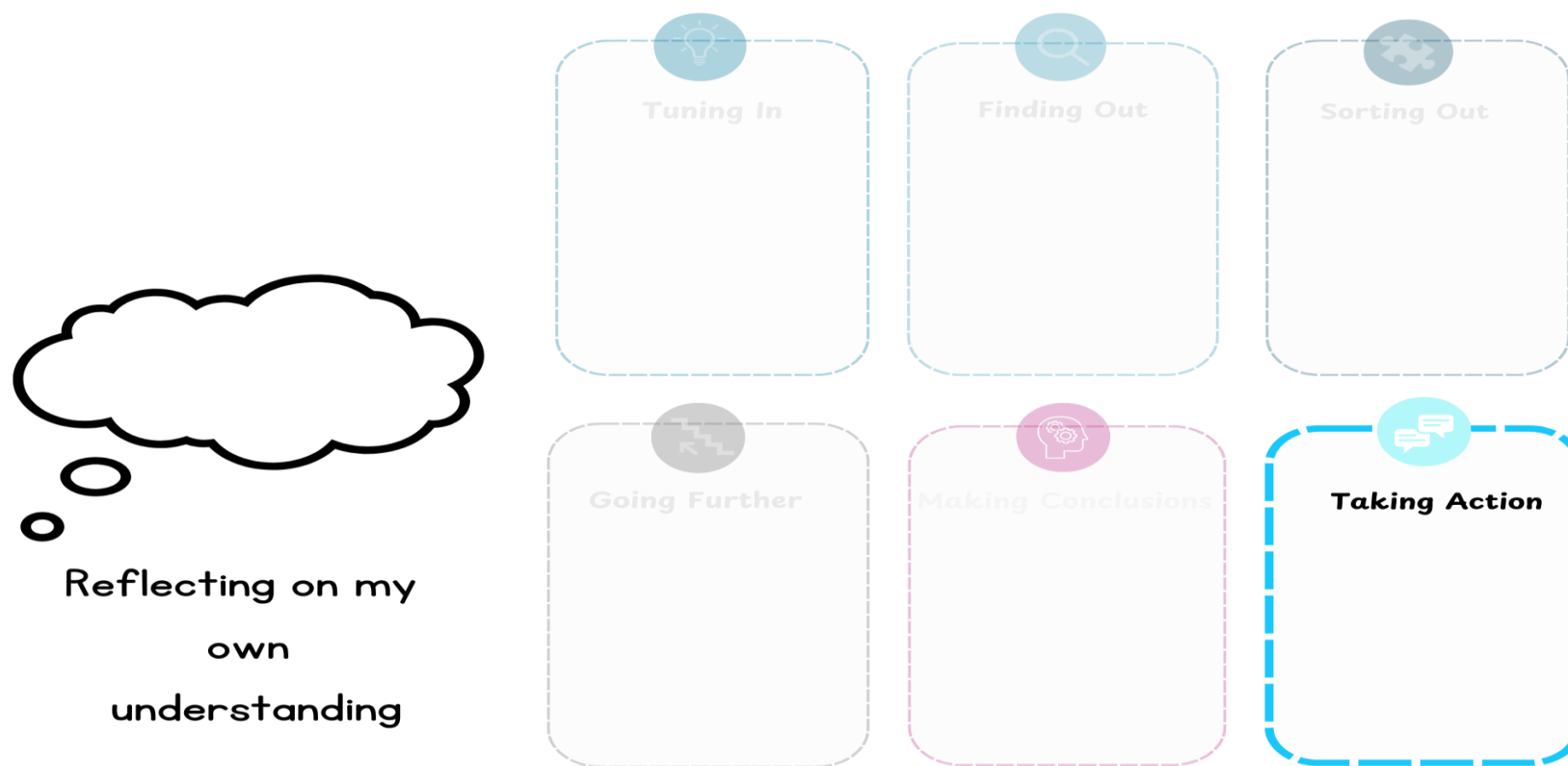
Making Conclusions

- What do I now know about the inquiry question?
- What am I going to do with what I have learned?
- How will I present the data I have gathered?
- Who is my audience?





Inquiry-Based Fieldwork



(Murdoch, 2010)



Virtual Fieldwork





Virtual Fieldwork Resources





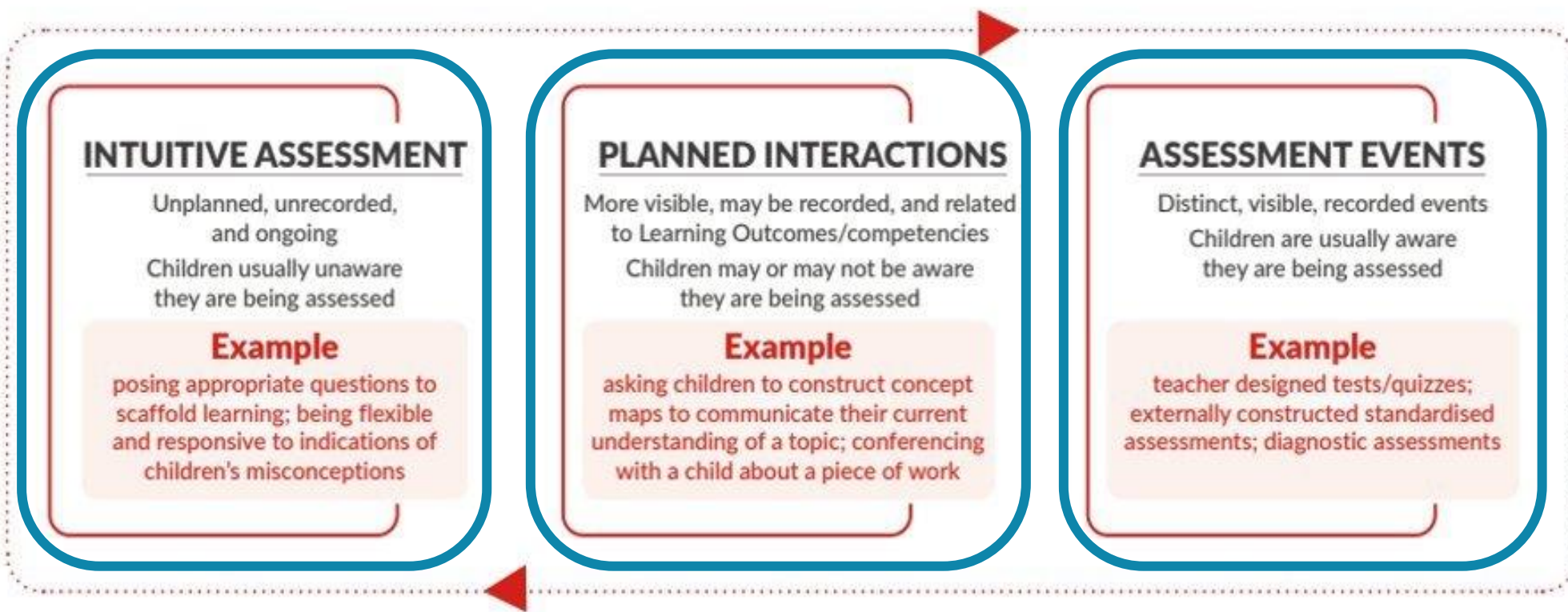
Taking Action

- Historian/Geographer
- Library/Museum
- Virtual Fieldwork
- Any other suggestions?





Assessment of Fieldwork






Key Messages



**Sense of
Place**



**Outdoor
Learning**



**Active
Child-Led
Participation**



Reflection on Fieldwork

What?

How did you feel
as a learner
during today's
workshop?

So what?

How would you
reflect on the
experience of
outdoor
learning?

Now what?

How will this
alter your work
with children in
the future?

(Rolfe et al., 2001)



Further Supports

oide.ie



<https://tinyurl.com/SEEpadget>



Oide_SEE



info@oide.ie
eolas@oide.ie

School Support: oide.ie/apply-book-now/schools/



Any Questions?





Thank you

Go raibh maith agaibh



References and Key Documents

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