

# FROM DIS-ENGAGEMENT TO ENGAGEMENT

Nurturing wonder  
& igniting passion

LOSS OF EMOTIONAL  
CONNECTION

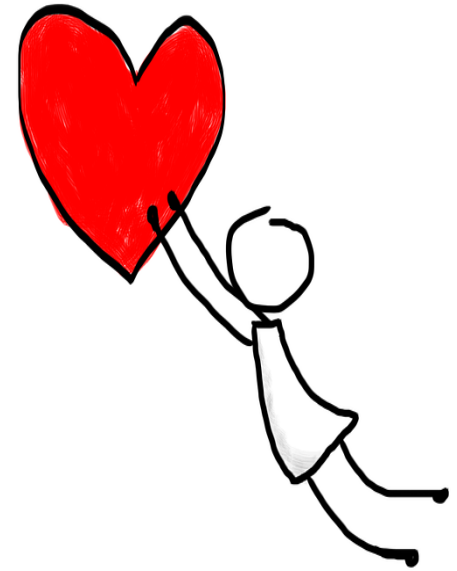
Curriculum  
content based on  
big Ideas &  
disciplinary skills

LEARNING THAT IS  
TRIVIAL

Pedagogy that  
puts students at  
the centre

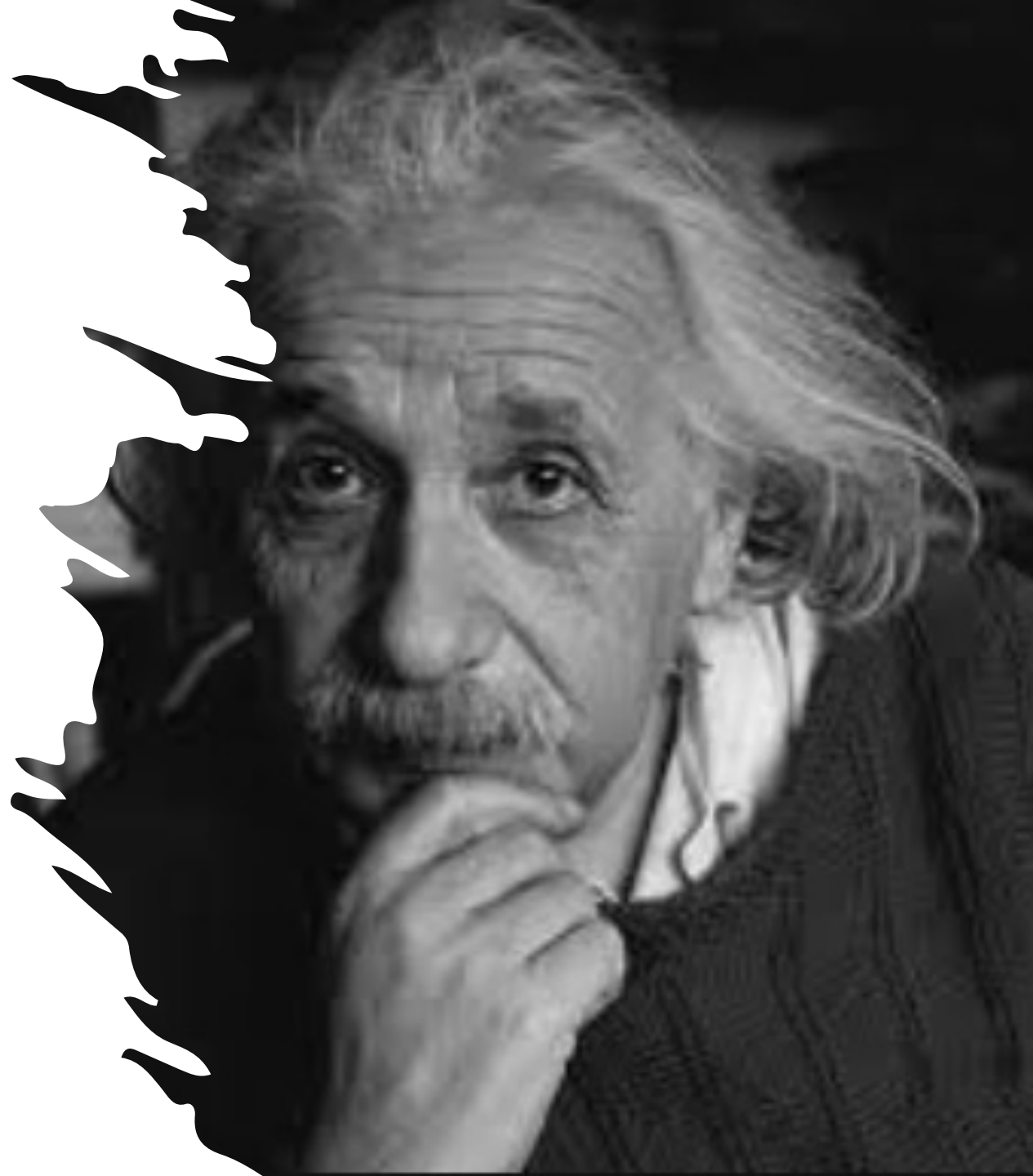
LEARNING THAT IS  
SHALLOW & LOSS OF  
AUTONOMY

“Nurturing Wonder  
& Igniting Passion”



# Albert Einstein

*It is the supreme art  
of the teacher to  
awaken joy and  
creative expression  
and knowledge*



# One quick change for teachers & leaders: Simon Brooks

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ASK STUDENTS LESS OFTEN:

*Do you have any questions?*

ASK STUDENTS MORE OFTEN:

*What are you wondering?*



# EMPOWERING CURRICULUM CONTENT

Is today's learning helping me to understand big ideas that I can build on year after year?



Am I learning the reasoning skills of the learning area in a way that empowers me to think like an expert?

Do **I** understand what I'm supposed to be learning & why I'm supposed to be learning it?

Does this learning provide challenge for **me**? Will it promote deep & powerful understanding?

Am **I** capable of succeeding in this learning? Do **I** know that you have high expectations for me?

Am **I** valued in this classroom as an individual and as a learner?

## PEDAGOGY THAT PUTS STUDENTS AT THE CENTRE

Have you considered me?

Am I engaged?

How do you know?



Is the learning structured so that **I** am an active participant?

Is **my** voice important in this classroom? Do **I** get a chance to reflect on my learning; learn skills of self-regulation; and actively construct knowledge with others?

Do **I** have power in my classroom? Do **I** get some say in what I learn, how I learn it and how I will be assessed?

Does this learning build on **my** background – skills, experience and culture? Does it connect to authentic contexts?

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# Strathfield North PS

Term 2, 2022







**WELCOME &  
INTRO TO POP**

**STRATHFIELD  
NORTH PS**

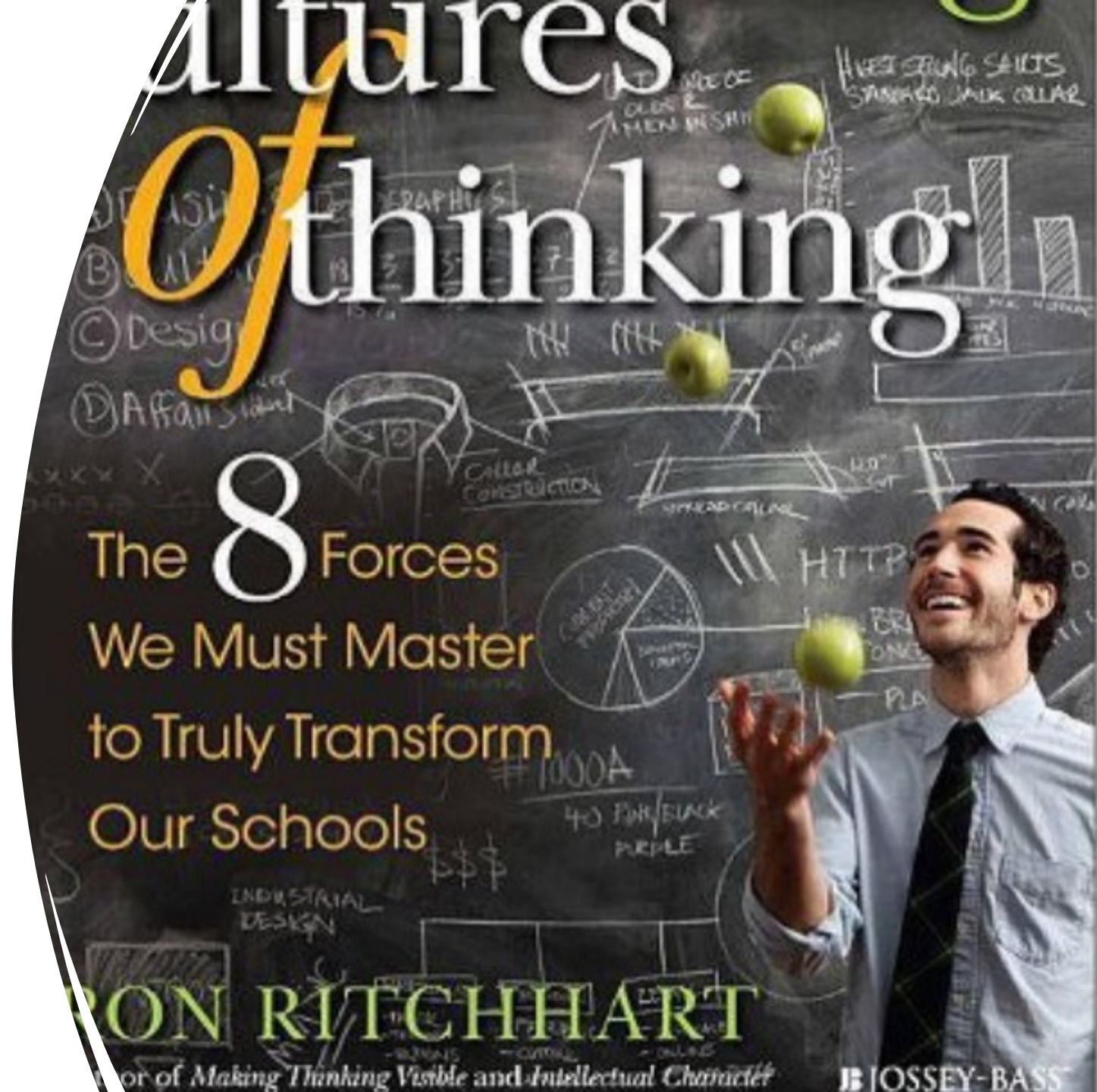
*Are we  
challenging &  
supporting all  
students?*

- *Are the tasks rigorous and do they challenge students at the point of need?*
- *Are our students doers or learners? Are there opportunities for them to be active in their learning?*
- *Are students genuinely engaged in their learning? Are we igniting their passions?*

Simon Brooks: The best things we can ask ourselves as teachers and leaders?

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- *Why am I talking?*
- *How can I pull back?*





- In IR we build a common language of instructional practice. Our knowledge and understanding builds over time.
- Within and between schools we build a culture of inquiring and learning at a deep level



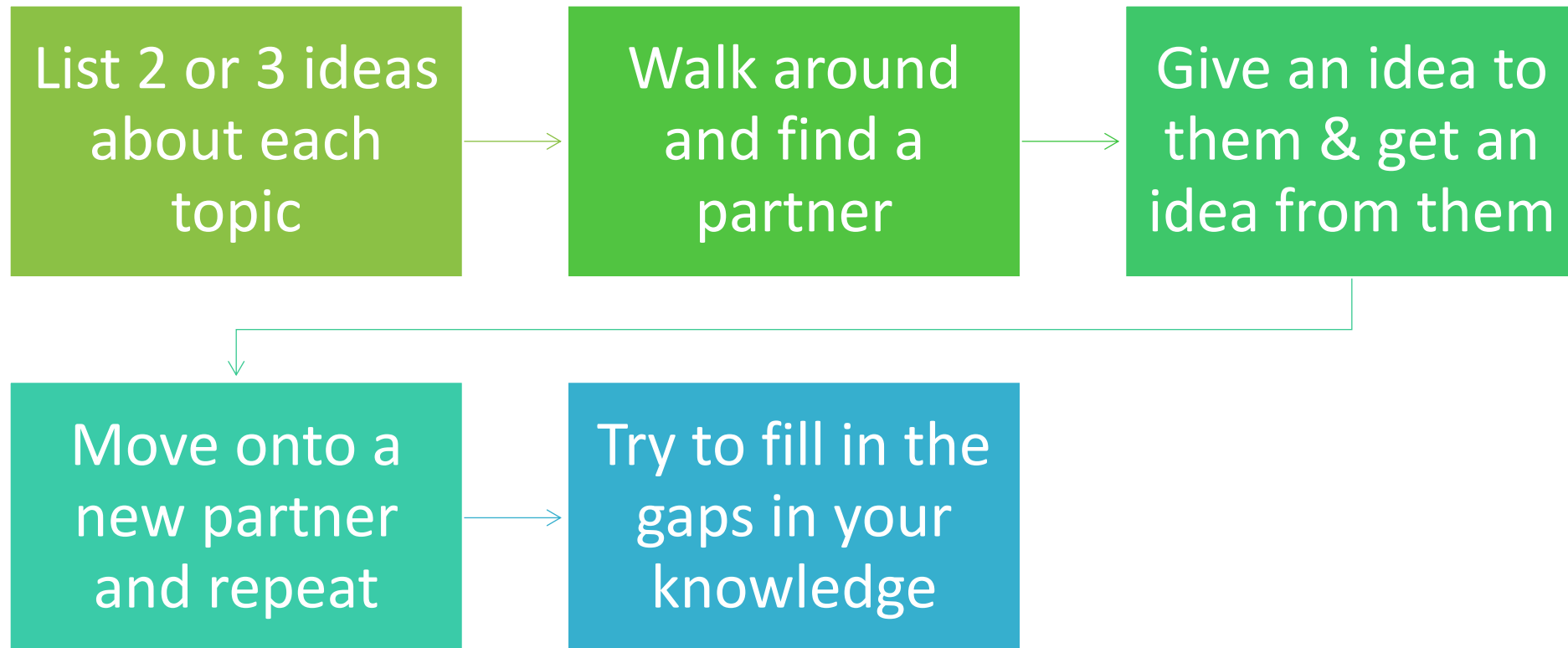
# LEARNING INTENTION

***YOU WILL EXPAND YOUR  
UNDERSTANDING OF THE  
CONCEPTS UNDERPINNING THE  
PROBLEM OF PRACTICE***

***FOCUS ON:***

- 1. CHALLENGE/RIGOUR &***
- 2. ENGAGEMENT/PASSION***

# GO GO MO (Give One; Get One; Move On)



## Previous learning: Rigour & Challenge

- 2019: Enfield PS How well are we challenging our students to learn
- 2021: Old Guildford PS Is explicit teaching allowing our students to be autonomous learners? (“Worthwhile Lesson Framework”)
- 2021: Burwood Is the lesson worthwhile? Does it incorporate rigour and high expectations for all students?

# Student Engagement

- 2011: Granville South PS How are our students encouraged to be active in the learning process?
- 2016: To what extent are formative assessment practices impacting on learning & engagement for our students?
- 2017: How effectively are we engaging students in mathematical learning?





# Rigour & Challenge 1

## Zone of Proximal Development

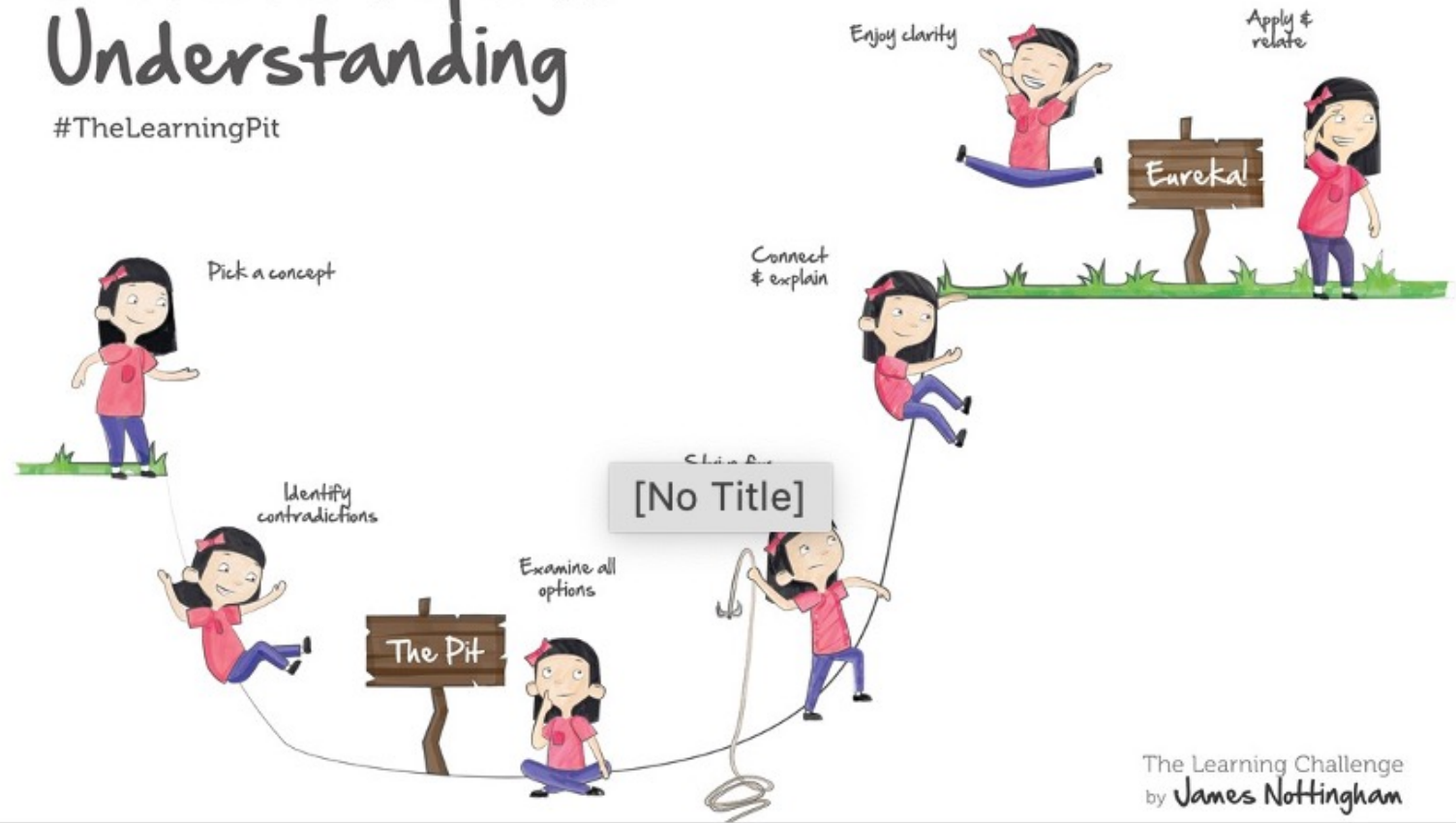
Jann Farmer-Hailey – don't dumb down the learning: scaffold to pull students gently towards it

# Rigour & Challenge 2

James Nottingham –  
The Learning Pit

## Seven Steps to Understanding

#TheLearningPit



The Learning Challenge  
by James Nottingham

## Rigour & Challenge 3

Barbara  
Blckburn:  
“Rigor is Not a  
Dirty Word”

### ***Definition of Rigor***

*Rigor is creating an environment in which each student is expected to learn at high levels, each student is supported so he and she can learn at high level, and each student demonstrates learning at high levels*

*Understanding is similar to climbing a mountain. You have to start at the bottom, but to get the full view (the rigorous view); you have to make it to the top. You climb to the top one step at a time; the steps become increasingly more difficult as you go, but the view is worth it.*

# STUDENT ENGAGEMENT #1

- Canadian – synthesis of four research projects 2006-2011
- Student engagement was area that showed most potential in improving school effectiveness.
- When schools worked well students talked more than in “traditional” schools.
- Schools should re-vision how students involve themselves in learning.

## Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) PISA 2000: Reading

- Correlations between engagement and reading was 0.40. An effect of this size is equivalent to improvement of one year level.
- Student engagement had greater effect on reading outcomes than socio-economic status and gender.
- In Australia the correlation was more marked than the majority of other OECD countries.

There are three brain networks involved in learning

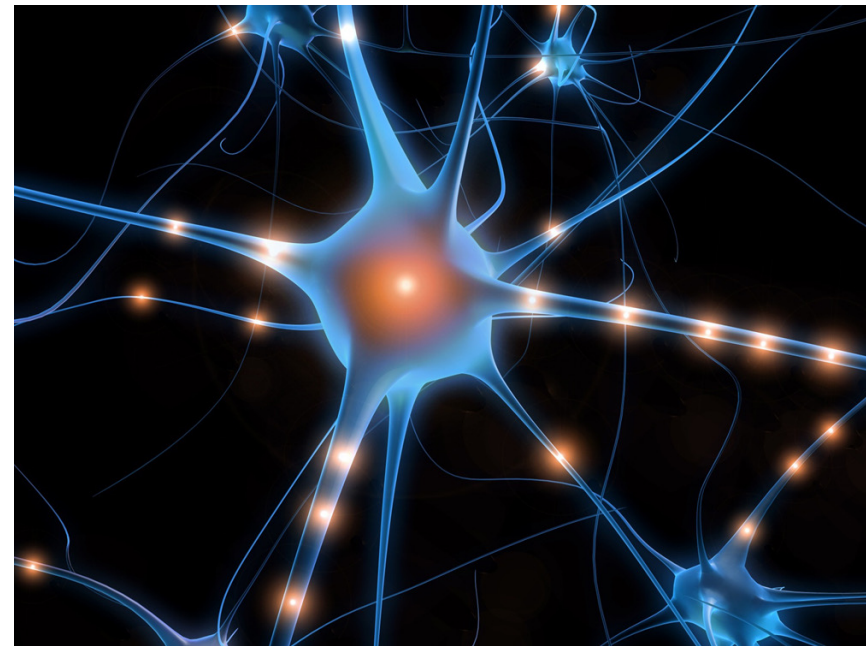
- “recognition” – senses, prior learning
- “strategic” – focuses on the goal and progress towards the goal
- “affective” - interest, motivation and stress

All three systems are used simultaneously for learning: emotion and cognition are inextricably linked

Negative emotions (anxiety) decrease learning, whilst positive emotions facilitate learning

## STUDENT ENGAGEMENT #2

Mind, brain and education  
- an emerging field



# STUDENT ENGAGEMENT #3 'e'ngagement

**Student engagement** has a definition in the Fair Go Project as an interplay of high levels of cognitive, affective and operative, dimensions. This is much more than being on task.

When students are strongly engaged they are successfully involved in tasks of high intellectual quality and they have passionate positive feelings about these tasks.

- “School is for Me”
- “Insider Classroom”
- Pedagogical focus on nature of classroom learning experiences & interactions :
  - Deep understanding (high cognitive)
  - Genuine valuing (high affective)
  - Active participation (high operative)

## STUDENT ENGAGEMENT #1

### AM I “ON TASK” or “IN TASK”? How do you know?

Do **I** understand what I’m supposed to be learning & why I’m supposed to be learning it?

Does this learning provide challenge for **me**? Will it promote deep & powerful understanding?

Am **I** capable of succeeding in this learning? Do **I** know that you have high expectations for me?

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# REFLECTION

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- What surprised you about the learning we have just engaged in?
- How do the processes or content relate to something else you know?







# LEARNING INTENTION

***YOU WILL EXPAND YOUR  
UNDERSTANDING OF THE  
CONCEPTS UNDERPINNING THE  
PROBLEM OF PRACTICE***



# PERFORMANCE OF UNDERSTANDING

**YOUR PERFORMANCE OF  
UNDERSTANDING IS TO CREATE A  
CONCEPT MAP OF THE PROBLEM OF  
PRACTICE**



# SUCCESS CRITERIA

**YOU WILL KNOW YOU'RE SUCCESSFUL IF YOU HAVE:**

- **IDENTIFIED THE MAIN IDEAS AND PLACED THEM AT THE CENTRE OF YOUR CONCEPT MAP**
- **SHOWN THE WHERE THERE ARE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE IDEAS & DESCRIBED THESE CONNECTIONS**
- **ELABORATED ON YOUR IDEAS BY GIVING CONCRETE EXAMPLES OF WHAT WE SHOULD SEE IN CLASSROOMS**

# POI # 1

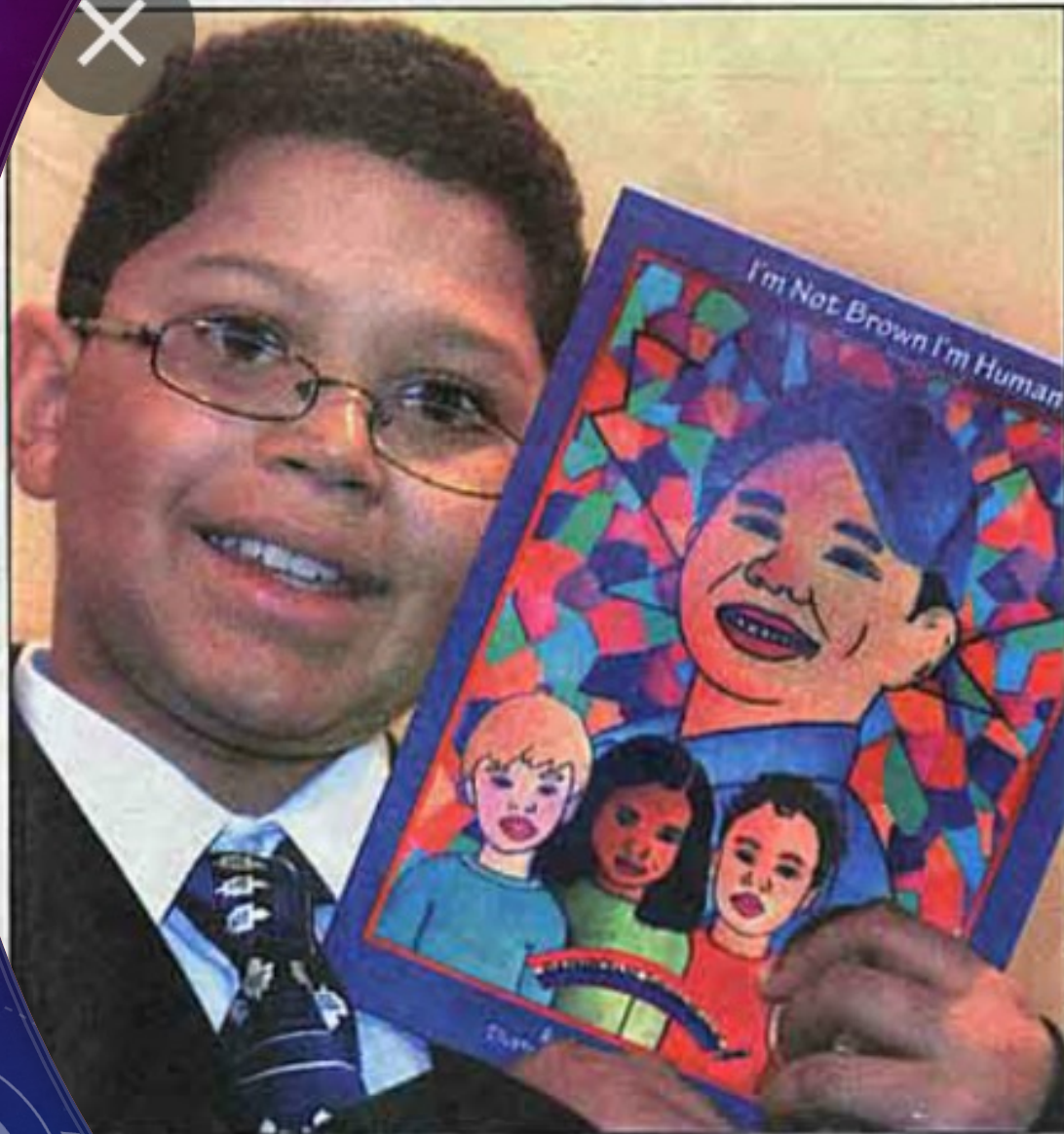
## HEADLINES (VISIBLE THINKING ROUTINE)

### LEARNING INTENTION

*You will expand your understanding of the concepts underpinning the PoP*

### STEPS IN THE PROCESS

1. Individually read the one of the 4 short readings
  - *High Potential & Gifted*
  - *Engagement*
  - *Increase Complexity*
  - *Increasing student engagement and ownership*
2. Working with a partner, create a headline that captures the essence of your reading
3. Collaborate and create a by-line
4. Write 3-4 sentences for the main body of your news article detailing how this reading extended your thinking about the concept of a “performance of understanding?”



VERONICA MENDELSON

Student James Valitchka's new book, *I'm Not Brown I'm Human*, details how to learn to overcome racism. This is the 11-year-old Toronto boy's sixth book.

# A good heart is colour-blind

## 11-year-old author teaches how to overcome racism

**MICHELE HENRY**  
Toronto Sun

James Valitchka is no stranger to the soul-piercing sting of racist remarks.

One of only two black kids attending an affluent elementary school in a predominantly white Ottawa neighbourhood, the 11-year-old was often teased, beaten up and belittled because of his skin colour.

"I had to leave that school," said the pre-teen, who moved to Toronto with his mother last year. "It made me feel really bad about myself."

Sensing there were other kids grappling with the same stresses, the Grade 5 student put pen to paper and wrote his sixth book, which is titled *I'm Not Brown I'm Human*

and details how children can learn to overcome racism. Released in a limited number of local bookstores this week, the young author waved it proudly about the Dominion ballroom at the Sheraton Centre yesterday during the Toronto kickoff of Black History Month in Canada.

### 'Just bullying'

"Racism is just bullying because of skin colour," he said.

Rosemary Sadlier, president of the Ontario Black History Society, addressed the crowd yesterday and told local politicians and community members alike that celebrating black history and culture is paramount to defeating hatred.

"Where we see so much negativity we lose sight of the

contribution that people of African origin have made since the very beginning of this country," she said. "To have Black History Month in Toronto right now is of critical importance because it's one of the pro-active things to address some of the issues that affect us all right now, such as gun violence."

Among the books by black authors and illustrations by black artists that filled the entrance to the ballroom, was demonstration of the Black History Canada website.

Developed by Historians, [blackhistorycanada.ca](http://blackhistorycanada.ca) launched at the event as a resource for teachers, providing information about black history in Canada.

michele.henry@torontosun.com

# Leonard Nimoy's stellar enterprise

■ "Star Trek VI" gave actor last, best chance to fully develop character of Mr. Spock.

By **BOB STRAUSS**  
Los Angeles Daily News

LOS ANGELES — You'd think that Leonard Nimoy would be the "Star Trek" actor most eager to say goodbye to the whole, as well as the specific, Enterprise.

After all, Mr. Spock, his half-alien character, was the science fiction series' most indelible icon. And, of course, there were those ears.

272 x 302 Even though Nimoy is the most insistent of the seven



Leonard Nimoy  
'I'm not sick of it.'

# POI # 2

## CONCEPT MAPS

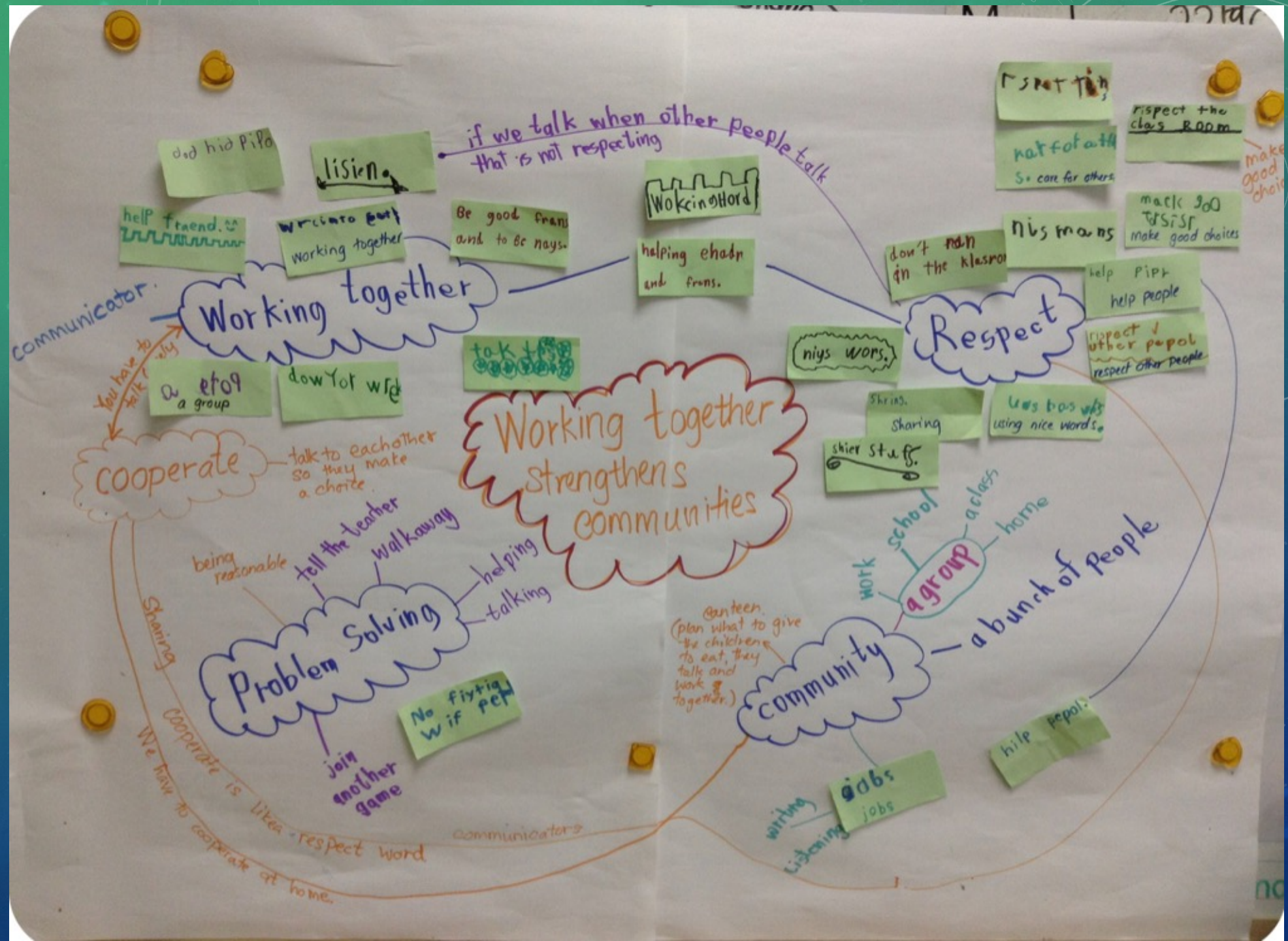
### STEPS IN THE PROCESS

1. With a partner, take turn to discuss the main ideas from your pre-reading & pre-round task
2. In your group, use a large piece of butchers paper. Take turns to share and **generate** the main ideas. As you place each main idea on the paper explain it to the group.
3. When all ideas are down, **sort** the ideas according to how central they are to the POP. Are there other key ideas that need to be added?
4. **Connect** your ideas by drawing connecting lines. Write on the line in a short sentence to explain how the ideas are connected

THINK ABOUT HOW THE HEADLINE READINGS CONNECT THESE IDEAS!

1. **Elaborate** on the ideas by adding details eg specific strategies that teachers might use.

# MODEL





# Understanding

To what degree did this task (performance or understanding) deepen your understanding?

One develops understanding through an ever-more challenging and demanding set of performances

Are our  
students  
learning?

What one change would  
have made the lesson more  
effective?

If you were a student in this  
lesson what would you now  
know and be able to do?

# FINDINGS



## DATA

“Give me any data from your school and I’ll tell you five different stories about it. Just tell me which ones you want to hear.”

Don’t be data driven. Be driven to find the data that actually matters.

Changing our practice hinges on changing our lens.”

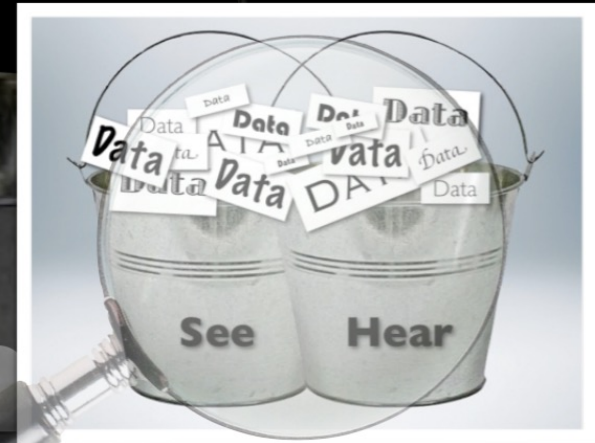
- Jeff Duncan Andrade

## Levels of Data

1. Satellite data – helps illuminate patterns of student achievement over time, points us in a direction for further investigation eg NAPLAN
2. Map data – points to a slightly more focused direction eg reading levels, student perception surveys.
3. Street level data – fine-grained & unambiguous – points to specific directions for improvement.

## OBSERVATIONS

*It's in the data we can **see** and **hear** that we'll come to understand the story of the learning of our classrooms.*



Coun

## DATA THAT MATTERS

*“Raising student achievement doesn’t happen one test at a time, whether that test is standardized or teacher made. Test results are always an incomplete picture of what’s happening in a classroom. Yet we continue to tweak instructional methods to raise test scores so that we can build and marvel at data sets that allow us to claim ”data-driven decision making”.*

*It is a logic model that ignores the most critical source of evidence – what students are actually learning. Gathering information about that learning should be everyone’s role, and turning that data into evidence by using it to improve student learning should be everyone’s most important work”.*

*Connie Moss and Susan Brookhart, Formative Classroom Walkthroughs, p99*

## Assessment of learning

involves teachers summarizing, judging, and evaluating student work against the SC, providing a summation that must inform next steps for their teaching and student learning. Thus, it is a never-ending cycle of teaching and learning as assessment of learning becomes diagnostic and informs assessment for learning.

CLARITY

"WHEN TEACHERS DO FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT EFFECTIVELY, STUDENTS LEARN AT ROUGHLY DOUBLE THE RATE THAN THEY DO WITHOUT IT."

DYLAN WILIAM



Figure 5.2 The Instruction Waterfall Chart



# WHAT KINDS OF LEARNING ARE OUR STUDENTS ENGAGED IN?

Level 1: Recall	Level 2: Skill/Concept	Level 3: Strategic Thinking	0 Procedural
<p>Requires students to recall facts, terms, concepts, trends and theories.</p> <p>May require students to recognise specific information contained in maps, tables, graphs, drawings</p>	<p>Requires students to compare or contrast people, events and concepts and give examples, classify or sort items into meaningful categories; describe, interpret or explain issues, problems &amp; patterns, causes, effects, significance or impact, points of view</p>	<p>Requires students to draw conclusions, cite evidence, apply concepts to new situations, use concepts to solve problems, recognise and explain misconceptions and explain main concepts, justify arguments through application and evidence</p>	<p>Student talk was predominantly procedural ie did not relate to the learning but rather about administration or routines eg getting equipment, ruling margins in a book, moving to a group table</p>



# WHAT TYPES OF QUESTIONS ARE OUR TEACHERS ASKING?

<u>Review Questions</u>	<u>Procedural Questions</u>	<u>Generative Questions</u>	<u>Constructive Questions</u>	<u>Facilitative Questions</u>
Ask students to recall previous knowledge or procedures.	Direct classroom activity and behaviour rather than focus on content.	Sparks inquiry. Two main types essential questions that direct long term exploration or authentic questions which are content questions to which the teacher doesn't already know the answer.	Advance inquiry. These are questions that ask students to connect ideas, make interpretations, focus on big ideas and central concepts, extend ideas and so on.	Ask students to explain or elaborate thinking.
Can you remember what we talked about yesterday?	Does everybody have a pencil?	How might we produce literature that would encourage people to act on 'climate change'?	So what connections are you making now as a result of what you have just heard?	What makes you say that?



POWERFUL  
QUESTIONS

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**THE WAY  
FORWARD**

"A VITAL QUESTION, A CREATIVE QUESTION, RIVETS OUR ATTENTION. ALL THE CREATIVE POWER OF OUR MINDS IS FOCUSED ON THE QUESTION. KNOWLEDGE EMERGES IN RESPONSE TO THESE COMPELLING QUESTIONS. THEY OPEN US TO NEW WORLDS."

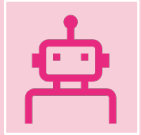
Verna Alley, *The Knowledge Revolution*



## The First Thing to Consider

What “work” do I want this question to do? That is, what kind of conversation, meanings, and feelings do I imagine this question will evoke in those who will be exploring it?

## OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER



Is this question relevant to the real life and real work of the people who will be exploring it?



Is this a genuine question—a question to which I/we really don't know the answer?



Is this question likely to invite fresh thinking/ feeling?

# OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER



What assumptions or beliefs are embedded in the way this question is constructed?



Is this question likely to generate hope, imagination, engagement, creative action, and new possibilities or is it likely to increase a focus on past problems and obstacles?



Does this question leave room for new and different questions to be raised as the initial question is explored?

# EXAMPLES OF POWERFUL QUESTIONS FROM A RECENT ROUND



- ***How do we ensure professional learning translates into sustained change of classroom practice?***
- ***Do teachers and students understand the purpose of the SC and how this is used to give feedback to allow students to be self-directed learners?***
- ***How can we take the whole school community on the journey towards rigorous learning?***
- ***How active are our students in their learning? How do we know?***
- ***Are our assumptions about our students and parents preventing us from taking important initiatives? How could we explore this?***