"Say What?"
Youth-Led Qualitative Data Collection & Analysis

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Introductions

- Name
- Title
- Organization
- In your position, do you work directly with youth?

Image description: Simple drawing of a person with long wavy hair waving inside the window of a blue name-tag reading 'hello my name is.'

Agenda

1. Introductions, opening reflection

2. Youth-Led Research, Analysis and Culturally Responsive Evaluation (CRE)

3. Qualitative Data Collection Methods for Youth Evaluators
   a. Talking Circles
   b. Ripple Effect Mapping
   c. Digital Storytelling

4. Transforming Qualitative Data into powerful stories

5. Organizational capacity building

Reflection: Mentimeter

https://www.menti.com/alygp965jux9

Learning Outcomes

Develop

Culturally Responsive Evaluation (CRE)- focused qualitative data collection tools, such as talking circles and Ripple Effect Mapping, tailored to youth leadership

Apply

Accessible qualitative analysis techniques and strategies for youth-a data collection and analysis

Explore

Strategies for youth-led qualitative data collection methods in uplifting youth voice within organizational structures

Image descriptions: 1) a light bulb lit up and an arrow pointing to a cog, 2) one hand holding a brain and an arrow pointing to a second hand holding two cogs, 3) a magnifying glass over a lit up light bulb

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Foundational Principles of Youth-Led Research & Culturally Responsive Evaluation

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Youth Voice & Participatory Research

Definition: Research methodologies that actively involve youth as co-creators and decision-makers in the research process

Key Principles

Recognize youth as experts of their own experiences

Challenge traditional power dynamics

Create spaces for meaningful youth participation and leadership

Resource   YPAR HUB

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Effective Youth-led Analysis

Flexible, engaging processes

Multiple analysis pathways

Strong support structures

Clear, ethical guidelines

Meaningful youth leadership

Image descriptions: 1) two hands bending a bar, 2) three arrows pointing in different directions, 3) three layers of triangles stacked on each other, 4) a magnifying glass and an open book, 5) a person holding a flag

Resource   Space and Places

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Culturally Responsive Evaluation (CRE) Core Competencies

Guide to conducting culturally responsive evaluation

Respecting cultural contexts & lived experiences

Acknowledging systemic inequities

Designing research methods that are inclusive & representative

Image descriptions: 1) two people shaking hands, 2) two cogs, 3) two hands holding three people
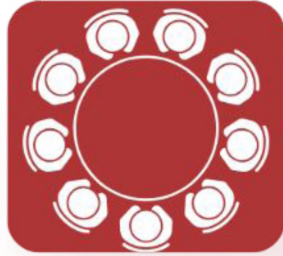
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Qualitative Data Collection Methods for Youth Evaluators

Talking Circles

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Talking Circles

Description: Indigenous-rooted methodology emphasizing collaborative dialogue and collective wisdom

Circular seating arrangement, symbolizing equality

Emphasis on deep listening & respect

Structured speaking protocols

Resource — [Talking Feathers for Sharing and Restorative Justice Circles](#)

Culturally grounded communication & approach
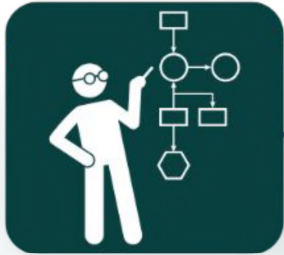
Example — [Three Promising Practices to Make Program Evaluation with Indigenous Youth Meaningful](#)

Image descriptions: 1) people seated in a circle, 2) an ear listening, 3) a person pointing to a chart, 4) intertwined people surrounding a globe

Youth Leadership Strategies

Recruit youth co-facilitators to

- Design **discussion guidelines**
- Create **inclusive participation protocols**
- Develop **conversation prompts**
- Design a **welcome activity**

Image description: youth seated in a circle

Technological Tools for Talking Circles

Digital Collaboration Tools

Image description: a tan box labeled, 'virtual talking circle platforms,' within the box are the logos for Google Meet, Zoom, Gather, and Microsoft Teams

Audio/Visual Documentation

Otter.ai

loom

Virtual Talking Circle Platforms

Google Meet

zoom

Gather

Image description: a tan box labeled 'digital collaboration tools,' within the box are the logos for MURAL, padlet, and Microsoft Whiteboard

Image description: a tan box labeled, 'audio/visual documentation,' within the box are the logos for Otter.ai and Loom

Hands-On Activity

Talking Circle Facilitation & Analysis With Youth

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Breakout Groups

1. Look at the different components of the 'Talking Circles' activity in the [resource guide](#)

2. In groups of 5-6, address the following questions:
   a. What would/does that look like in practice/implementation?
   b. How could/do you incorporate youth to lead components?
   c. How would/do you incorporate culturally responsive or equity considerations?
   d. What resources might be needed?

Image description: four people framed by cogs working collaboratively

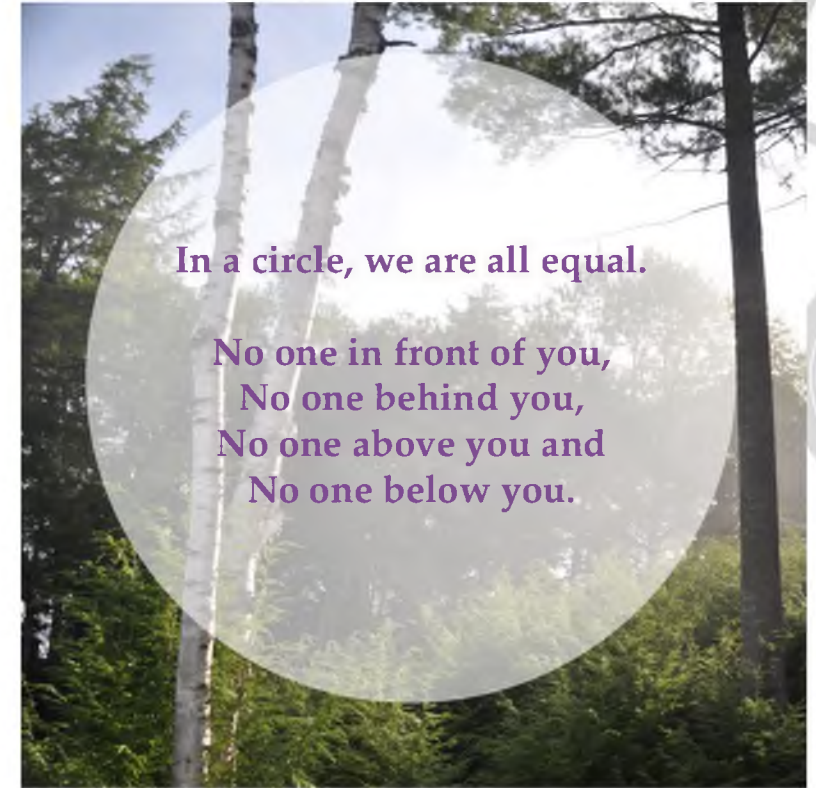**MIRROR** GROUP

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Talking Circle facilitation

1. Practice with youth, discuss, role play with youth leaders:

   - Develop respectful speaking guidelines
   - Create inclusive communication norms
   - Practice active and empathetic listening
   - Explore cultural protocols for dialogue

In a circle, we are all equal.

No one in front of you,
No one behind you,
No one above you and
No one below you.

Image description: a quote overlaid on a forest background

Resource [Talking Feathers for Sharing and Restorative Justice Circles](#)

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Talking Circle facilitation

2. Youth-Led activities:

a. Welcome, norms/intentions, icebreaker
b. Circle Reflection Maps
- Create visual mind maps of key discussions
- Identify emerging patterns
- Note powerful quotes and moments
- Emotional tone, experiences, non-verbal cues
c. Theme Development
- Youth generate their own coding categories
- Create youth-friendly names for themes
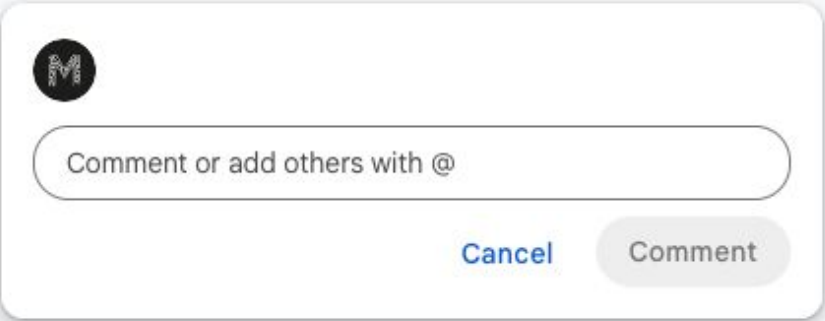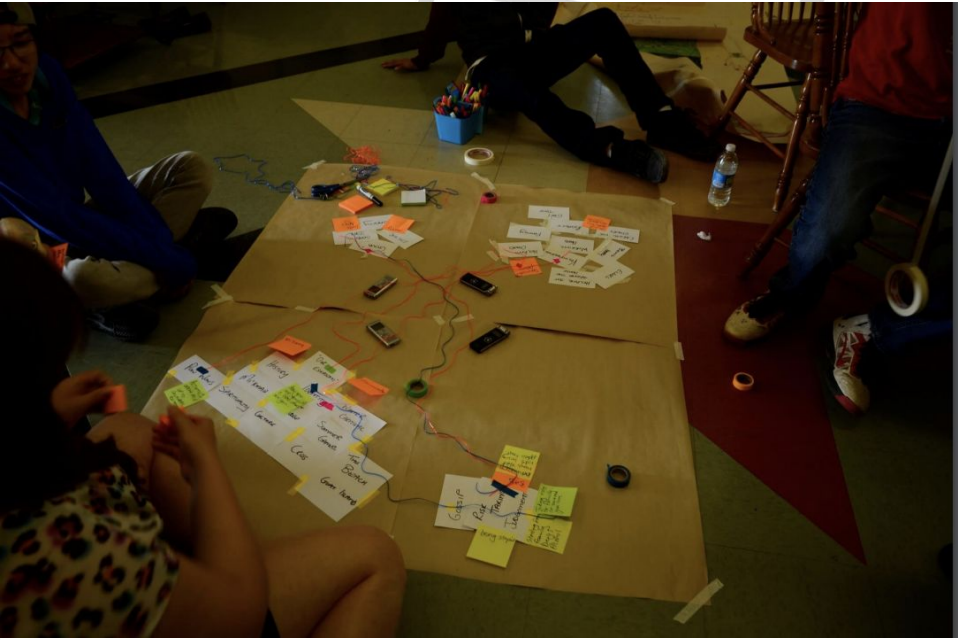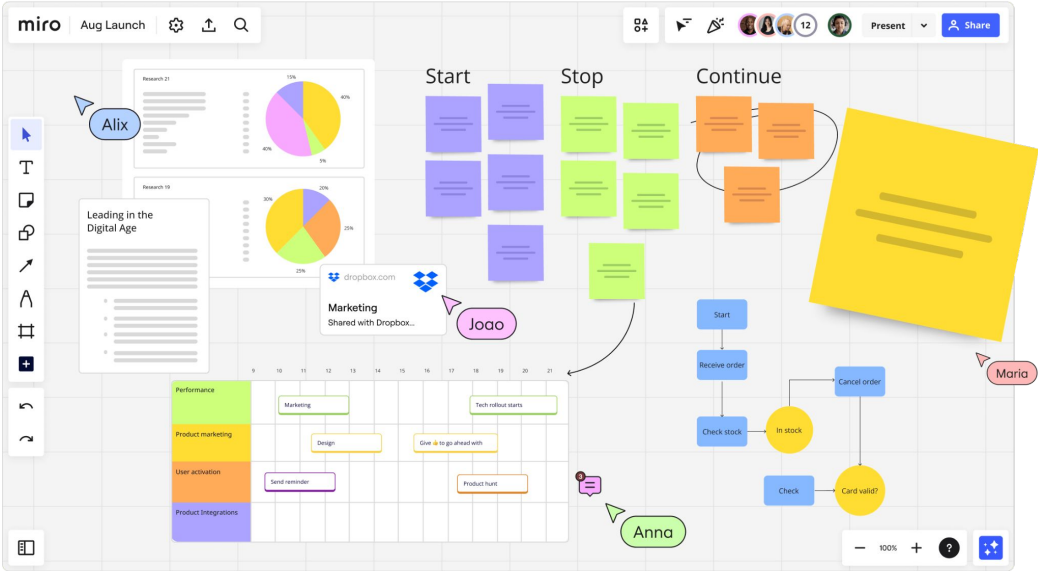- Design visual symbols for different types of insights

Resource

[Analysing data with youth: A guide to conducting thematic analysis](#)

Example   [Space and Places Data Analysis Manual](#)

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Deep Analysis Interactive Coding Process

Resource Tagcrowd

Analysis Activities
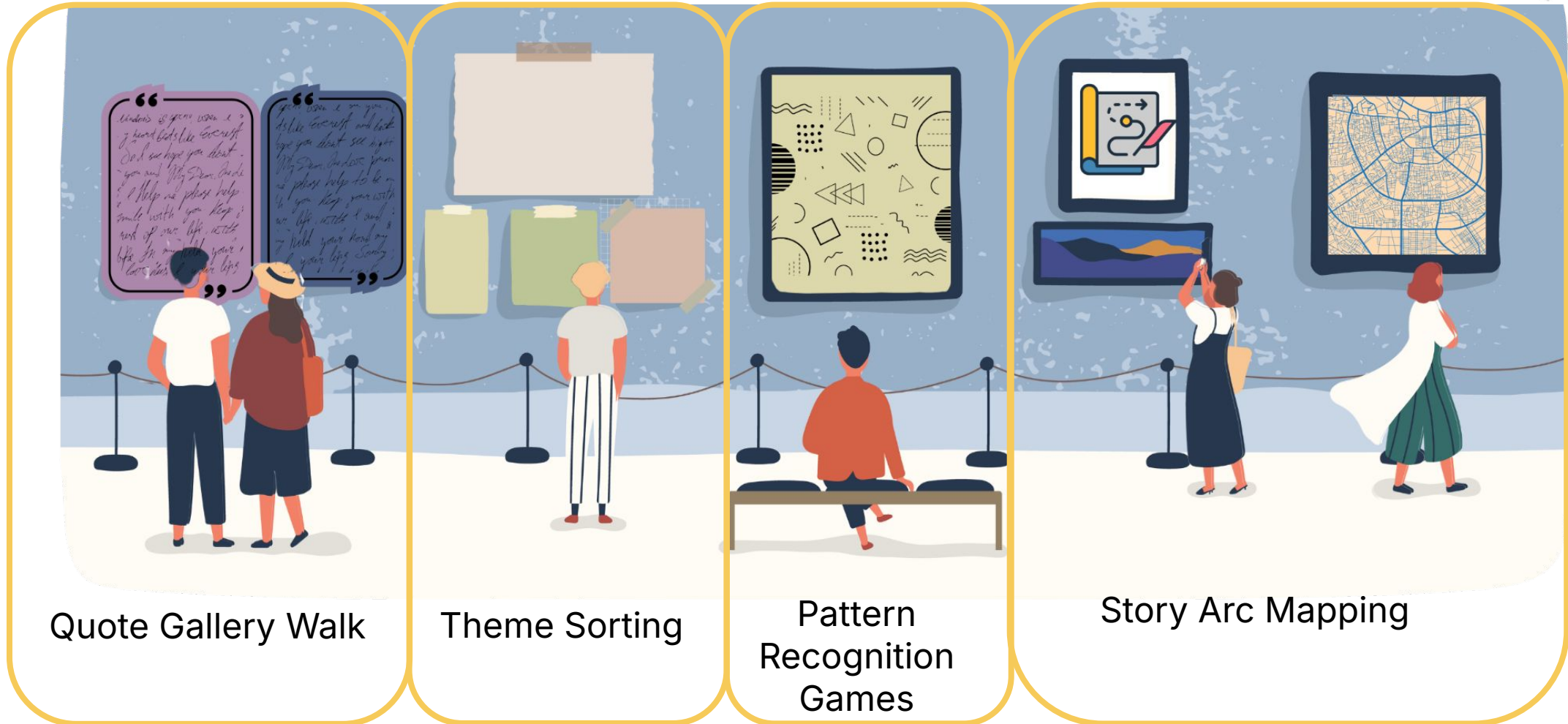
Quote Gallery Walk

Theme Sorting

Pattern Recognition Games

Story Arc Mapping

Image description: four vignettes of people in an art gallery, but the art has been replaced by quotes, sticky notes, a pattern, and maps

Synthesis: Collective Meaning-Making

- Create **visual representations** of findings
- Develop **youth-centered** narratives
- Design **creative presentation** formats

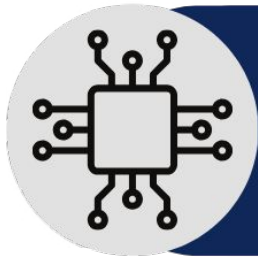**Image description**: a bird's-eye view of four people seated at a table drawing

Ripple Effect Mapping

Ripple Effect Mapping

Methodology: Visual participatory method for understanding impact through shared ownership of data collection and meaning making with stakeholders

Resource

[Ripple Effect Mapping Tool Kit](#)

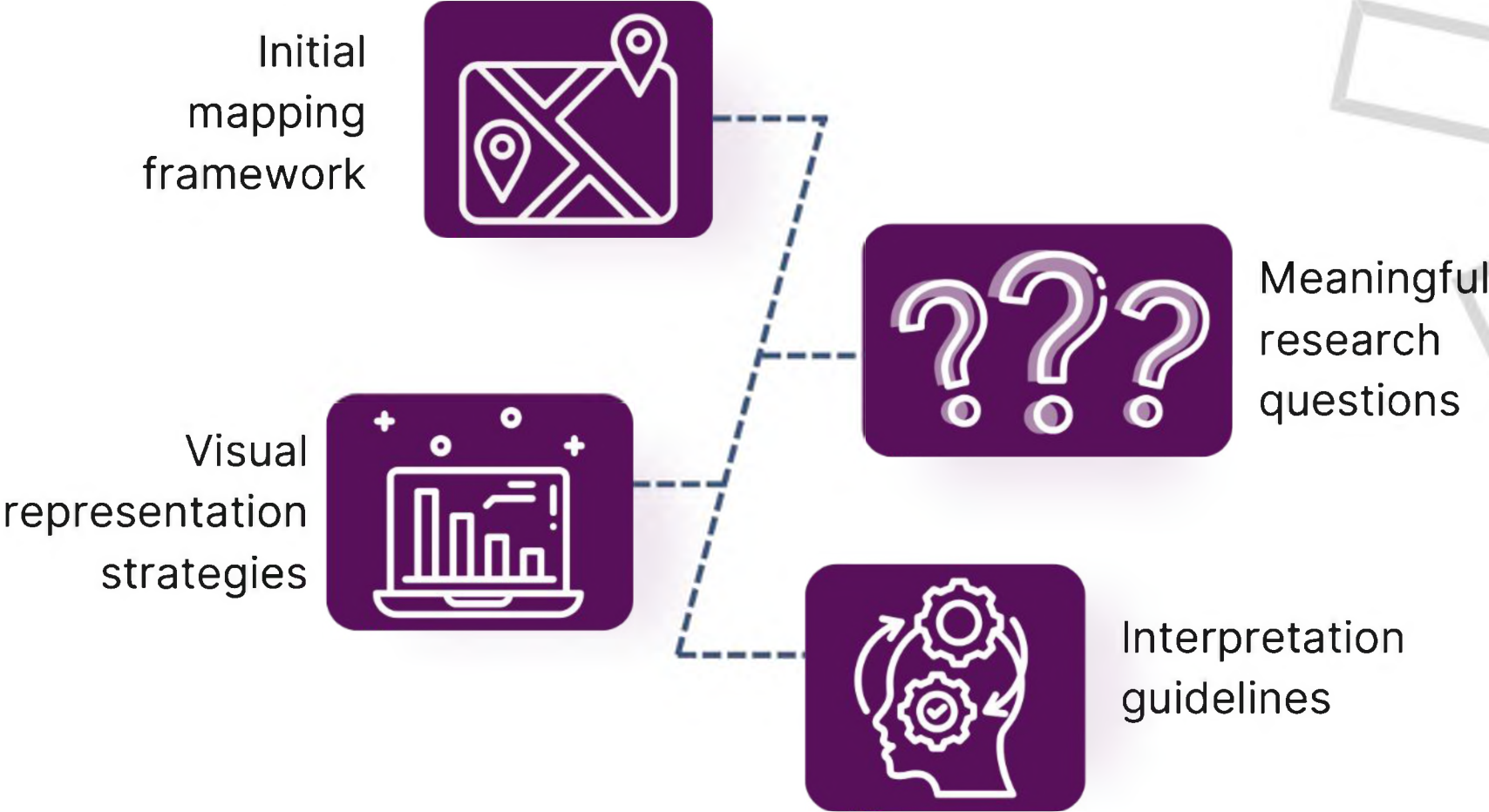**General Components:** collaborative visual change mapping

Image description: a square surrounded by three squiggles on each side

Benefits: understanding interconnected impacts of change

Image description: a hand holding four plus signs

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Youth Co-Researchers Design

Initial mapping framework

Visual representation strategies

Meaningful research questions
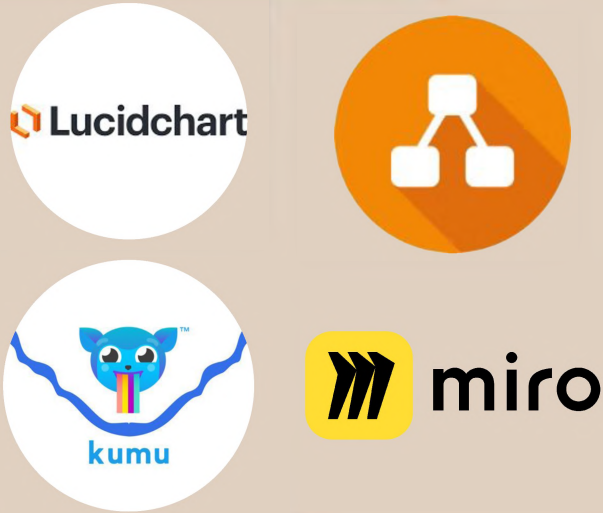
Interpretation guidelines

Image descriptions: 1) a map, 2) three question marks, 3) a laptop displaying a graph with sparkles above the laptop, 4) the profile of a head with linked cogs working together

# Technological Tools for Ripple Effect Mapping

Digital Mapping Platforms

Image description: a tan box labeled, 'digital mapping platforms,' within the box are the logos for LucidChart, Kumu, draw.io, and Miro

Data Visualization

Image description: a tan box labeled, 'data visualization,' within the box are the logos for Tableau Public, Canva, Coggle, and Venngage

Collaborative Analysis
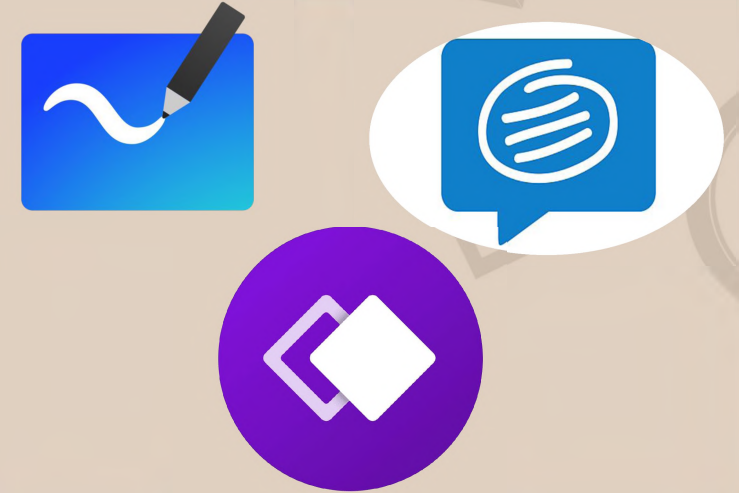
Image description: a tan box labeled, 'collaborative analysis,' within the box are the logos for Microsoft Whiteboard, Conceptboard, and Whimsical

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Outline for Ripple Effect Mapping Session With Youth

Pre-Mapping Workshop

- Youth-led platform training
- Collaborative question development
- Mapping methodology explanation

Collaborative Analysis

- Small group interpretation sessions
- Cross-group dialogue
- Collective meaning generation

Interpretation Workshop

- Youth-led data narrative creation
- Critical reflection on systemic insights
- Develop collective storytelling approach

Initial Mapping Phase

- Individual experience documentation
- Color-coded impact tracking
- Layered visual storytelling

Systems Thinking Exploration

- Identify interconnected impacts
- Trace unexpected relationship patterns
- Challenge lineage cause-effect models

Image descriptions: 1) a light bulb with a lightning bolt in it, 2) two sticky notes, 3) three hands putting three puzzle pieces together, 4) five interconnected cogs encircling a larger cog, 5) the profile of a head with two connected cogs inside it

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Hands-On Activity

Ripple Effect Mapping
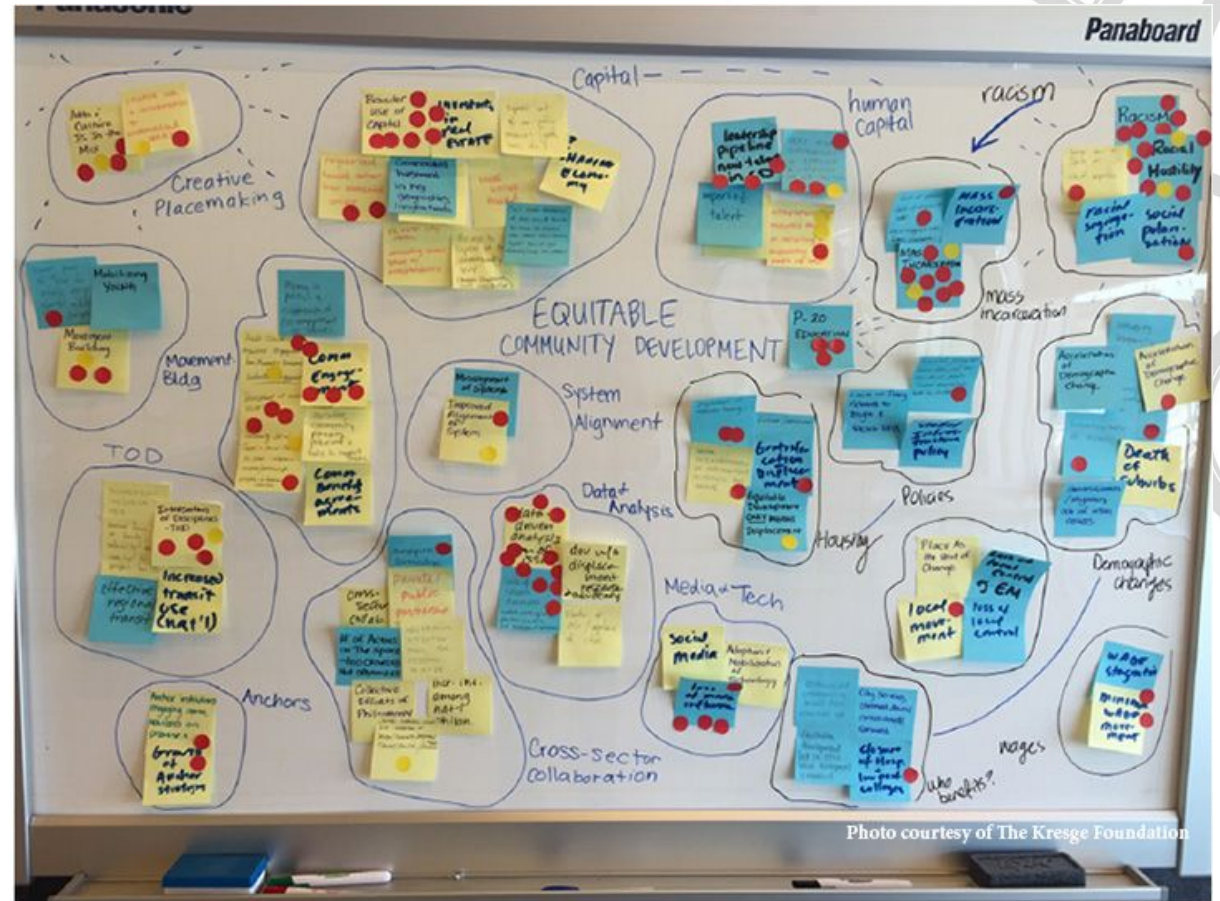
Image description: a ripple or trend map of topics with sticky notes

FSG New systems thinking tool: Trend Mapping

Group Discussion

- What might you use this exercise for in your program?
- How could you prepare youth to lead components?
- What resources might be needed?

Resource

REM: Amplifying Our Collective Impact & Story: Philanthropy Together

Image description: four people putting together puzzle pieces

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Digital Storytelling

Engagement Strategies

Use familiar digital platforms

Provide technical training

Create collaborative editing spaces

Image descriptions: 1) a computer monitor displaying a cog encircled with a megaphone, ad, bullseye target, document, and video strip, 2) a cog eclipsed by a light bulb containing half a brain and half a cog, 3) three hands putting three puzzle pieces together

Image description: thirteen people encircled in a group hug

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Youth Leadership Framework

Technical Skill Development

Narrative Design

Ethical Storytelling Principles

Multimedia Production

Image description: a young person wearing headphones choosing from a light bulb, sticky note, or play button

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Technological Tools for Digital Storytelling

Video & Audio Platforms

KAPWING

wevideo

Image description: a tan box labeled 'storytelling specific tools,' within the box are the logos for Adobe SPark, Storybird, Book Creator, and Canva

Storytellling Specific Tools

Sp

miro

Canva

storybird

Collaborative Platforms

padlet

Mural

Image description: a tan box labeled, 'video & audio platforms,' within the box are the logos for WeVideo, Kapwing, Clipchamp, and LMMS

Image description: a tan box with labeled, 'collaborative platforms,' within the box are the logos for Padlet and Mural

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Transforming Qualitative Data Into Powerful Stories

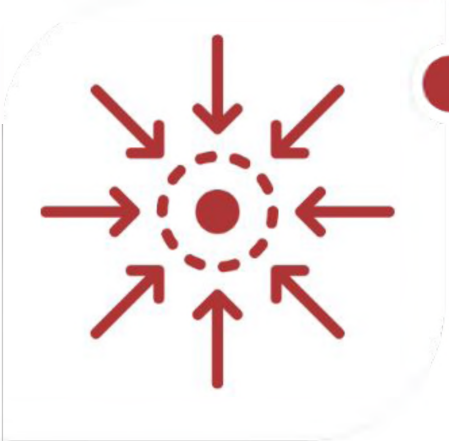MIRROR GROUP

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Collective Storytelling

Honor complexity

Challenge dominant narratives

Center participant experiences

Generate collective understanding

Image descriptions: 1) a complicated knot, 2) silhouettes of David and Goliath, 3) eight arrows pointing at a center, 4) two people thinking, represented by a cloud with a check mark in it, a wave length connects them

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Thematic Weaving

Connect
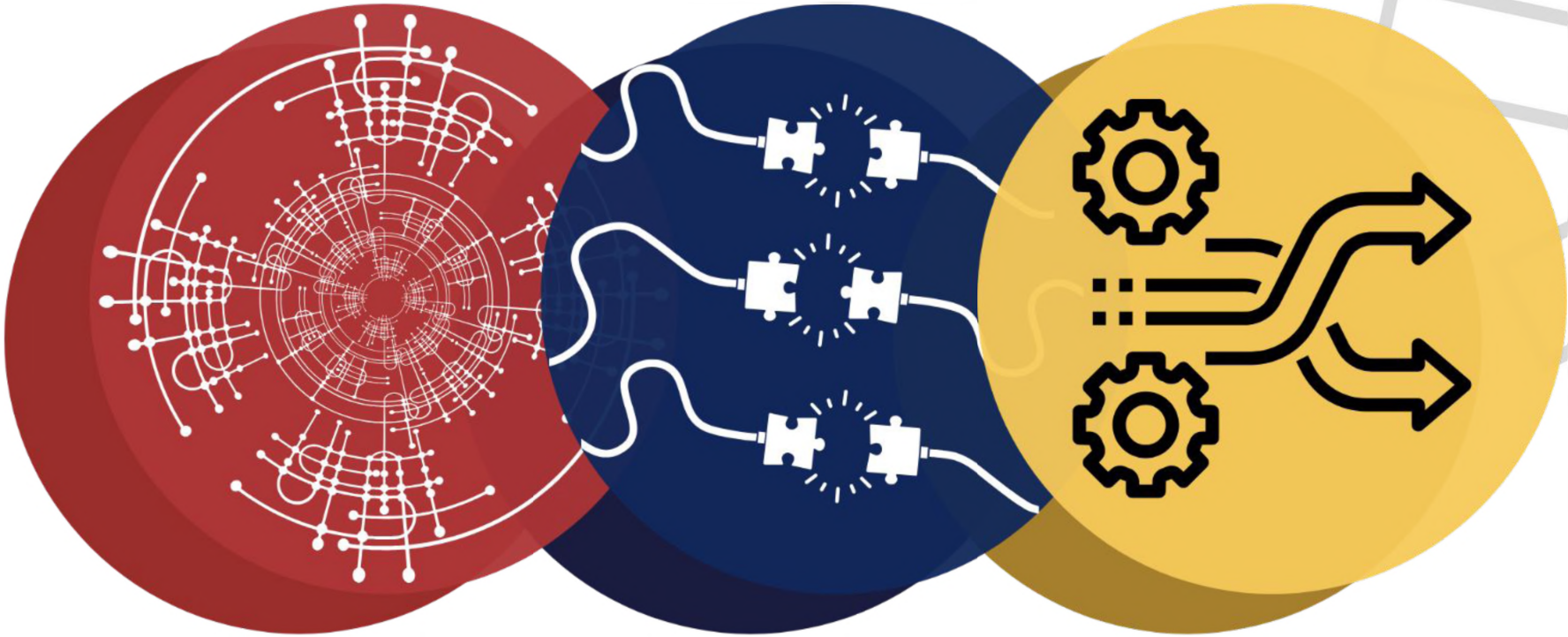individual stories

Highlight
collective insights

Preserve
individual voices

Image descriptions: 1) two hands weaving, 2) three highlighters, 3) two hands with a jar of preserves

Resource

Better Evaluation:
Thematic Coding

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Systems Storytelling

Track
complex interactions

Show
unexpected connections

Illustrate
change processes

Image descriptions: 1) a complicated web of interacting lines, 2) several puzzle pieces on strings connecting, 3) a shuffle sign with two cogs

Capacity building for youth-led data collection and analysis

Capacity Building

- Training staff and youth in qualitative methods
- Building in time for data collection, theme analysis, and meaning-making
- Having a clear evaluation plan

Other important factors:

- Youth consent/assent
- CRE implications for risk, power dynamics, structure of program
- Bringing back information to participants

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We'll see you in TA sessions!

[TA sign up sheet](#)

TA structure:

- 50 min sessions with MG TA lead

TA Topics:

- Phases of Culturally Responsive Evaluation
- Developing Data Collection Tools
- Qualitative Data Collection Methods
- Qualitative Analysis Techniques

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Thank you!
Questions & Comments?

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Resources

- [Participatory Action Research Collective](#)
- [Community Science Institute](#)
- [Indigenous Research Methods Network](#)
- MPHI CRREEE Considerations: https://mphi.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Considerations-for-Conducting-Evaluation-Using-a-Culturally-Responsive-and-Racial-Equity-Lens.pdf
- YPE resources:
  - [YPAR HUB](#)
  - [Youth Participatory Evaluation Practice Guide](#)
- Youth voice and Advisory guide: https://iel.org/youth-voice-in-community-schools/
- Evaluation tools::
  - [photovoice](#), [journey mapping,](#) [world cafe](#)
  - [Youth Program Quality Observation tool](#)
- Data party toolkit: https://4h.ucanr.edu/files/289885.pdf
- Analyzing Data with Youth: https://youthspacesandplaces.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Spaces-and-Places-Data-Analysis-Manual.pdf
- [Guide to conducting culturally responsive evaluation](#)

References

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  - Kovach, M. (2009). Indigenous Methodologies: Characteristics, Conversations, and Contexts
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  - Lambert, J. (2013). Digital Storytelling: Capturing Lives, Creating Community
  - Hull, G. A., & Katz, M. L. (2006). Crafting an Agentive Self: Case Studies of Digital Storytelling
  - Lundby, K. (Ed.). (2008). Digital Storytelling, Mediatized Stories: Self-Representations in New Media

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