

Learning to think and
thinking to learn

What does Inquiry look
like in Physical
Education?

Teacher Inquiry

What does inquiry learning '*look like*' in physical education?

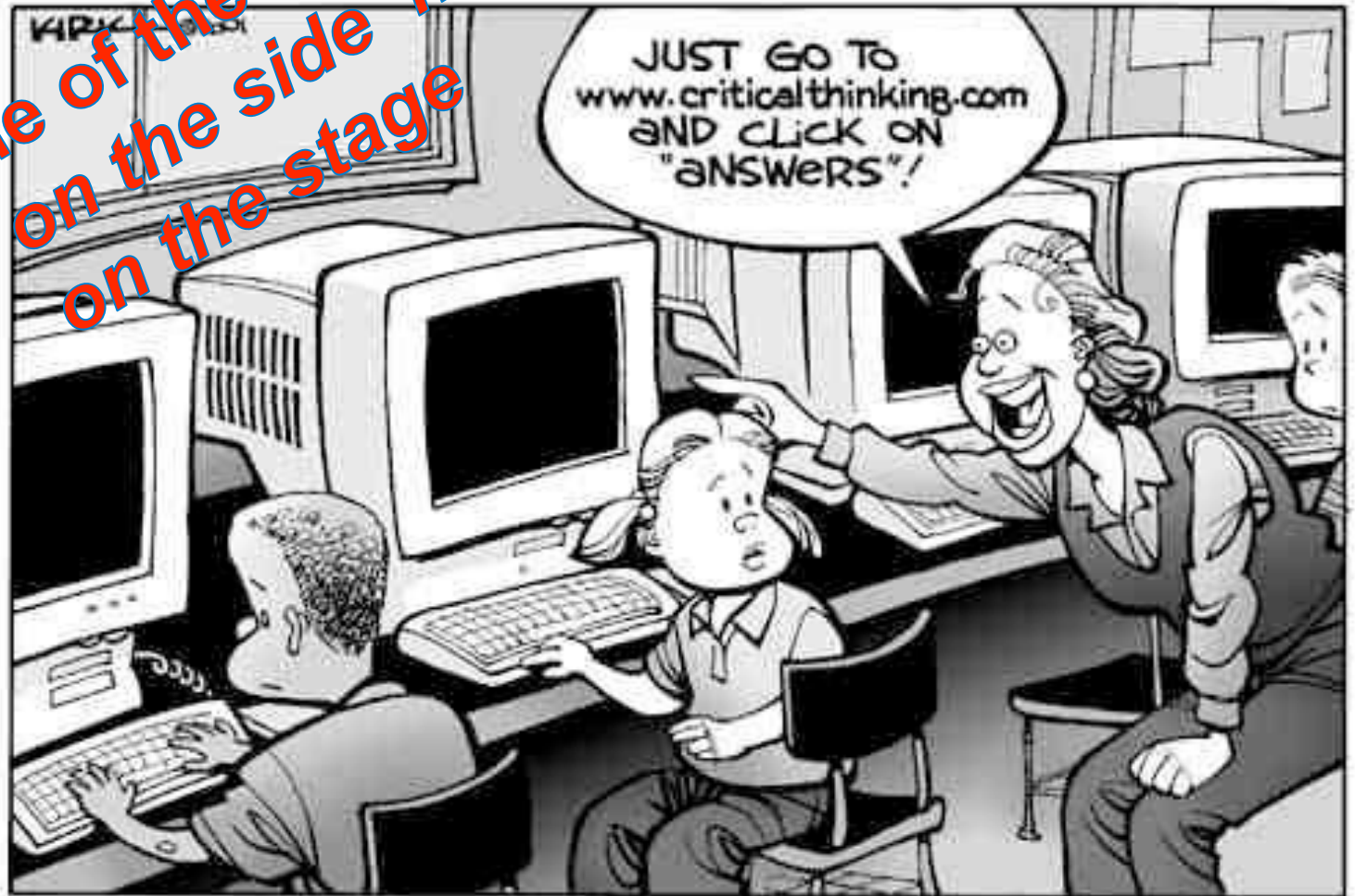
AND

How might inquiry learning be integrated into physical education without compromising '*learning to move*' time?

For us the process of inquiry learning is underpinned by our belief that.....

- “...learning is the activity of the learner. S/he is active in constructing sense from the environment, not passively receiving it.” (Chris Watkins et al Effective Learning in Classroom, 2007)
- Learners must be viewed by their teachers as arriving in the classroom with prior knowledge, understandings and experience (Ainslee Coates and Melissa Fenton)
- Learning happens in a social context
- Knowledge and understanding are not the same thing – understanding is knowledge plus - thinking with what you know (David Perkins)


The role of the teacher?
... guide on the side not sage
on the stage



A young child with brown hair, wearing a red and white striped long-sleeved shirt and blue pants, is crouching in a field of yellow daffodils. The child is looking down at the flowers. The field is filled with many daffodils, some in bloom and some as buds. In the background, there is a black metal fence and a large tree trunk. The overall scene is outdoors and appears to be a park or garden.

We learn from others, not necessarily because they are more competent, but because they think differently

Vygotsky



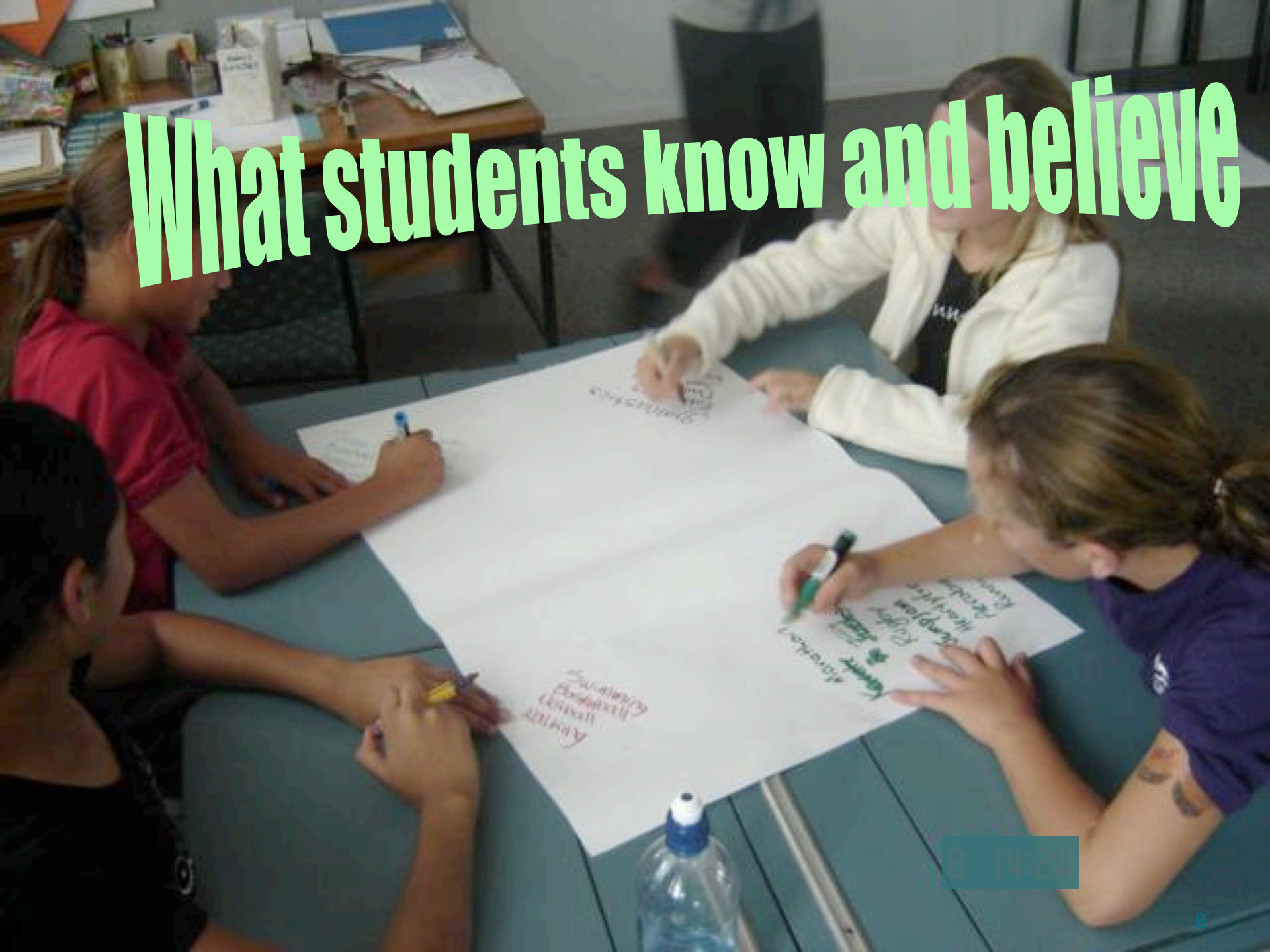
As physical educators we need to create a positive learning environment that is conducive to critical thinking, critical inquiry and problem solving.


Opportunities for such are well documented in both the health and physical education learning area and the NZC.

After the Activity

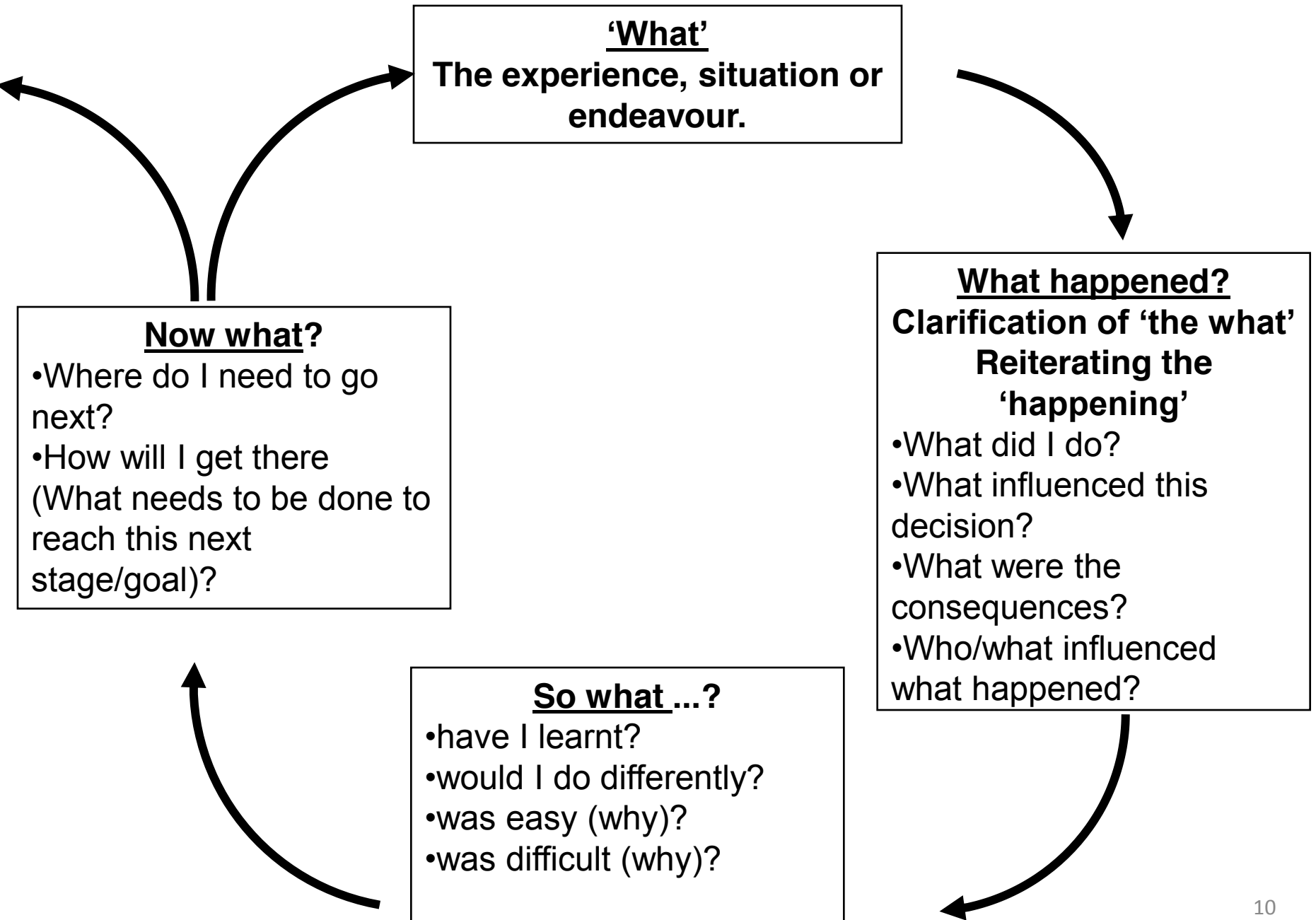
- What are we now thinking?
- What are we wondering about?
- What have we learned?
- What implications does this have for the:
 - the teacher
 - the learner

What students know and believe





What is the best
line of inquiry to
get to the heart of
the question?



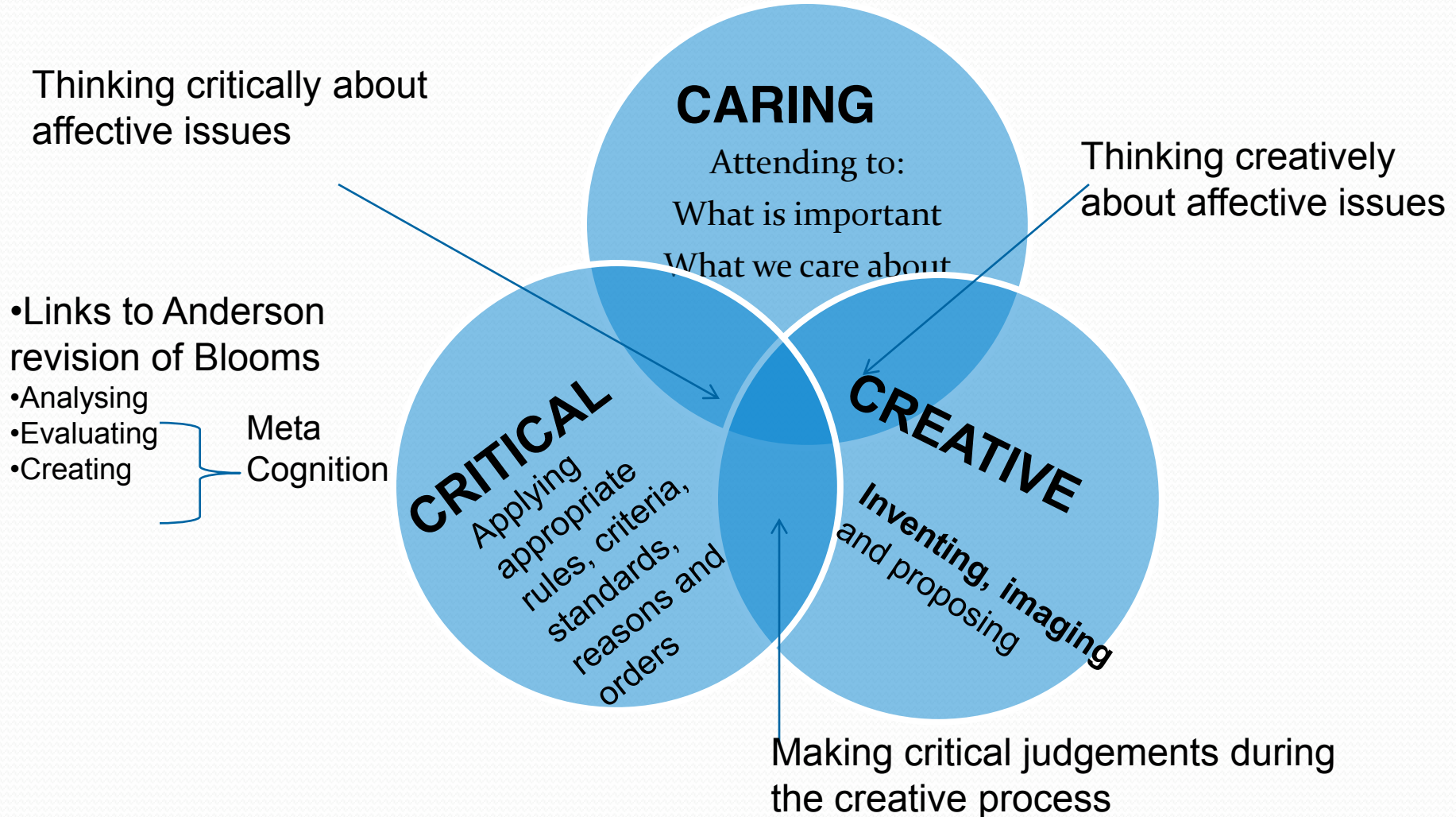
Reflecting on the Experience

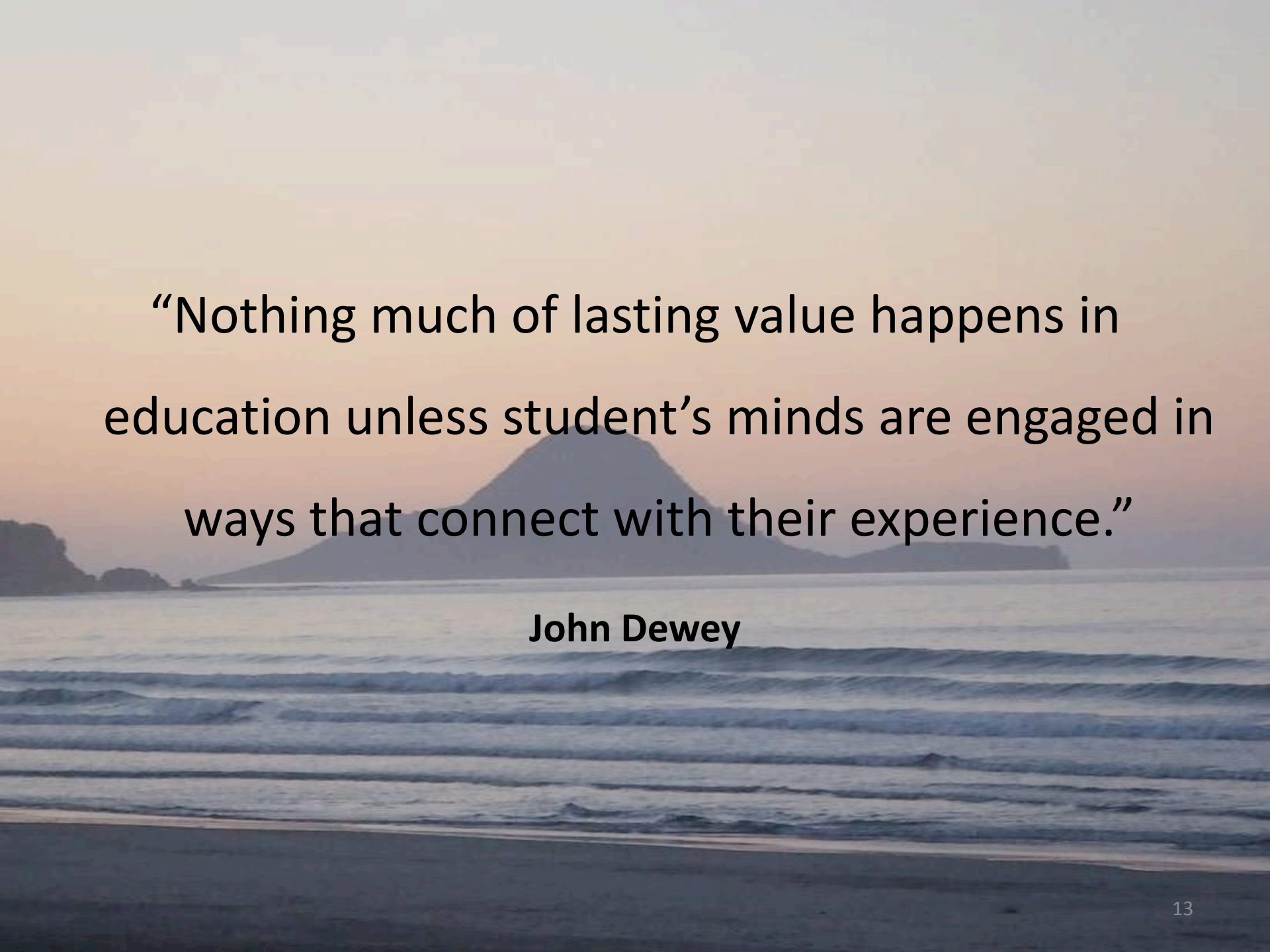
Reflection involves a combination of different forms of thinking



The Components of Complex Thinking


As described by Michael Pohl in Teaching Complex Thinking.





“Nothing much of lasting value happens in education unless student’s minds are engaged in ways that connect with their experience.”

John Dewey



“From my perspective, teaching better is not an endpoint to be reached but a process. It should include a search for new ways to make my lesson more meaningful, purposeful, just and enjoyable.....”

Tinning, R (1997) Pedagogies for Physical Education

“Creating a culture of inquiry where children are given permission to become their own ‘seekers, users and creators’ of knowledge.”

Hammonds, 2008 Education Today