



Benefits of a Transdisciplinary Education

ALEKS DROZDOWSKA – LA SCUOLA POSSIBILE

TURIN, ITALY 2019

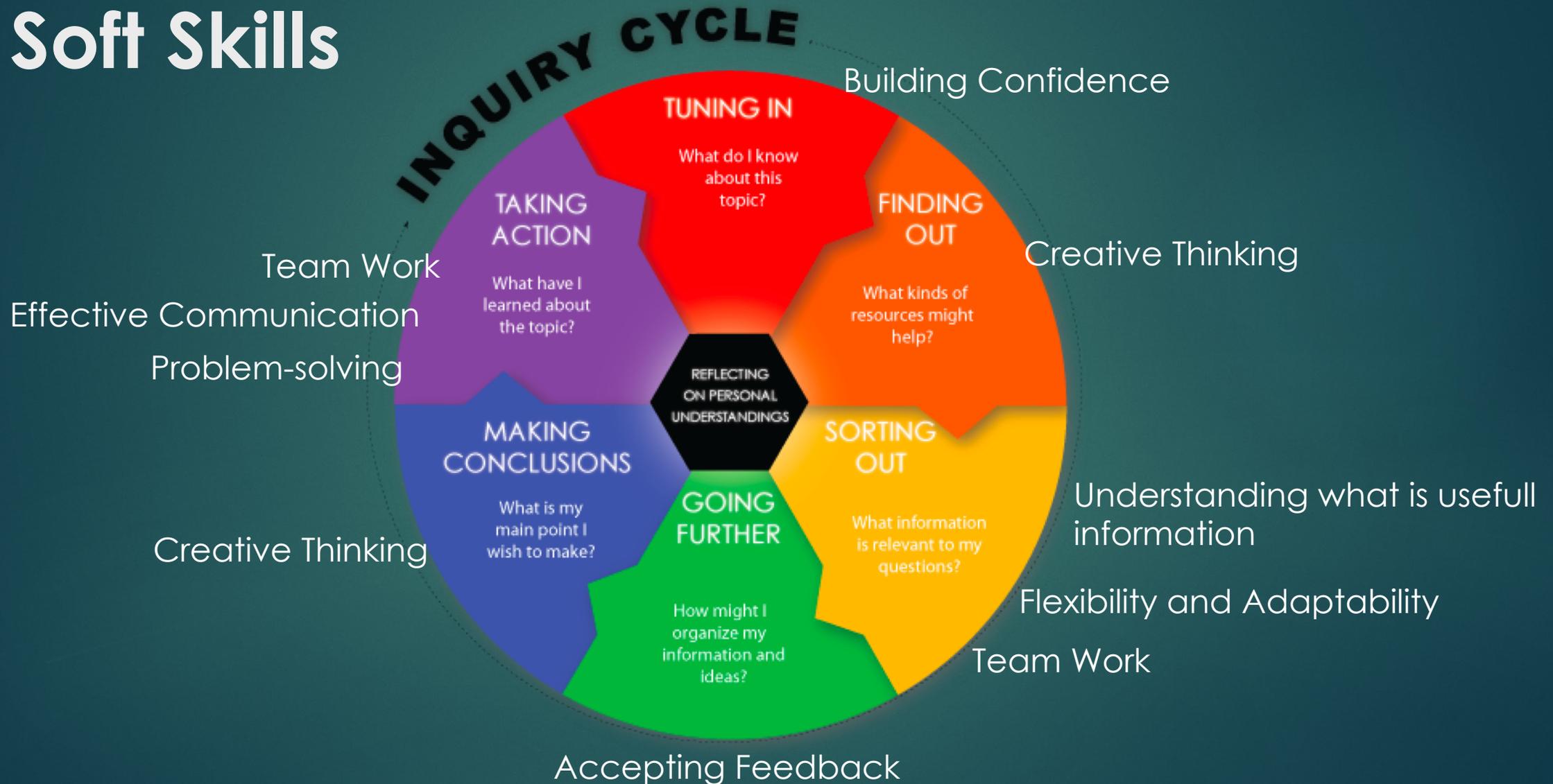
Transdisciplinary method and why it works

- ▶ Promotes the formation , assessment and development of **soft skills in students.**
- ▶ Students deepen their learning by developing their conceptual understandings; strengthening their knowledge and skills across and beyond subjects areas.
- ▶ Students learn new skills which matter and how to APPLY them to solve problems.
- ▶ Student led learning through inquiry guided by teachers



Inquiry Cycle – Student Centered Learning

Soft Skills



Unit 1: Where We Are In Place and Time

An inquiry into orientation in place and time; personal histories; homes and journeys; the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind; the relationships between and the interconnectedness of individuals and civilizations, from local and global perspectives.

Central Idea primary students focus on:

Human Migration is a response to challenges, risks and opportunities

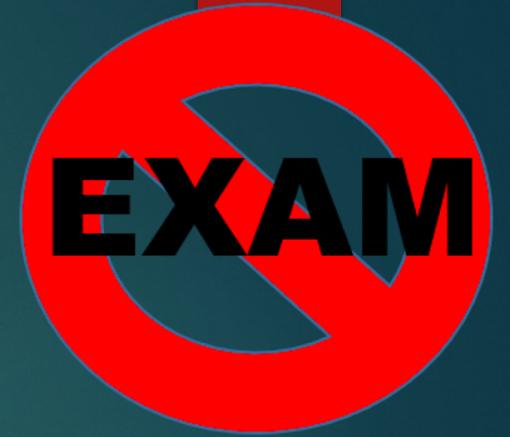
- ▶ **Math Focus:** place value, rounding numbers, percentage, fractions and how to apply this to population statistics, movement of colonies, risk assessments based on data etc..
- ▶ **Science Focus:** Different types of journeys made by Animals when migrating including habitats, animal characteristics etc...
- ▶ **History/Geography Focus:** Familiarization of the world map to identify immigration paths, patterns, political borders and today's opportunities for relocation etc...
- ▶ **Social Studies Focus:** country economy, push and pull factors leading to immigration, cultural crossovers created by migration of people, difficulties of integration into societies etc..

Continuous Assessment

This is possible because this method is student centered, the teacher does not waste time at the front of the class dictating information.

While children move through the inquiry cycle, teachers can assess their gained knowledge, language skills, organization of thoughts, teamwork, and overall acquisition of facts through different activities and their produced work. Assessment takes place during the entire learning process to identify difficulties early on and overcome obstacles prior to reaching their goal.

- ▶ Testing is not a reliable source of assessing a student's knowledge due to emotional factors and personal pressure. Test taking is a skill that must be learned.
- ▶ Stress factors – this alone does not allow the student to act confidently to use all their possessed knowledge.
- ▶ Anxiety – generates an environment for low self-esteem sending the wrong message to young learners.
- ▶ Improper testing methods or untrained teachers – testing should be an asset to their learning allowing students to grow and use their knowledge productively to create solutions.
- ▶ Impractical for today's needs - students need to be assessed on how to solve problems by being presented with different obstacles differentiated to their weaknesses.



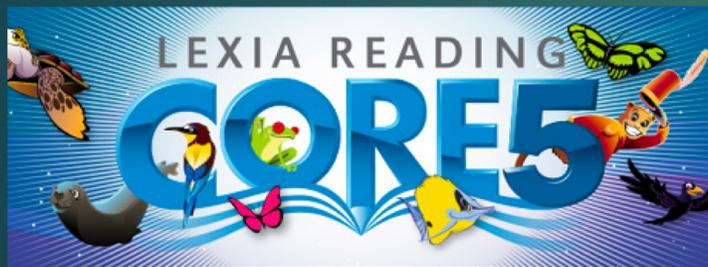
Alternative Assessment Methods for stand alone subjects or lessons.



Digital tools that are engaging



Differentiation to express knowledge



Personalised Reading Assessment



Interactive Assessment Activities



Thank You

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