



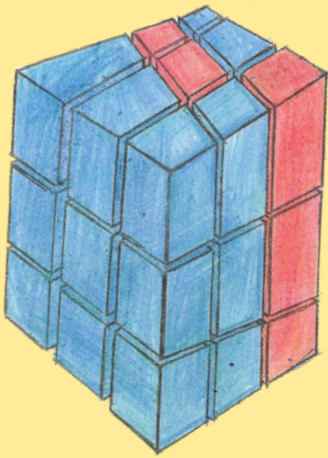
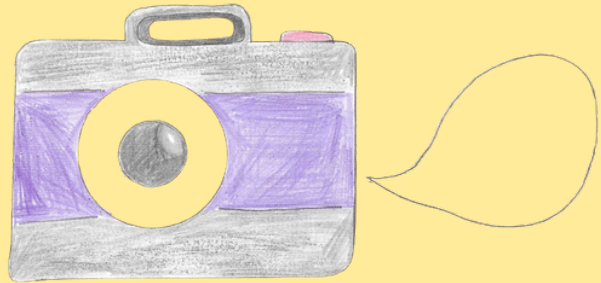
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# Toolkit ONE

Double your failure rate

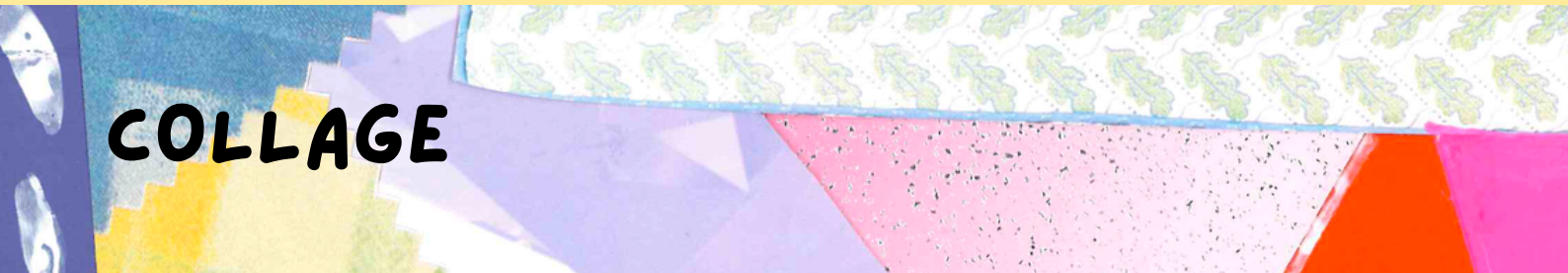
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**PHOTOVOICE**

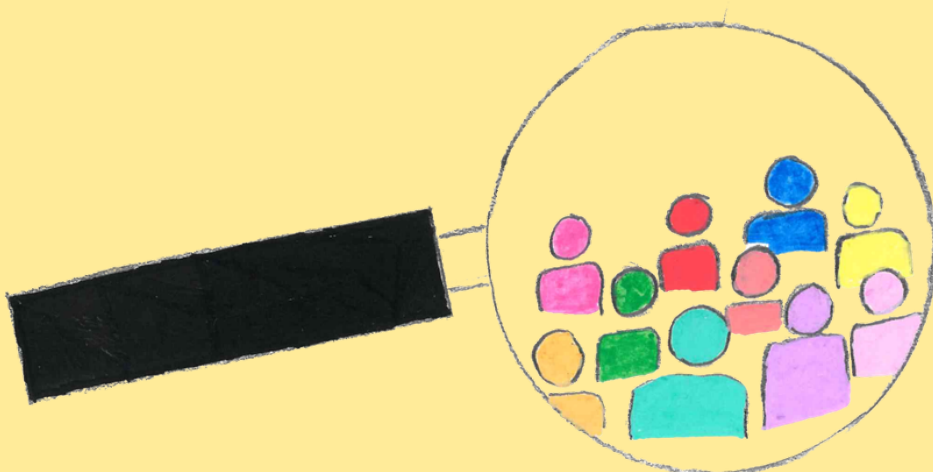


**SEMI-STRUCTURED  
INTERVIEWS**

**COLLAGE**



**OBSERVATION**



# **WHY THE CREATIVE RESEARCH TOOLKIT?**

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## **RESEARCH METHODS AND COMMUNITY**

THROUGH THIS, THE CREATIVE RESEARCH TOOLKIT WAS BORN. THESE TOOLKITS CAN BE USED BY ANYONE WHO NEEDS A QUICK METHOD, WITH PROS, CONS, AND STEP-BY-STEP STEPPING STONES ON HOW TO UNDERTAKE IT.

**HAPPY RESEARCHING!**

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## POTENTIAL ETHICAL ISSUES!

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- **PHOTOS CAPTURE THE LIVED EXPERIENCE OF PARTICIPANTS, GIVING INSIGHT AND A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR WORLD**
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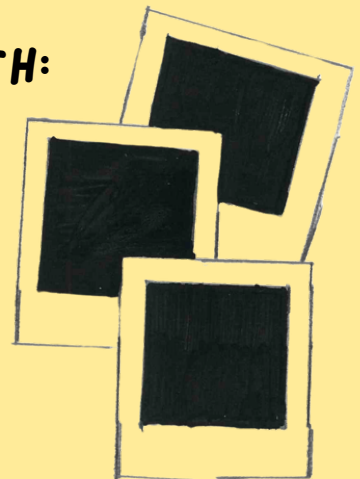
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- **A COUPLE OF THINGS WITH A CAMERA**
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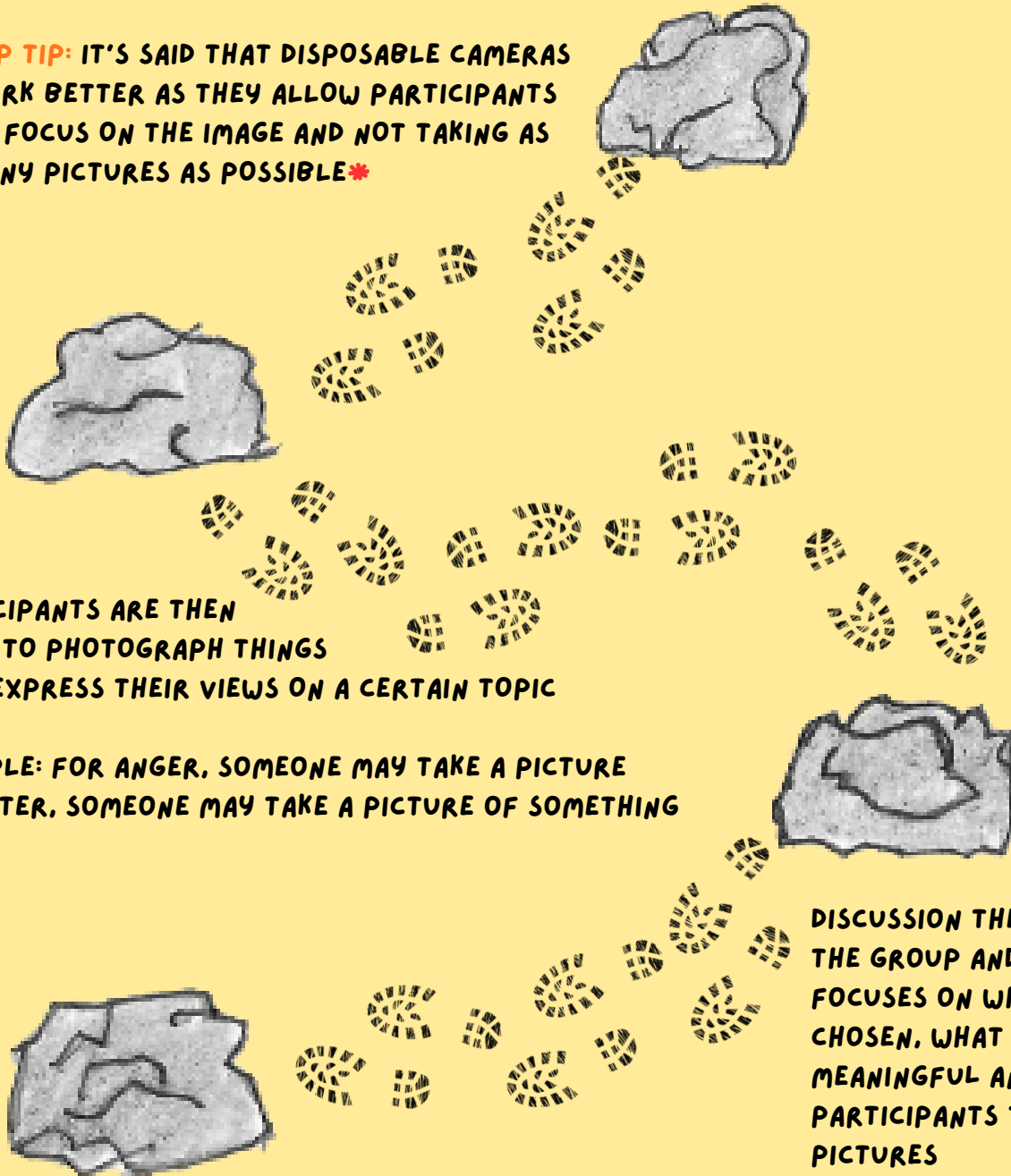


# Stepping Stones

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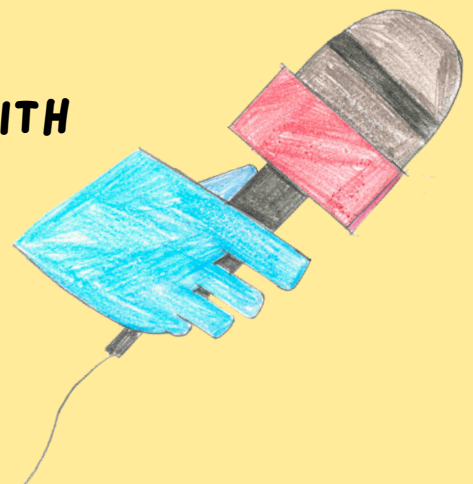
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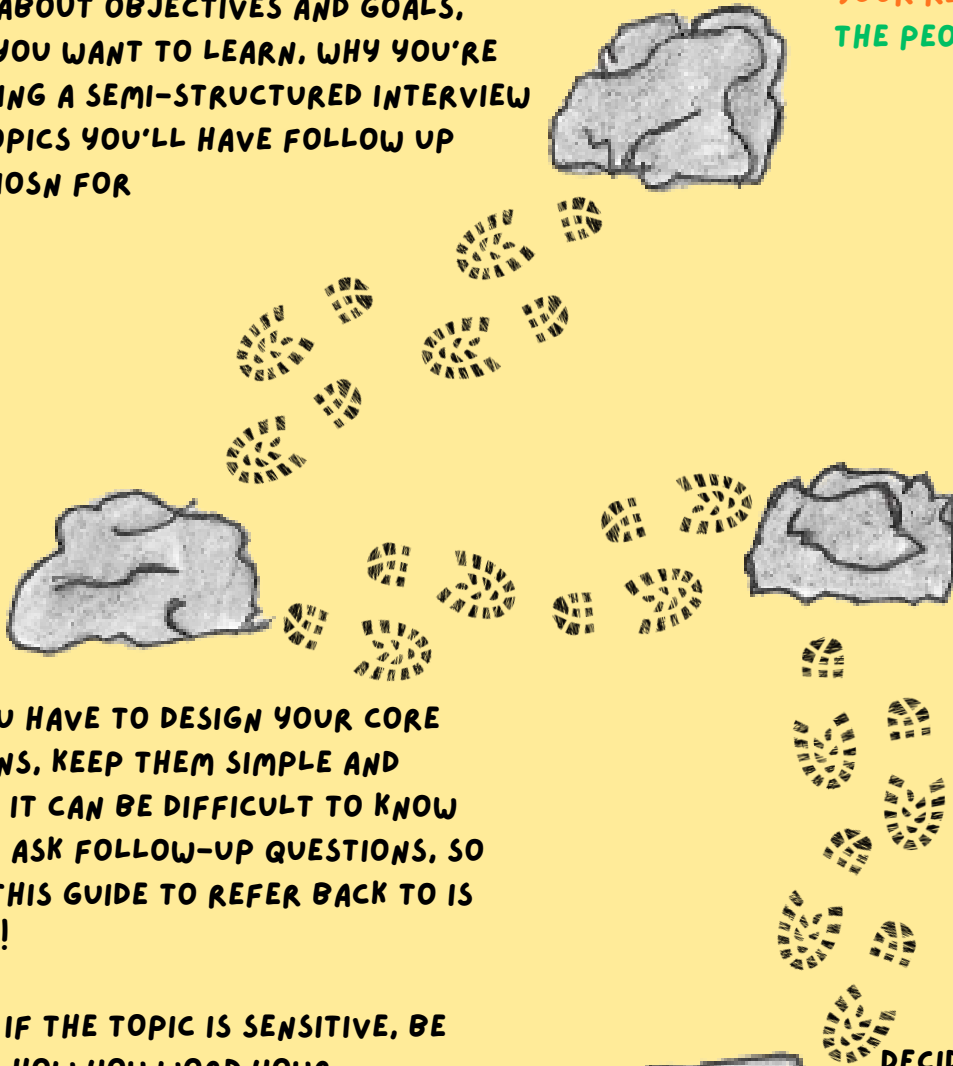
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SAMPLE EXPLAINED BY COLOUR:

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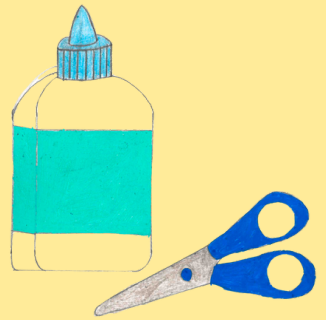
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## WHAT IS IT?

**BRINGING PHOTOS, EPHEMERA AND MORE TOGETHER TO CREATE A WHOLE CONVERSATIONAL PIECE OF ARTWORK. THE NAME IS LINKED TO BOTH THE PROCESS AND THE ARTWORK FORMED.**

## PROS:

- **THROUGH VISUAL MESSINESS, IT OPENS UP OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW CONNECTIONS AND UNDERSTANDING.**
- **REVEALS MORE THAN WHAT MAY BE KNOWN**
- **TAKE AWAY FEAR OF "I'M NOT GOOD AT ART"**
- **OFFERS A NEW LANGUAGE IN WHICH PARTICIPANTS CAN MAKE SENSE OF THEIR FEELINGS AND EXPERIENCES**

## CONS:

- **COLLAGE RESISTS THE "BANALITY" OF THE LIKES OF CODING AND READING OF DATA, WHICH OPENS FOR CRITICISMS THAT IT LEADS TO THEORETICAL WEAKNESS**
- **RESEARCHERS CAN FEEL PRESSURED TO HIDE THE MESSINESS IN "NEATLY PACKAGED" FINDINGS**
- **RESEARCHER MUST LET GO OF THEIR DESIRE TO CONTROL THE PROCESS**

## COMMUNITIES IT WORKS ESPECIALLY WELL WITH:

- **ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES, YOUNG PEOPLE, THE ELDERLY AND CARE AND ESTRANGED INDIVIDUALS**

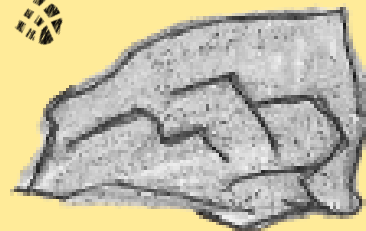
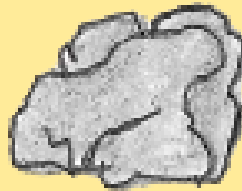
## MATERIALS:

- **OLD PHOTOS, FLYERS, NEWSPAPERS, EPHEMERA**
- **CRAFT SUPPLIES, E.G. GLUE, SCISSORS, PENS, PAPER**

# Stepping Stones

**GATHER YOUR MATERIALS, BUT MAKE SURE YOU ALWAYS HAVE BASE PAPER!**

**TOP TIP:** ASK PARTICIPANTS TO BRING IN SOME COLLAGE MATERIAL IF THEY WISH.. THIS CAN INCREASE COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP OF THE PROJECT



**ASK THE PARTICIPANTS TO THINK OF HOW IT SHOULD BE LAID OUT. IS IT ALL ON THE PAPER OR IS SOME OFF? ARE THE PICTURES LAID ON TOP OF OTHERS, OR ARE THEY DRAWN ON?**

**PARTICIPANTS BEGIN TO CUT THINGS, TEAR THINGS, RIP THINGS UP, THIS IS THE PICTURES, FLYERS ETC**



**FINALLY GLUE IT ALL DOWN!**



**DISCUSS WITH THE PARTICIPANTS ABOUT THEIR CHOICES AND RECORD THESE FINDINGS.**

**ALWAYS REMEMBER:** TAKE PICTURES NOT JUST OF THE ART BUT ALSO THE PROCESS, ENSURING CONSENT IS PROVIDED

# **PARTICIPANT OBSERVATION**

## **WHAT IS IT?**

**A PARTICULARLY QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHOD THAT IS BEST SUITED WHEN STUDYING/RESEARCHING A SOCIALLY ENGAGED QUESTION. IT'S BEST WHEN THINGS CAN BE DIFFICULT TO MEASURE THROUGH OTHER MEASURES.**

## **PROS:**

- **ALLOWS RESEARCHER(S) TO GENERATE RICH AND NUANCED QUALITATIVE DATA**
- **IT'S A FLEXIBLE RESEARCH METHOD THAT CAN BE ADAPTED TO FIT MANY RESEARCH QUESTIONS**
- **EASY TO USE ALONGSIDE OTHER RESEARCH METHODS**

## **CONS:**

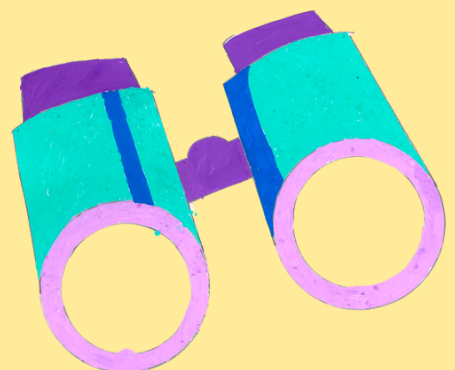
- **IT INCLUDES A HIGH RISK FOR RESEARCH BIAS, MOSTLY ON THE SIDE OF THE RESEARCHER(S), DUE TO HAVING TO IMMERSE ONESELF IN THE DATA BEING COLLECTED**
- **CAN BE EXPENSIVE, TIME-CONSUMING AND CHALLENGING TO CARRY OUT, AS IT CAN BE A LONG PERIOD OF TIME FOR TRUST BUILDING AND TIME TO GATHER SUFFICIENT DATA**
- **OBSERVATION CAN RAISE ETHICAL CONCERNS WHICH REQUIRES FOR SEVERELY ETHICAL CONSIDERATION FROM THE RESEARCHER(S)**

## **COMMUNITY IT WORKS WITH**

- **MANY COMMUNITIES!**

## **MATERIALS:**

- **YOURSELF AND A NOTE-TAKING DEVICE**



# Stepping Stones

IDENTIFY YOUR TOPIC AND WHY YOU'RE INTERESTED IN OBSERVING THIS THROUGH PARTICIPANTS.



**ALWAYS REMEMBER:** UNDERTAKE AN ETHICAL CONSIDERATION PROCESS

DECIDE HOW YOU WILL OBSERVE PARTICIPANTS.

IS IT FROM AFAR?  
IS IT BY IMMERSING YOURSELF?  
IS IT VIA ANOTHER RESEARCH METHOD?

SET UP YOUR STUDY BY PLANNING AHEAD. STAYING ORGANISED HERE IS KEY!

YOU NEED PERMISSION TO OBSERVE

YOU NEED TO DETERMINE YOUR NOTE-TAKING METHOD

AND **ALWAYS** HAVE INFORMED CONSENT FROM EVERYONE INVOLVED

FINALLY CONDUCT YOUR OBSERVATION ON YOUR CHOSEN DAY AND TIME AND AT THE PLACE THAT YOU HAVE ARRANGED TO OBSERVE

**ALWAYS HAVE INFORMED CONSENT FROM EVERYONE PRESENT. IF NOT, DO NOT OBSERVE IT IS NOT **ETHICAL** OR **LEGAL**!**

# **WHERE NEXT FOR THE CREATIVE RESEARCH TOOLKIT?**

**THE LINK TO THE CREATIVE RESEARCH TOOLKIT IS ON THE PAGE BESIDE THIS. HOPEFULLY YOU HEAD OVER THERE TO SEE WHAT ELSE IS THERE.**

**CURRENTLY AS OF WRITING, PRINTING AND PRESENTING AT THE LEARNING FESTIVAL, THERE IS ONLY THIS TOOLKIT. HOWEVER, THE WEBSITE PROVIDES THE ACCESSIBLE VERSIONS, INCLUDING VARIED BACKGROUNDS AND A LARGE PRINT VERSION. THERE IS ALSO A PRINTABLE VERSION OF THIS A5 CHAPBOOK WHICH INCLUDES INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRINTING.**

**PLEASE SHARE THIS TOOLKIT ABOUT, LEAVE IT IN YOUR LOCAL OR UNIVERSITY LIBRARY FOR OTHERS TO USE, KEEP IT WITH YOU AND USE IN THE MANY YEARS TO COME!**

# LINKS FOR YOU

**CREATIVE RESEARCH TOOLKIT WEBSITE**



**THIS INCLUDES ALL ACCESSIBLE VERSIONS AND THIS  
PRINT VERSION!**

**SCRIBR**



**THIS WEBSITE HAS A LOT OF USEFUL INFORMATION,  
BUT THIS LINK TAKES YOU TO ETHICAL  
CONSIDERATIONS**



# **Creative Research Toolkit**



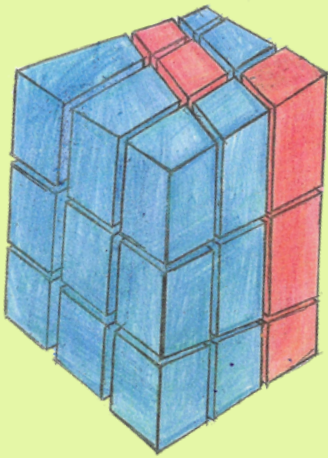
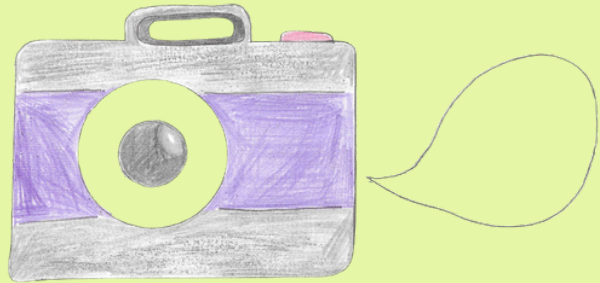
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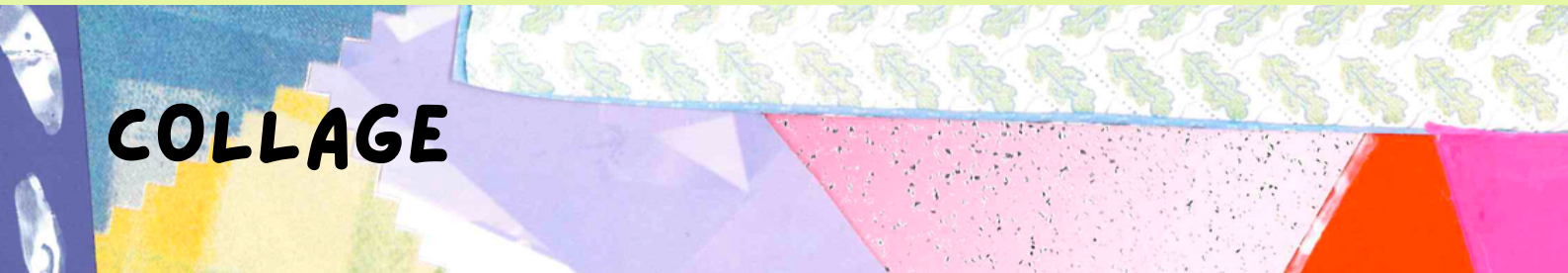
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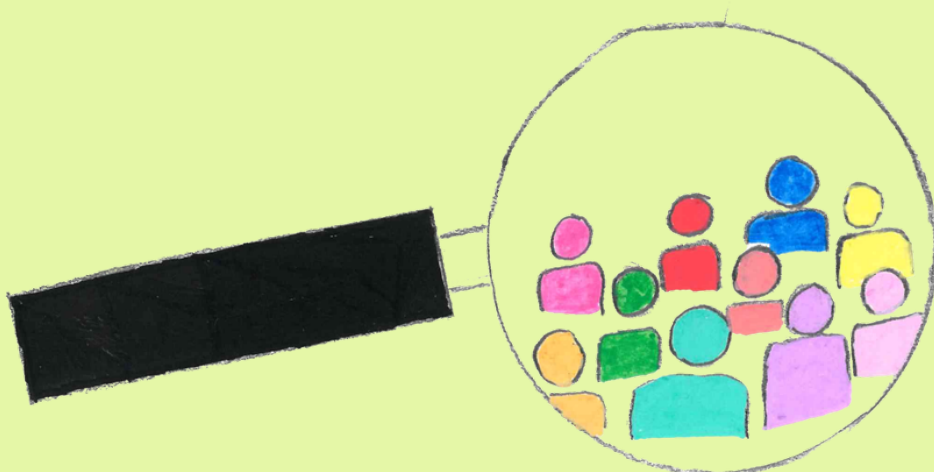


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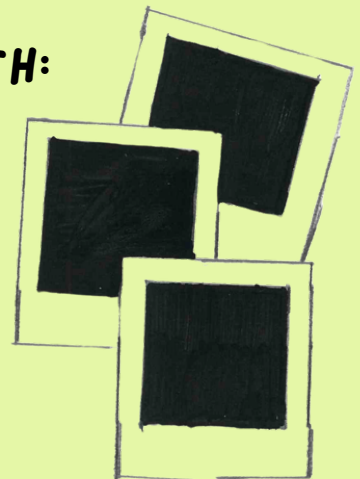
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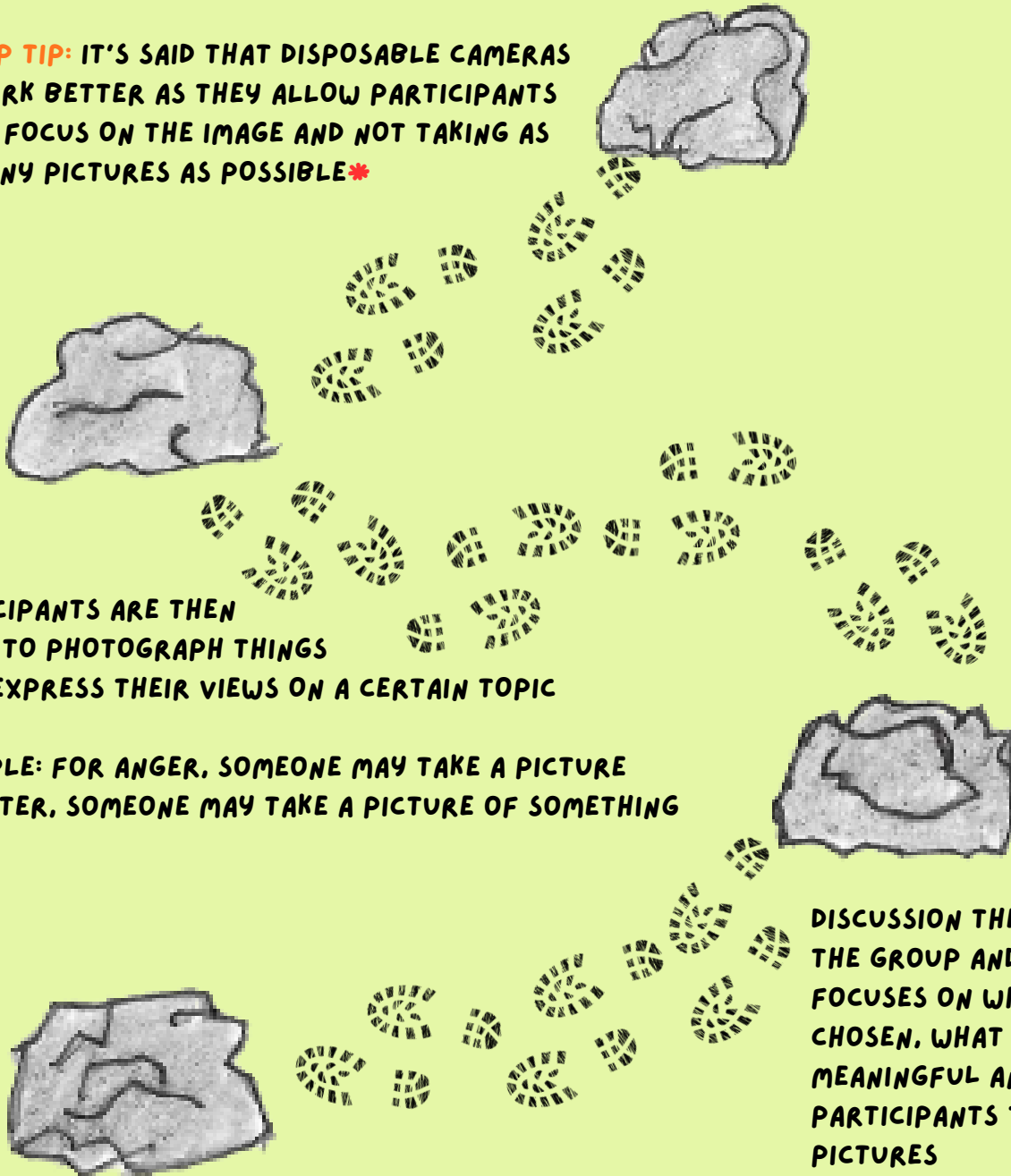


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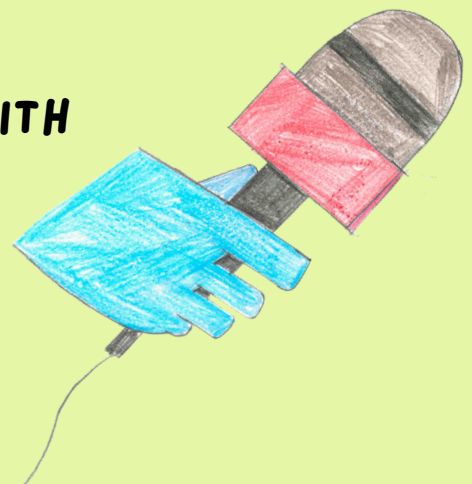
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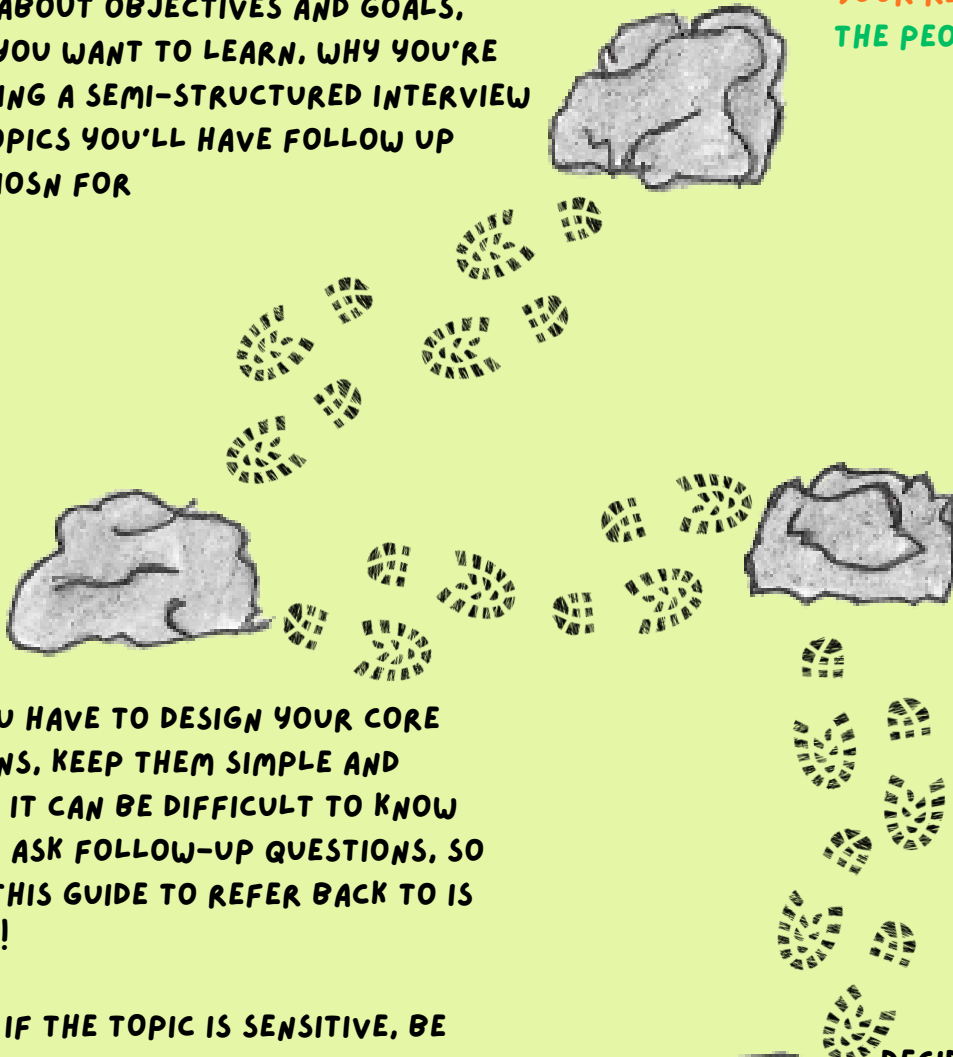
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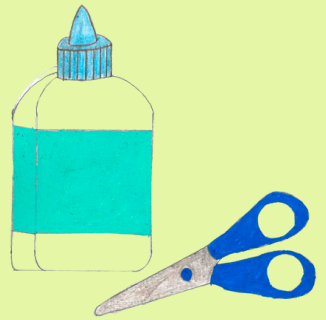
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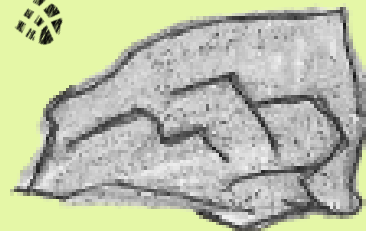
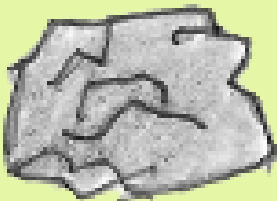
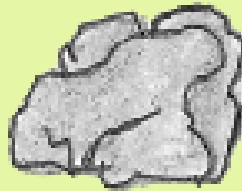
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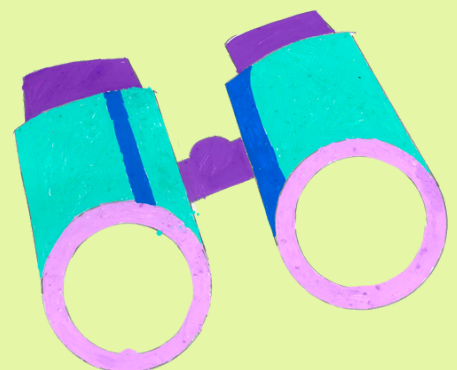
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IDENTIFY YOUR TOPIC AND WHY YOU'RE INTERESTED IN OBSERVING THIS THROUGH PARTICIPANTS.



**ALWAYS REMEMBER:** UNDERTAKE AN ETHICAL CONSIDERATION PROCESS

DECIDE HOW YOU WILL OBSERVE PARTICIPANTS.

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**THIS INCLUDES ALL ACCESSIBLE VERSIONS AND THIS  
PRINT VERSION!**

**SCRIBR**



**THIS WEBSITE HAS A LOT OF USEFUL INFORMATION,  
BUT THIS LINK TAKES YOU TO ETHICAL  
CONSIDERATIONS**



# **Creative Research Toolkit**



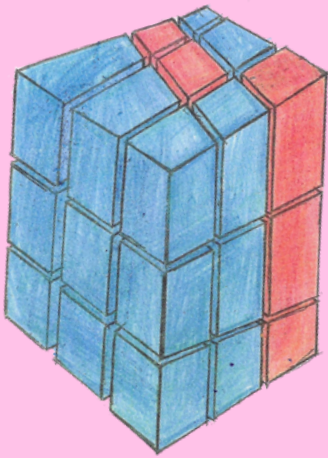
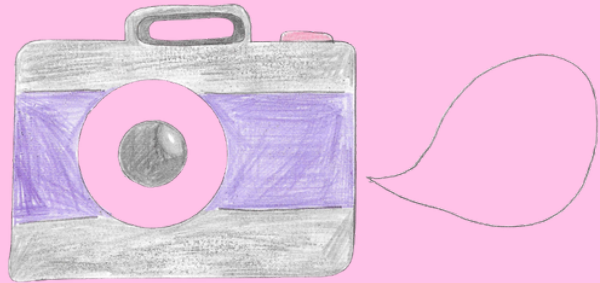
I feel so good,

# Toolkit ONE

Double your failure rate

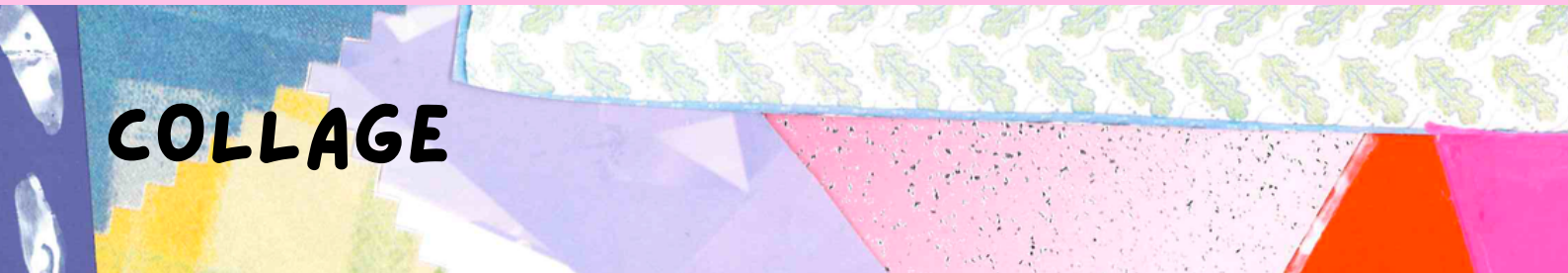
# Whats in the toolkit?

**PHOTOVOICE**

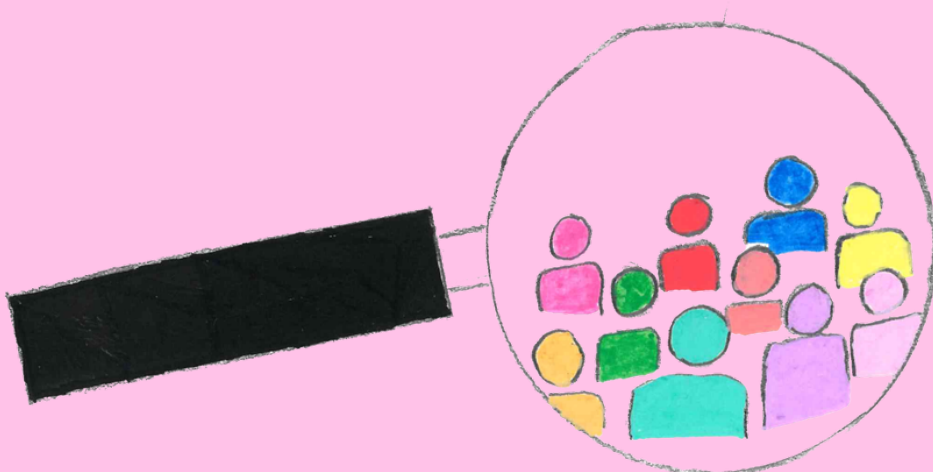


**SEMI-STRUCTURED  
INTERVIEWS**

**COLLAGE**



**OBSERVATION**



# **WHY THE CREATIVE RESEARCH TOOLKIT?**

SITTING IN THE AWC CLASSROOM, CURIOUS ABOUT WHERE I COULD TAKE MY SOLO RESEARCH PROJECT, I HAD WENT THROUGH ABOUT 15 DIFFERENT PROJECTS, GIVING MY PROJECT SUPERVISOR, ALAN, A HEART ATTACK EACH TIME IT HAD CHANGED. EVENTUALLY, IT CAME BACK AROUND TO THE ORIGINAL IDEA:

## **RESEARCH METHODS AND COMMUNITY**

THROUGH THIS, THE CREATIVE RESEARCH TOOLKIT WAS BORN. THESE TOOLKITS CAN BE USED BY ANYONE WHO NEEDS A QUICK METHOD, WITH PROS, CONS, AND STEP-BY-STEP STEPPING STONES ON HOW TO UNDERTAKE IT.

**HAPPY RESEARCHING!**

# Research Ethics

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS SHOULD BE PUT IN PLACE AT ALL TIMES DURING ANY FORM OF RESEARCH. THIS IS DUE TO IT KEEPING BOTH PARTICIPANTS AND RESEARCHER(S) SAFE AT ALL TIMES. IT ALSO MAINTAINS CREDIBILITY: IF YOUR METHODS ARE MORALLY QUESTIONABLE, IT MAY BE HARDER FOR OTHERS TO TRUST YOUR RESEARCH.

YOU SHOULD ALWAYS APPLY TO AN INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD FOR APPROVAL OF YOUR RESEARCH PROCESS. THEY DO THIS BY CHECKING THAT THE METHODS ARE ETHICALLY ACCEPTABLE AND THAT THE RESEARCH DESIGN FOLLOWS THE INSTITUTIONS CODE OF CONDUCT.



# Research Ethics

## POTENTIAL ETHICAL ISSUES!

|                                |                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION</b> | <b>YOUR PARTICIPANTS ARE FREE TO OPT IN OR OUT OF THE STUDY AT ANY POINT</b>                                            |
| <b>INFORMED CONSENT</b>        | <b>PARTICIPANTS KNOW THE PURPOSE, BENEFITS, RISKS AND FUNDING BEHIND THE STUDY BEFORE THEY AGREE OR DECLINE TO JOIN</b> |
| <b>ANONYMITY</b>               | <b>YOU DON'T KNOW THE IDENTITIES OF THE PARTICIPANTS. PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE DATA IS NOT COLLECTED</b>                 |
| <b>CONFIDENTIALITY</b>         | <b>YOU KNOW WHO THE PARTICIPANTS ARE, BUT KEEP THE INFORMATION HIDDEN FROM EVERYONE ELSE.</b>                           |
| <b>POTENTIAL FOR HARM</b>      | <b>PHYSICAL, SOCIAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL AND ALL OTHER TYPES OF HARM ARE KEPT TO AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM</b>                      |
| <b>RESULTS COMMUNICATION</b>   | <b>YOU ENSURE YOUR WORK IS FREE OF PLAGIARISM OR RESEARCH MISCONDUCT AND YOU ACCURATELY REPRESENT YOUR RESULTS</b>      |

# Photovoice

## WHAT IS IT?

PHOTOGRAPHS ARE TAKEN BY AND SELECTED BY PARTICIPANTS, ALLOWING THEM TO REFLECT AND EXPLORE REASONS, EMOTIONS AND EXPERIENCES THAT GUIDED THEM TO CHOOSE THEIR IMAGE.

### PROS:

- AVOIDS FEARS OF "I'M NOT GOOD AT ART"
- PHOTOS CAPTURE THE LIVED EXPERIENCE OF PARTICIPANTS, GIVING INSIGHT AND A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR WORLD
- CREATES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PARTICIPANTS TO VISUALLY PORTRAY EXPERIENCES AND SHARE KNOWLEDGE THAT MAY BE DIFFICULT TO EXPRESS WITH WORDS

### CONS:

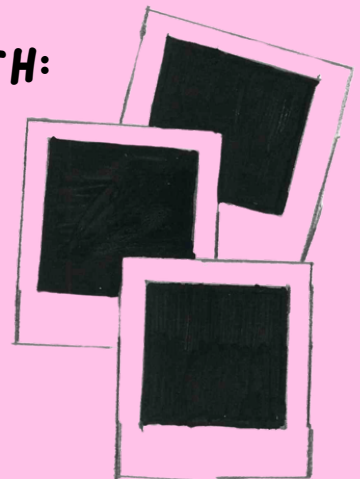
- WITHOUT CAREFUL EXPLANATION AND A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT, PARTICIPANTS CAN FEEL EXPOSED
- MAY BE APPROACHED WITH SUSPICION AS TAKING PHOTOS MAY BE SEEN AS INVASIVE
- PHOTOGRAPHS AND NARRATIVES NEED TO BE PRESENTED IN A WAY THAT ACCURATELY PORTRAYS THE PARTICIPANTS' MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES

### COMMUNITIES IT WORKS ESPECIALLY WELL WITH:

- THOSE IN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM
- YOUNG PEOPLE

### MATERIALS:

- A COUPLE OF THINGS WITH A CAMERA
- A WILLING GROUP

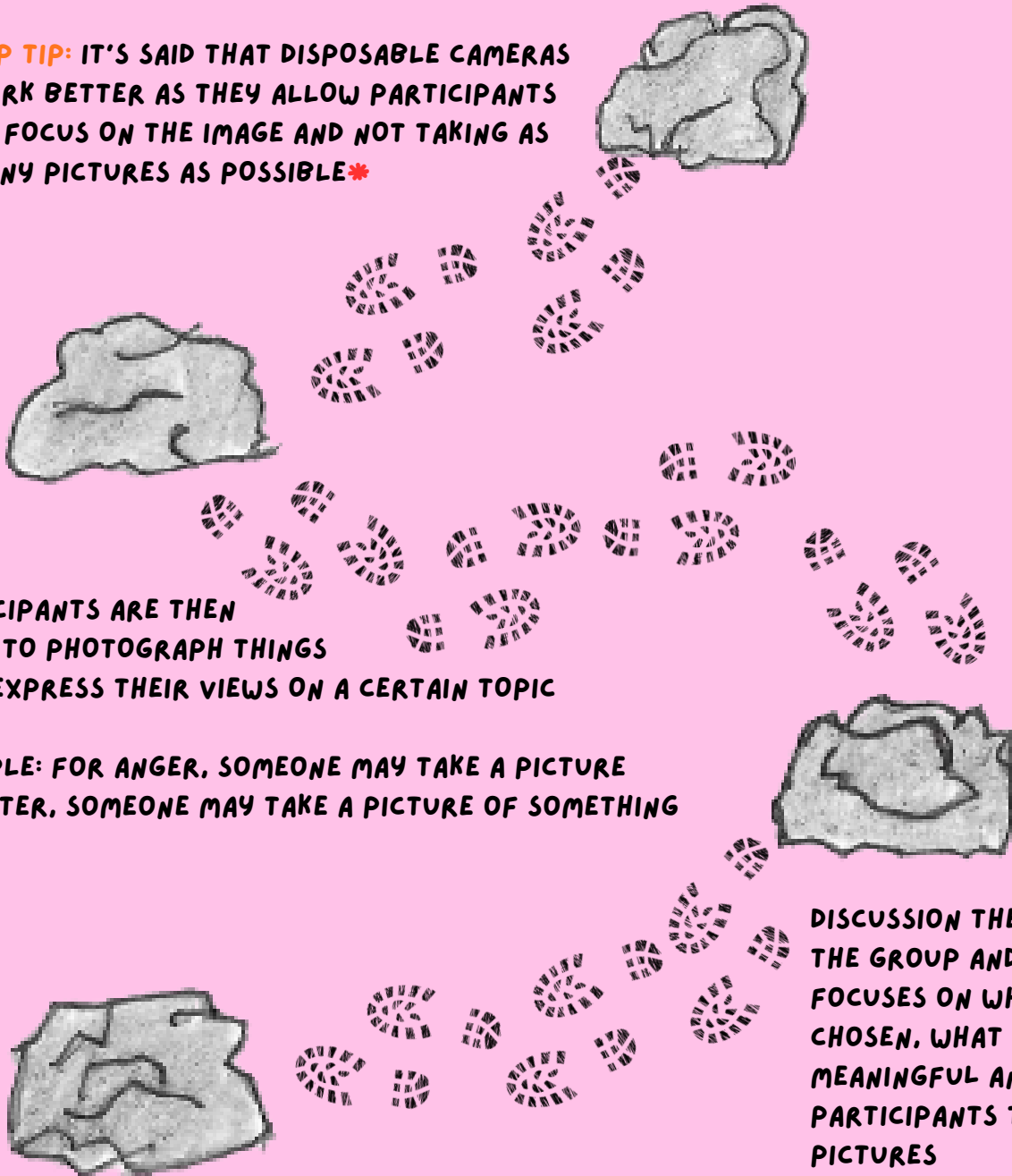


# Stepping Stones

7

PROVIDE YOUR PARTICIPANTS WITH A CAMERA OF YOUR CHOOSING AND PROVIDE THEM WITH INFORMATION ON HOW TO USE IT

**TOP TIP:** IT'S SAID THAT DISPOSABLE CAMERAS WORK BETTER AS THEY ALLOW PARTICIPANTS TO FOCUS ON THE IMAGE AND NOT TAKING AS MANY PICTURES AS POSSIBLE\*



PARTICIPANTS ARE THEN ASKED TO PHOTOGRAPH THINGS THAT EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON A CERTAIN TOPIC

EXAMPLE: FOR ANGER, SOMEONE MAY TAKE A PICTURE OF LITTER, SOMEONE MAY TAKE A PICTURE OF SOMETHING RED

DISCUSSION THEN FOLLOWS WITH THE GROUP AND THE DISCUSSION FOCUSES ON WHY PHOTOS ARE CHOSEN, WHAT MAKES THEM MEANINGFUL AND WHAT PARTICIPANTS THINK OF OTHER PICTURES

DURING THE PROCESS, PARTICIPANTS BECOME CO-RESEARCHERS AS THEY TAKE THE PHOTOS AND INTERPRET THEIR MEANING FOR THE RESEARCHER(S)

**TOP TIP:** IT'S GOOD PRACTICE TO RECORD AND TRANSCRIBE THESE DISCUSSIONS, SHOULD ALL PARTICIPANTS PROVIDE CONSENT

\* MAY BECOME A PROBLEM WHEN HAVING TO GET THE PICTURES DEVELOPED LATER ON

# SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS

## WHAT IS IT?

SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS ARE INTERVIEWS THAT ARE OFTEN OPEN-ENDED, WHICH ALLOWS FOR FLEXIBILITY IN QUESTIONS AND BREAKS DOWN CERTAIN LIMITATIONS.

## PROS:

- OFFERS COMPARABLE, RELIABLE DATA
- ALLOWS FOR NO DISTRACTIONS, WHICH KEEPS BOTH THE INTERVIEWER AND THE PARTICIPANT ON THE TASK, ENHANCING A TWO-WAY COMMUNICATION
- DUE TO THEIR OPEN-ENDED NATURE, SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS ALLOW FOR MORE DETAIL AND RICHNESS IN RESEARCH

## CONS:

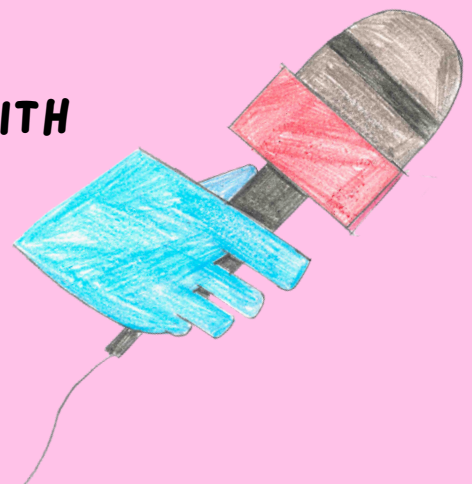
- ALTHOUGH FLEXIBLE, IT CAN SOMETIMES LESSEN VALIDITY AS IT BECOMES A CHALLENGE TO COMPARE BETWEEN PARTICIPANTS, DEPENDING ON HOW FAR THE RESEARCHER SWAYS FROM CORE QUESTIONS
- OPEN-ENDED NATURE CAN OPEN UP POTENTIAL TEMPTATION FOR "LEADING" QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED
- IT CAN BE DIFFICULT TO DEVELOP PRE-DETERMINED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

COMMUNITY IT WORKS ESPECIALLY WELL WITH

- MANY COMMUNITIES!

## MATERIALS:

- YOURSELF AND A NOTE-TAKING DEVICE



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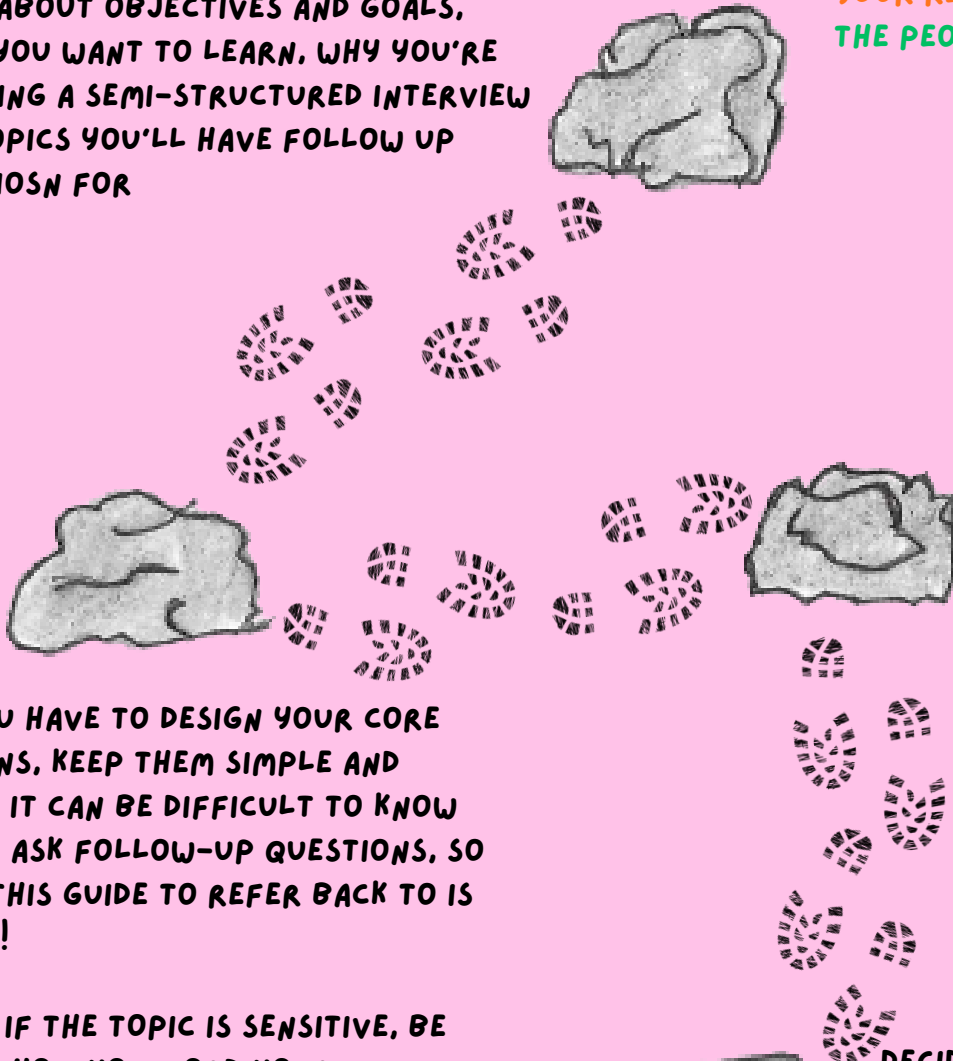
THINK ABOUT OBJECTIVES AND GOALS, WHAT YOU WANT TO LEARN, WHY YOU'RE CHOOSING A SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEW AND TOPICS YOU'LL HAVE FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS FOR

SAMPLE EXPLAINED BY COLOUR:

PEOPLE WHO VOLUNTEER FOR YOUR RESEARCH

A PARTICULAR CHARACTERISTIC FOR YOUR RESEARCH

THE PEOPLE WHO ARE AROUND YOU



THEN YOU HAVE TO DESIGN YOUR CORE QUESTIONS, KEEP THEM SIMPLE AND CONCISE. IT CAN BE DIFFICULT TO KNOW WHEN TO ASK FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS, SO HAVING THIS GUIDE TO REFER BACK TO IS CRITICAL!

**TOP TIP:** IF THE TOPIC IS SENSITIVE, BE CAREFUL HOW YOU WORD YOUR QUESTIONS

ASSEMBLE YOUR PARTICIPANTS, THIS CAN BE THROUGH MANY DIFFERENT SAMPLES:

- VOLUNTARY RESPONSE
- STRATIFIED SAMPLE
- CONVENIENCE SAMPLE

DECIDE HOW THE INTERVIEWS ARE CONDUCTED.

IS IT OVER PEN AND PAPER, WHICH CAN INCREASE PREPARED RESULTS?

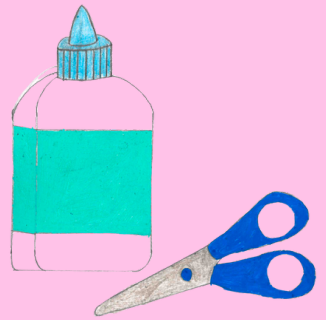
IS IT IN-PERSON, WHICH COULD POTENTIALLY INCREASE NERVOUSNESS?

IS IT ONLINE, WHICH CAN OFTEN BE AWKWARD?

CONDUCT THE INTERVIEWS AND MAKE SURE TO BE ACTIVELY LISTENING.

**ALWAYS REMEMBER:** TO RECORD OR TRANSCRIBE THE INTERVIEW WITH CONSENT

# COLLAGE



## WHAT IS IT?

**BRINGING PHOTOS, EPHEMERA AND MORE TOGETHER TO CREATE A WHOLE CONVERSATIONAL PIECE OF ARTWORK. THE NAME IS LINKED TO BOTH THE PROCESS AND THE ARTWORK FORMED.**

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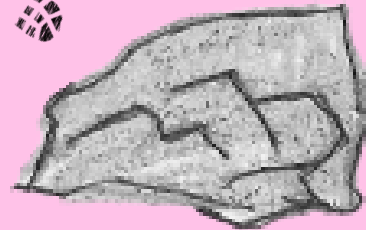
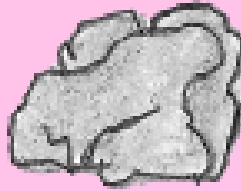
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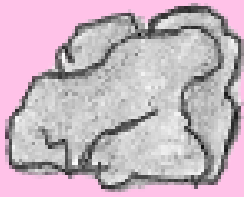
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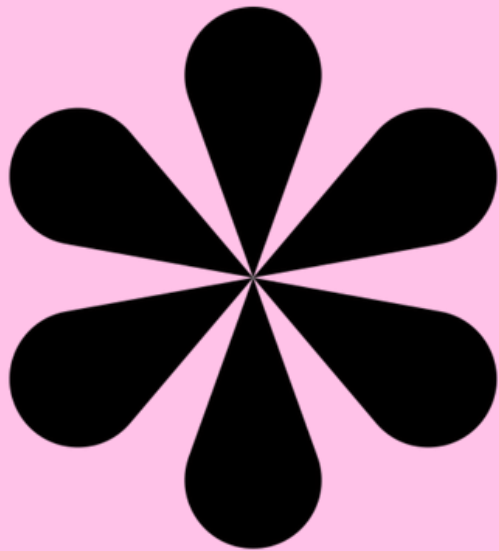


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