Guided Inquiry:
Learning in the 21st Century

Carol Collier Kuhlthau

Center for International Scholarship in
School Libraries (CISSL)

Rutgers University USA

21st Century Skills

➢ Global interconnectedness enabled by information technology calls for:

➢ New skills

➢ New knowledge

➢ New ways of learning

Information Technology

- The easy part
  - Learning how to use new devices

- The hard part
  - Learning how to use technology for creativity and enlightenment

Information Technology

➢ Impact on education, the economy, and politics

➢ Changes the way we learn, work and are governed

Inquiry Learning

➢ The foundation of the information age school

➢ A research approach to learning

Guided Inquiry

➢ Inquiry guided by an instructional team
  to enable students to
  gain depth of understanding and
  competency in using a wide range of
  sources of information for learning.

School Librarians' role in inquiry learning

➢ School librarians are vital agents in creating schools that enable students to learn through vast resources and multiple communication channels.
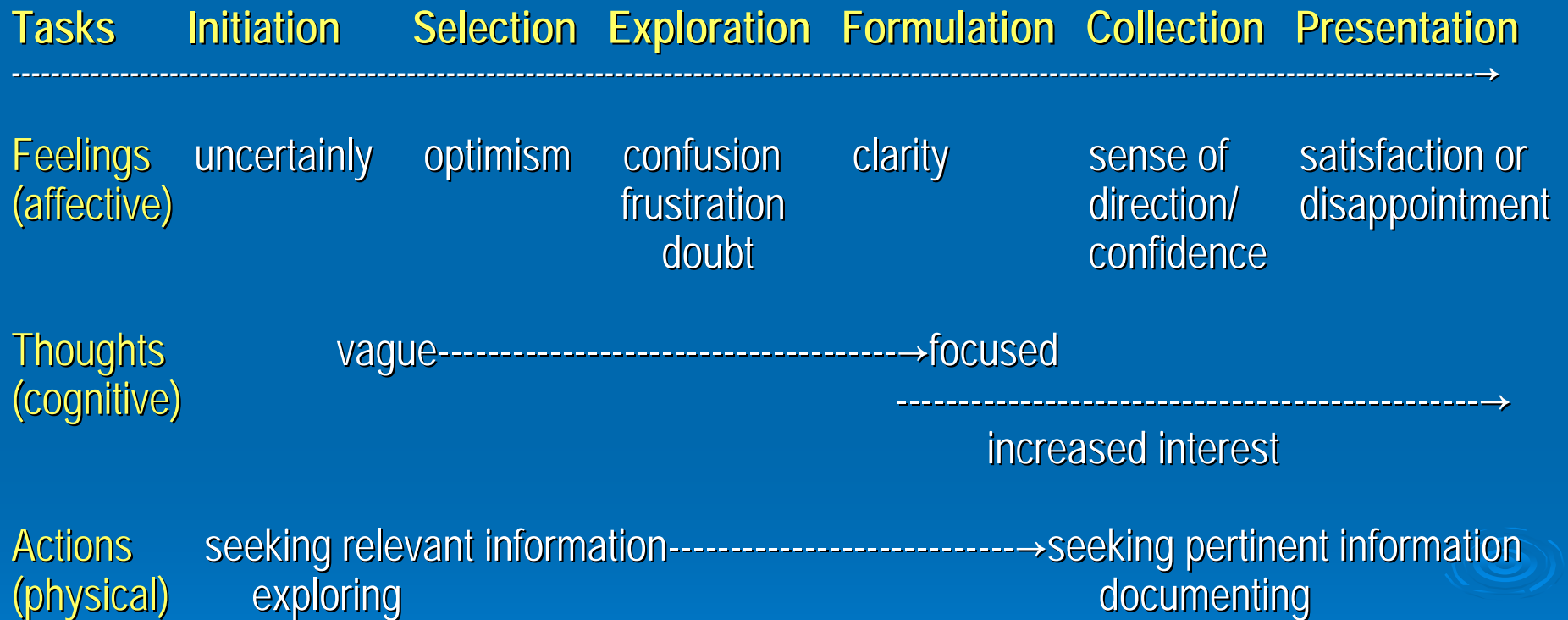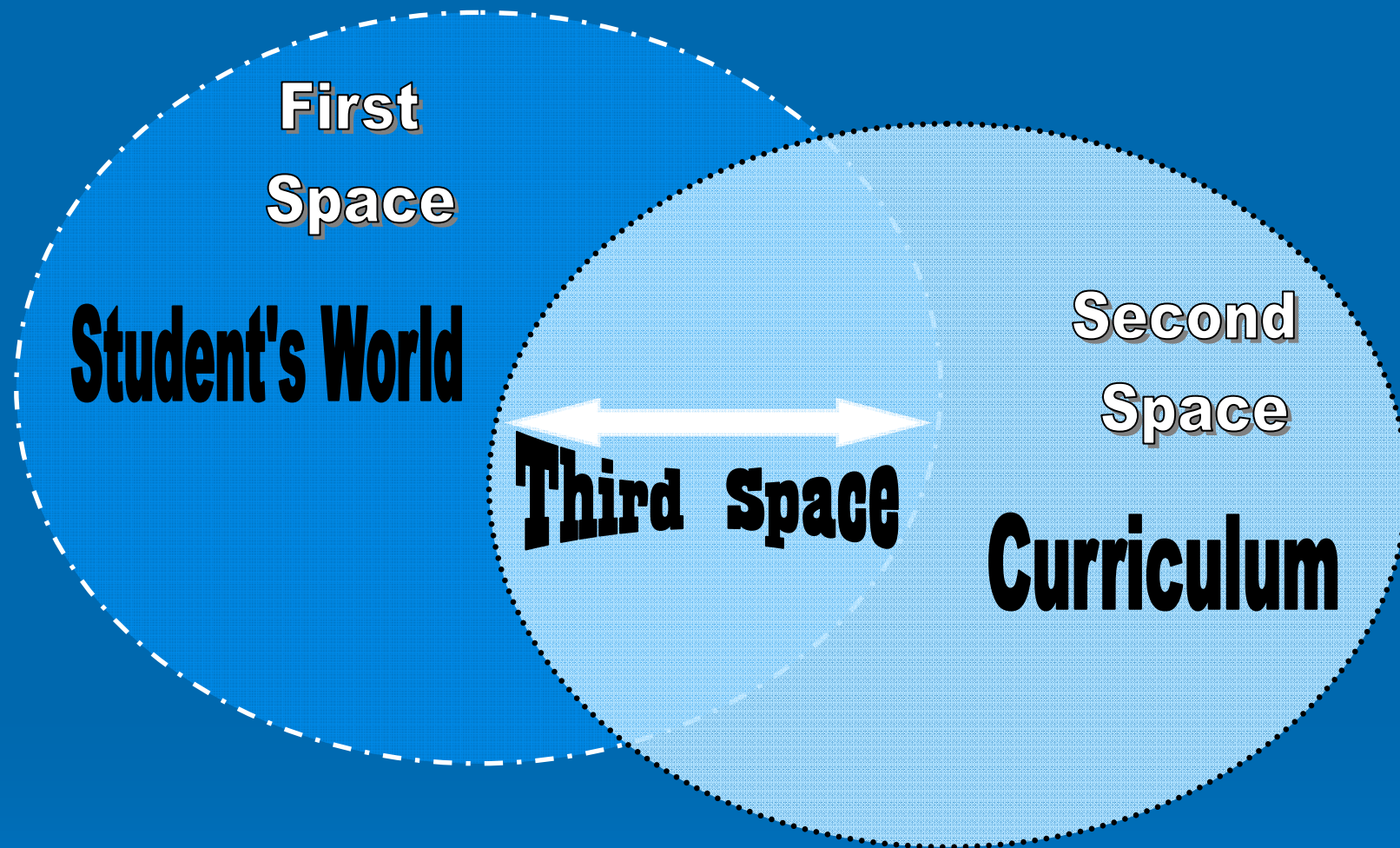
Guided Inquiry

➢ A way of learning that accomplishes the objectives of 21st century schools.

➢ A way to meet the many requirements of the curriculum through engaging, motivating and challenging learning.

Guided Inquiry – What is it?

➢ Guided Inquiry is planned, targeted, supervised intervention throughout the inquiry process.

➢ Grounded in extensive research of the process of learning from a variety of sources of information.

➢ Constructivist approach to learning

Model of the Information Search Process

Tasks	Initiation	Selection	Exploration	Formulation	Collection	Presentation

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Feelings (affective) — uncertainly — optimism — confusion / frustration / doubt — clarity — sense of direction/ confidence — satisfaction or disappointment

Thoughts (cognitive) — vague--------------------------------------→focused

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increased interest

Actions (physical) — seeking relevant information---------------------------→seeking pertinent information

exploring — documenting

student centered <-------- learning centered -------> teacher centered

Guided Inquiry Team

➢ Three member core team
- Build on expertise in the school

➢ Extended team
- Build on the expertise in the community

5 Kinds of Learning through Inquiry

➢ Information Literacy

➢ Learning how to learn

➢ Curriculum Content

➢ Literacy Competence

➢ Social Skills

Information Literacy

➢ Concepts approach to

- Locating
- Evaluating
- Using information

Learning how to learn

➢ Inquiry as a way of learning in the information environment

➢ Students personalize the learning process

Curriculum Content

➢ The content of inquiry is drawn from subjects across the curriculum.

Literacy Competence

➢ Going beyond learning to read to reading to learning.

Practice for proficiency

Social Skills

➤ **Community of learners**

➤ **Small work groups**

- For interacting
- collaborating
- sharing

Examples of Guided Inquiry

➢ Primary School

➢ Middle School

➢ High School

Getting Started in Your School

➢ Three ways
- Gain support
- Develop an implementation plan
- Create a network to share success and problems

New ways of thinking about education

- Teachers cannot do this alone
- School libraries are definitely in the picture
- School libraries need to be dynamic learning centers where students to learn through vast resources and multiple communication channels.

➢ Guided Inquiry: Learning in the 21st Century, Kuhlthau, Maniotes, and Caspari, Libraries Unlimited, 2007.