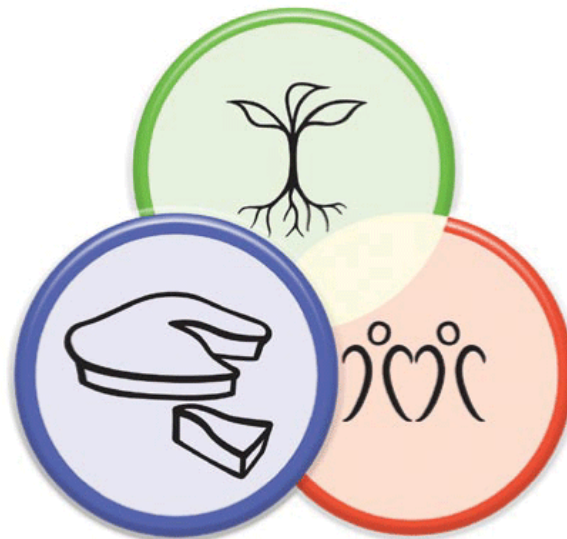


# What is Permaculture

- Lecture I and II in Bertinoro (FC),  
9 and 10 November 2015

# What is permaculture?

Permaculture is a creative design process based on whole-systems thinking that uses ethics and design principles. It guides us to **mimic the patterns and relationships we can find in nature** and can be applied to all aspects of human habitation, from agriculture to ecological building, from appropriate technology to education and even economics.



# A Permaculture Overview

- **1 directive**  
Take your own responsibility
- **3 ethics**  
Care of the Earth, Care of People, Fair Share
- **30 design principles**
- **Hundreds of strategies**
- **Thousand of appropriated technologies**

# Permaculture Ethics

- The ethics **earth care, people care** and **fair share** form the foundation for permaculture design and are also found in most traditional societies.
- Ethics are culturally evolved mechanisms that regulate self-interest, giving us a better understanding of good and bad outcomes. *The greater the power of humans, the more critical ethics become for long-term cultural and biological survival.*

# Permaculture Design Principles

- **Thinking tools, that when used together, allow us to creatively re-design our environment and our behavior in a world of less energy and resources**
- The foundations of permaculture are the ethics (centre) which guide the use of the 12 design principles, ensuring that they are used in appropriate ways.
- These principles are seen as universal, although the methods used to express them will vary greatly according to the place and situation. They are applicable to our personal, economic, social and political reorganisation as illustrated in the permaculture flower.

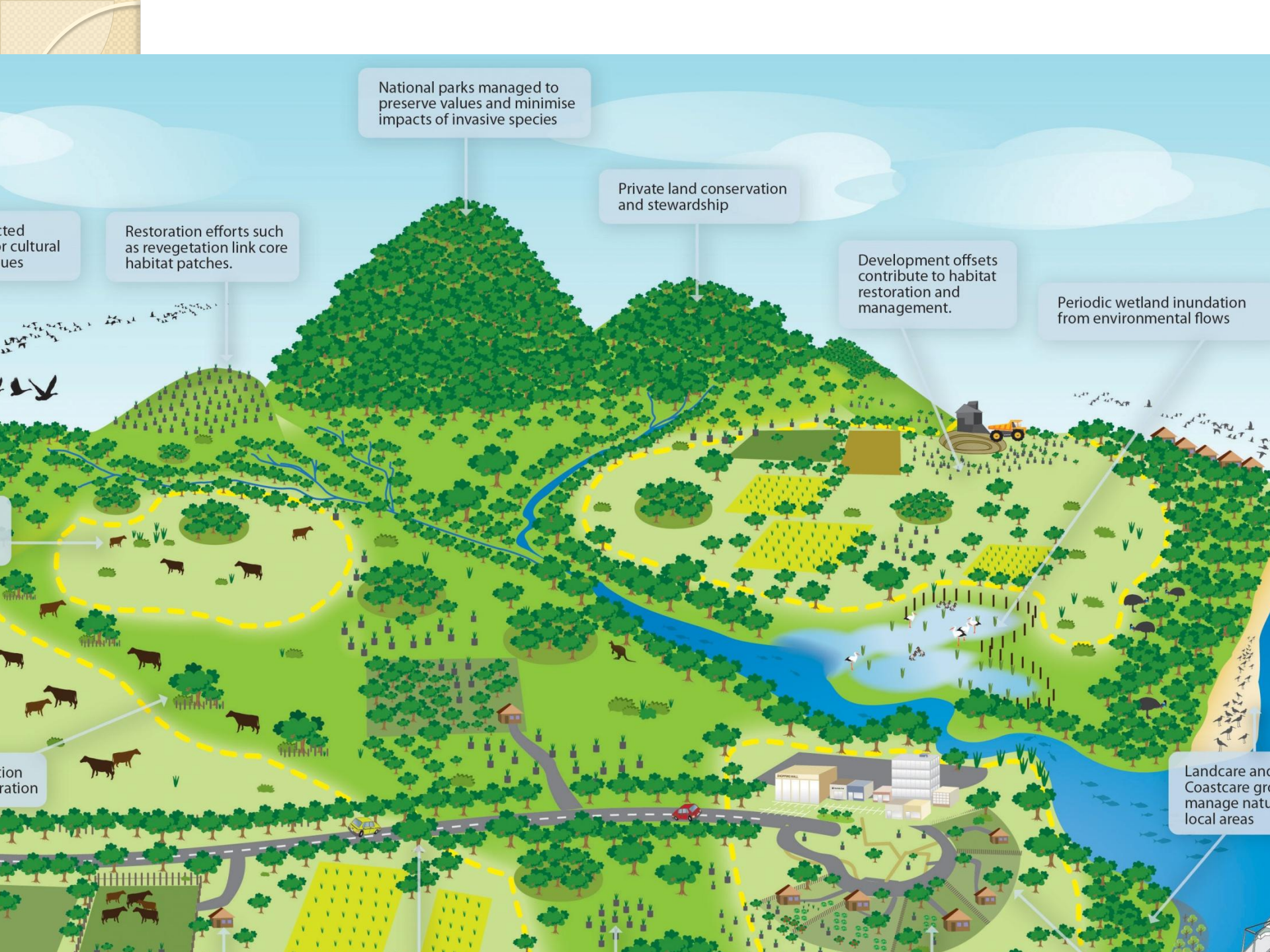
# Principle I: Observe and interact



*“Beauty is in the eye of the beholder”*

By taking the time to engage with nature we can design solutions that suit our particular situation.





National parks managed to preserve values and minimise impacts of invasive species

Private land conservation and stewardship

Restoration efforts such as revegetation link core habitat patches.

Development offsets contribute to habitat restoration and management.

Periodic wetland inundation from environmental flows

Landcare and Coastcare groups manage natural areas

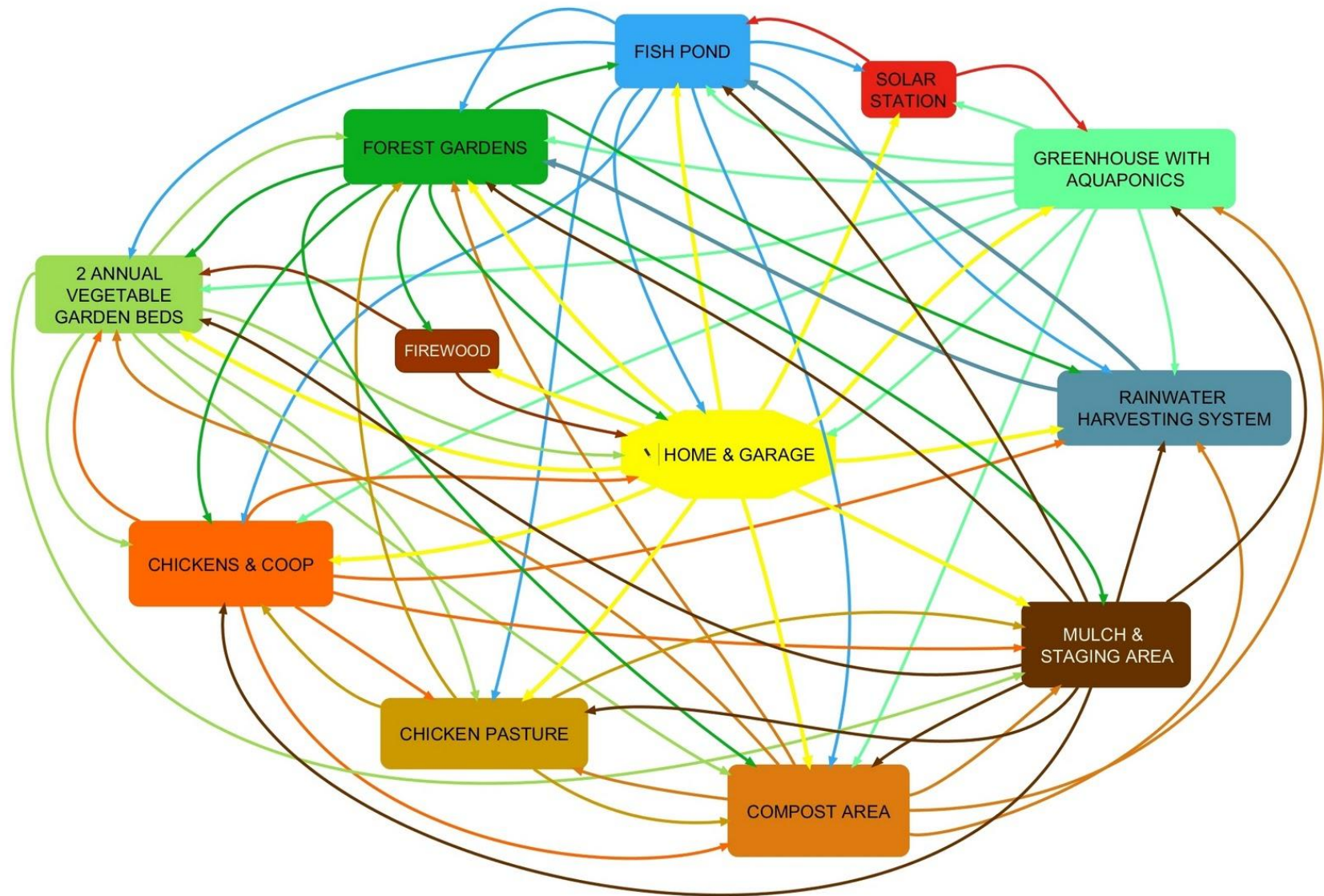
ected or cultural values

ion  
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# Principle 2:

## Catch and store energy



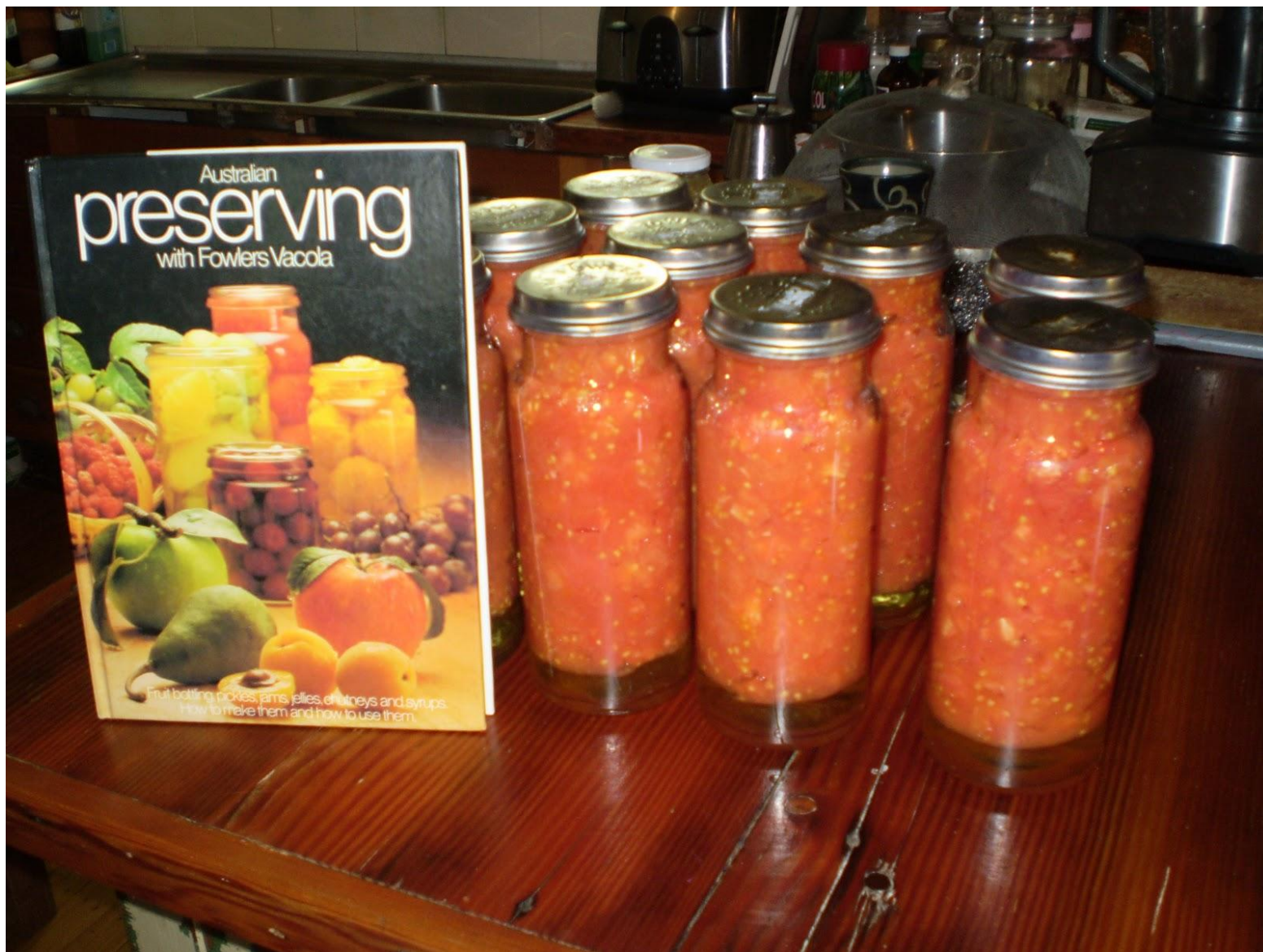
*“Make hay while the sun shines”*

By developing systems that collect resources when they are abundant, we can use them in times of need.

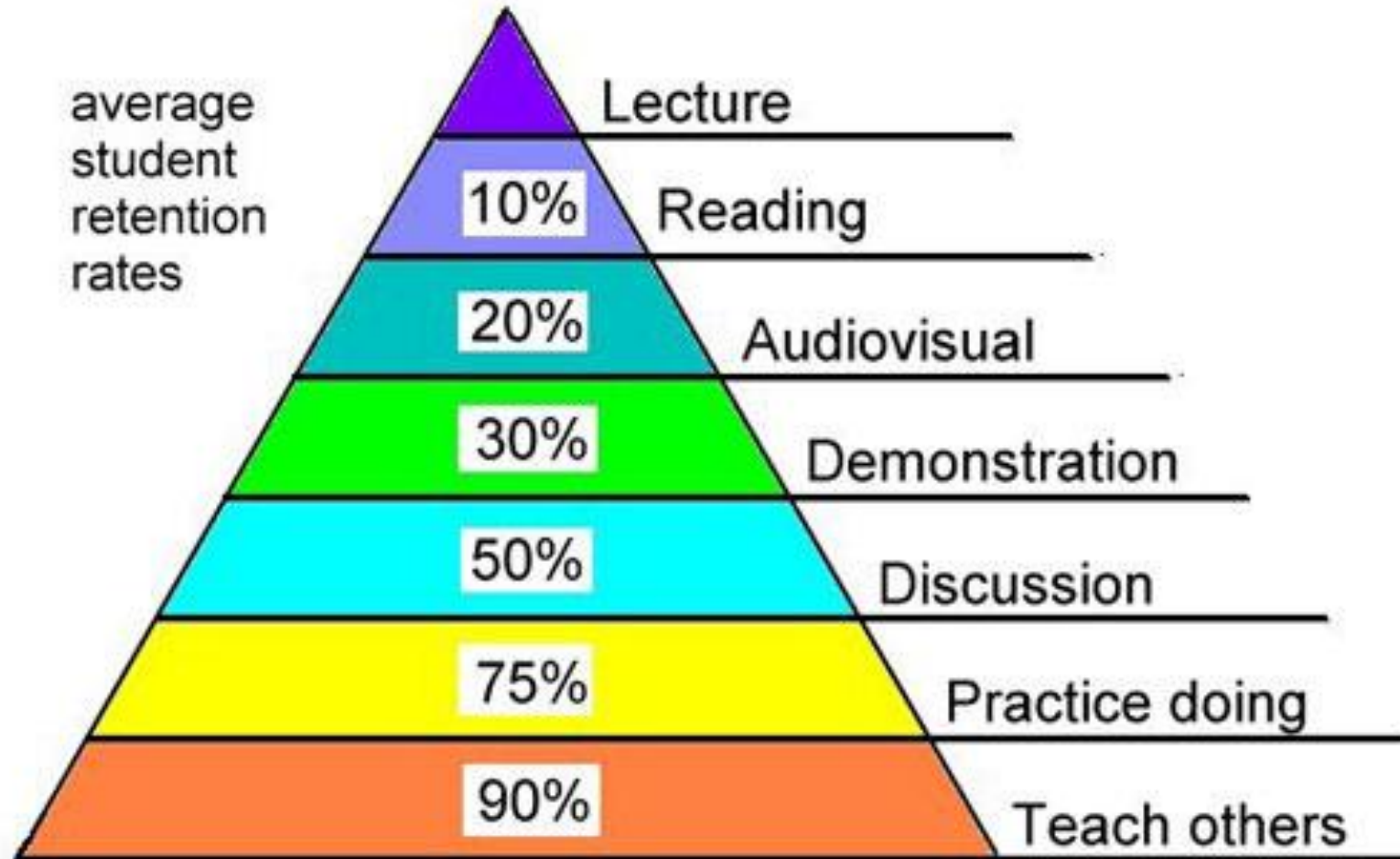








# Learning Pyramid



Source: National Training Laboratories, Bethel, Maine



# **Principle 3:**

## **Obtain a yield/harvest/reward**



*“You can’t work on an empty stomach”*

Ensure that you are getting truly useful rewards as part of the work that you are doing.



## CONSERVATIVE AND ETHICAL USE

uso conservativo  
ed etico

**SURPLUS=  
YIELD, USE**

SURPLUS =  
RACCOLTO,  
UTILIZZO

RISORSE

**RESOURCES**

PARTE DELLA RISORSA  
DEVE TORNARE AL  
SISTEMA PER AUOT-  
MANTENERSI

**PART OF THE RESOURCE MUST GO BACK TO THE SYSTEM,  
TO SUSTAIN IT**





# Principle 4:

## Apply self-regulation & accept feedback



*“The sins of the fathers are visited on the children unto the seventh generation”*

We need to discourage inappropriate activity to ensure that systems can continue to function well.



Top driver of  
positive reviews

Accommodation



Service

Attractions



Signage

Tours



Friendly staff

Food



Taste / food  
Quality

Top driver of  
negative reviews



Service



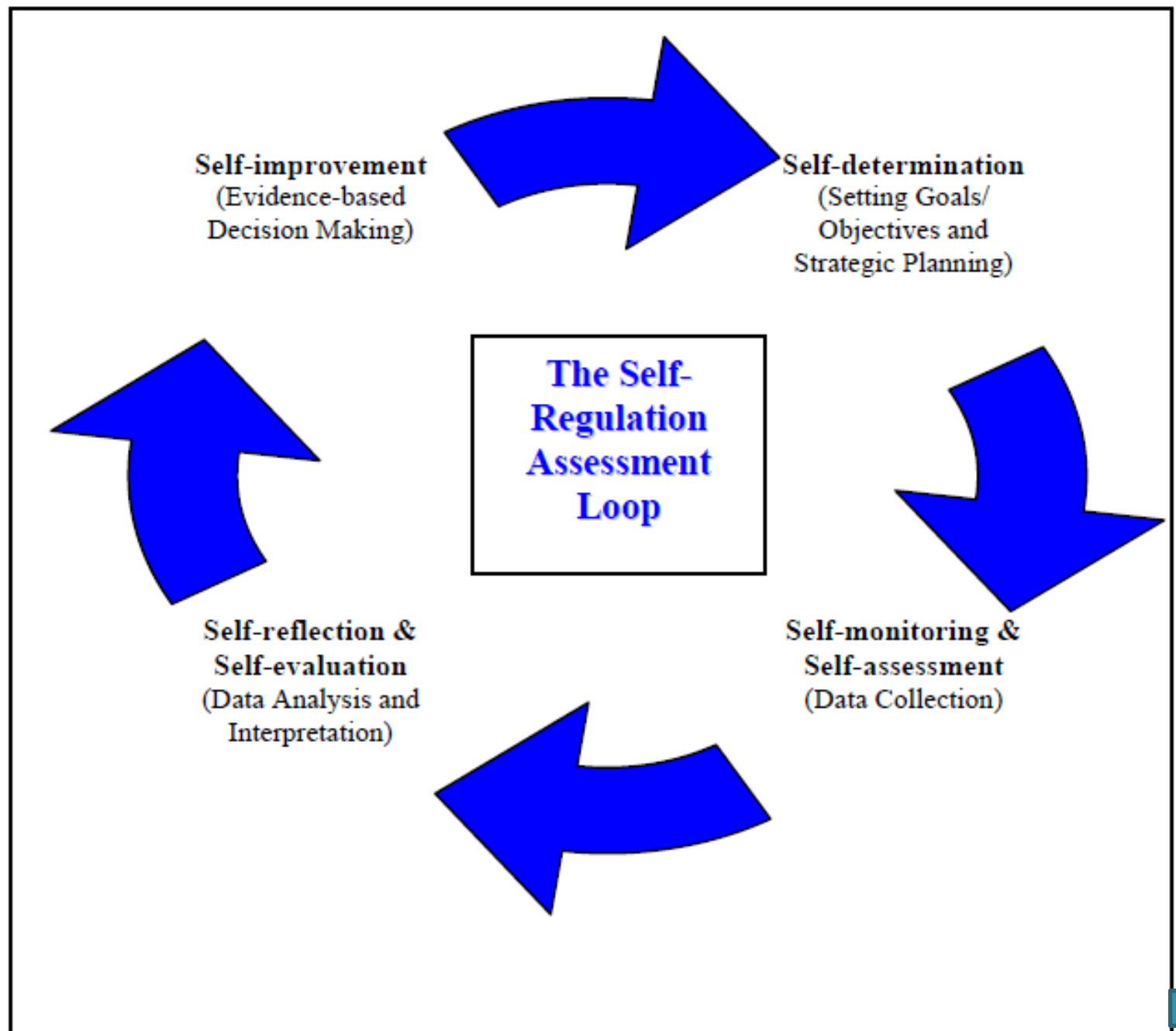
Value for  
money



Service



Taste / food  
Quality



# **Principle 5:**

## **Use & value renewable resources & services**

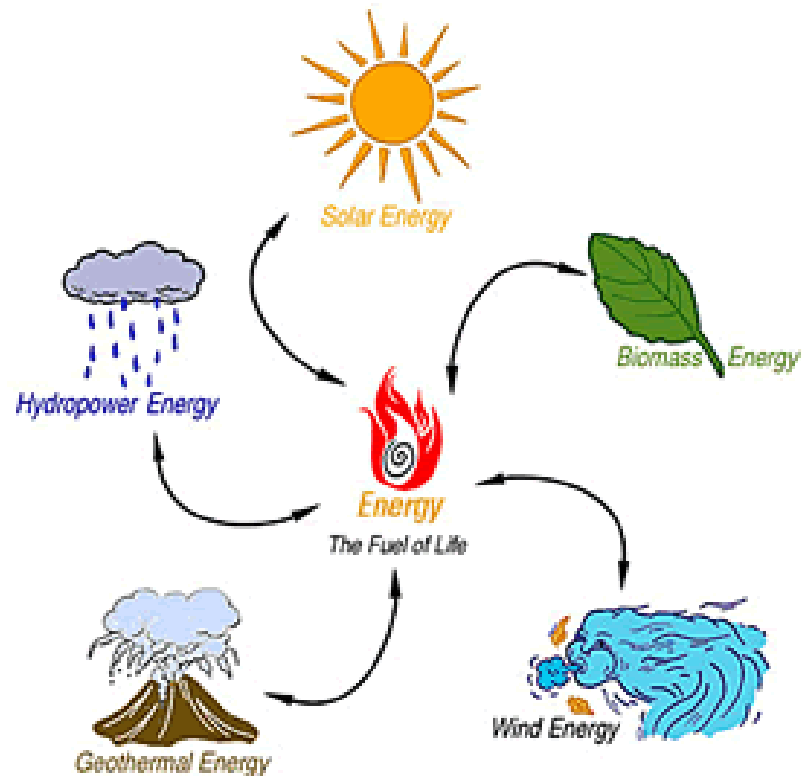


*“Let nature take its course”*

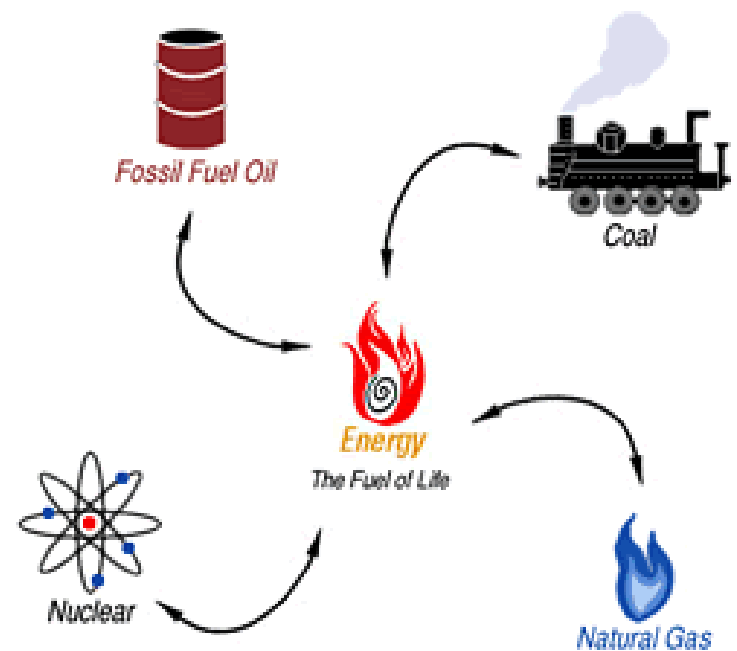
Make the best use of nature’s abundance to reduce our  
consumptive behaviour and dependence on non-renewable  
resources.



## Renewable Energy



## Non-Renewable Energy





# Principle 6:

## Produce no waste



*“A stitch in time saves nine.” “Waste not, want not.”*  
By valuing and making use of all the resources that are available to us, nothing goes to waste.



# The Zero Waste Economy

## Designing a Full-Cycle System—Upstream AND Downstream



# What is Sustainable Waste Management?

- **Downstream resource recovery**
  - maximize recycling and composting
- **Mid-stream product longevity**
  - reuse and repair
- **Upstream waste reduction**
  - product redesign, producer responsibility

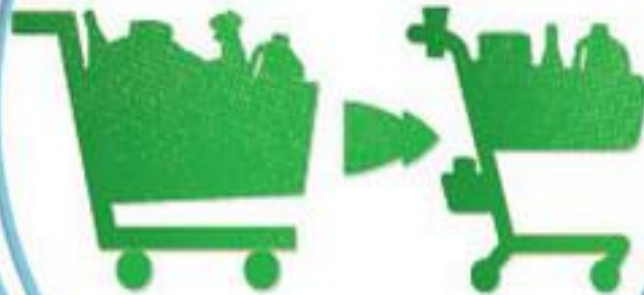






**REDUCE**

THE AMOUNT OF  
MATERIALS  
YOU USE, WHICH



**REDUCES**

THE AMOUNT  
OF WASTE  
YOU CREATE.

**REUSE**

MATERIALS  
WHEN POSSIBLE



**RECYCLE**

*WHENEVER*  
**POSSIBLE**

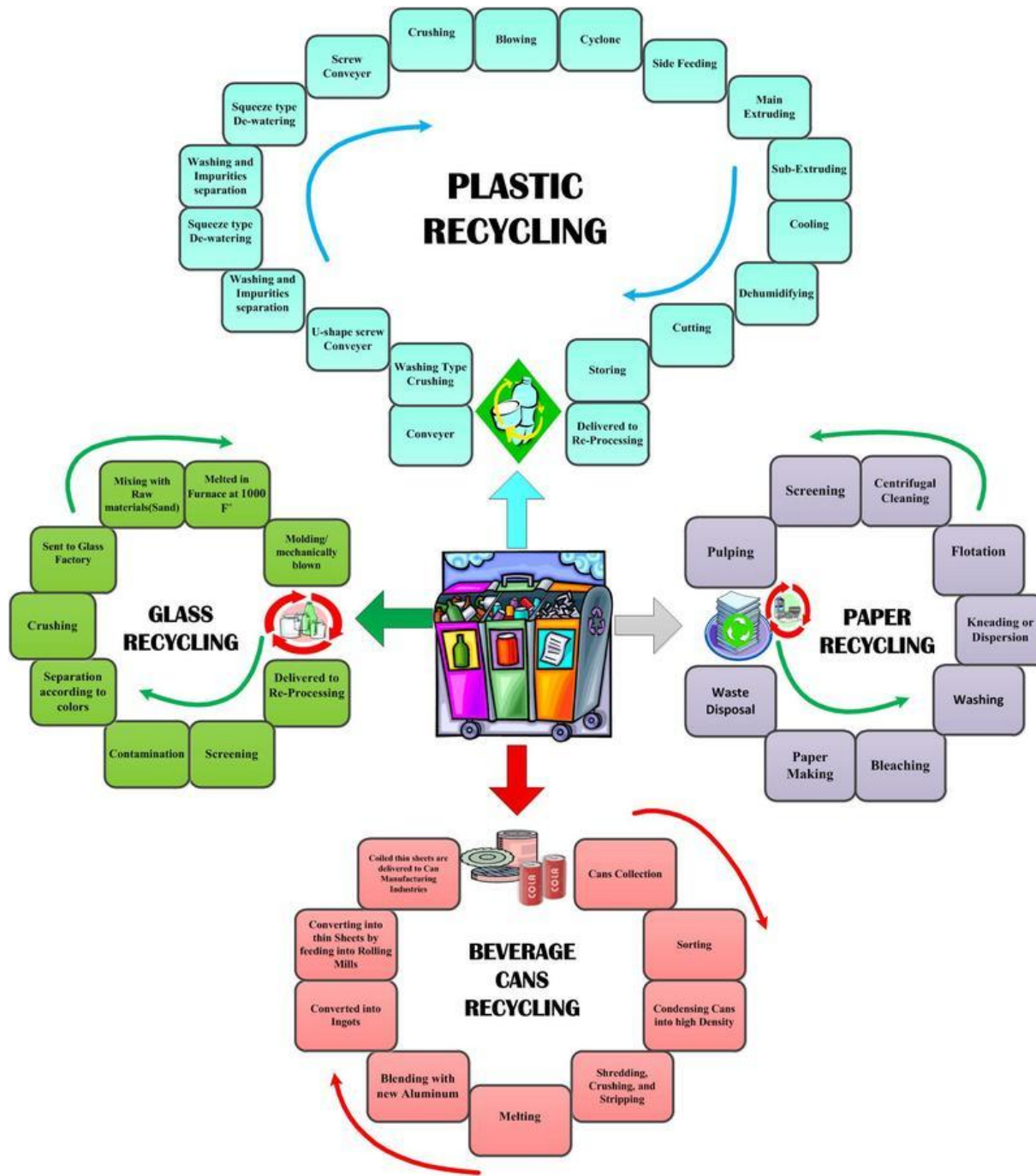


**RETHINK**  
THE MATERIALS

YOU  
USE

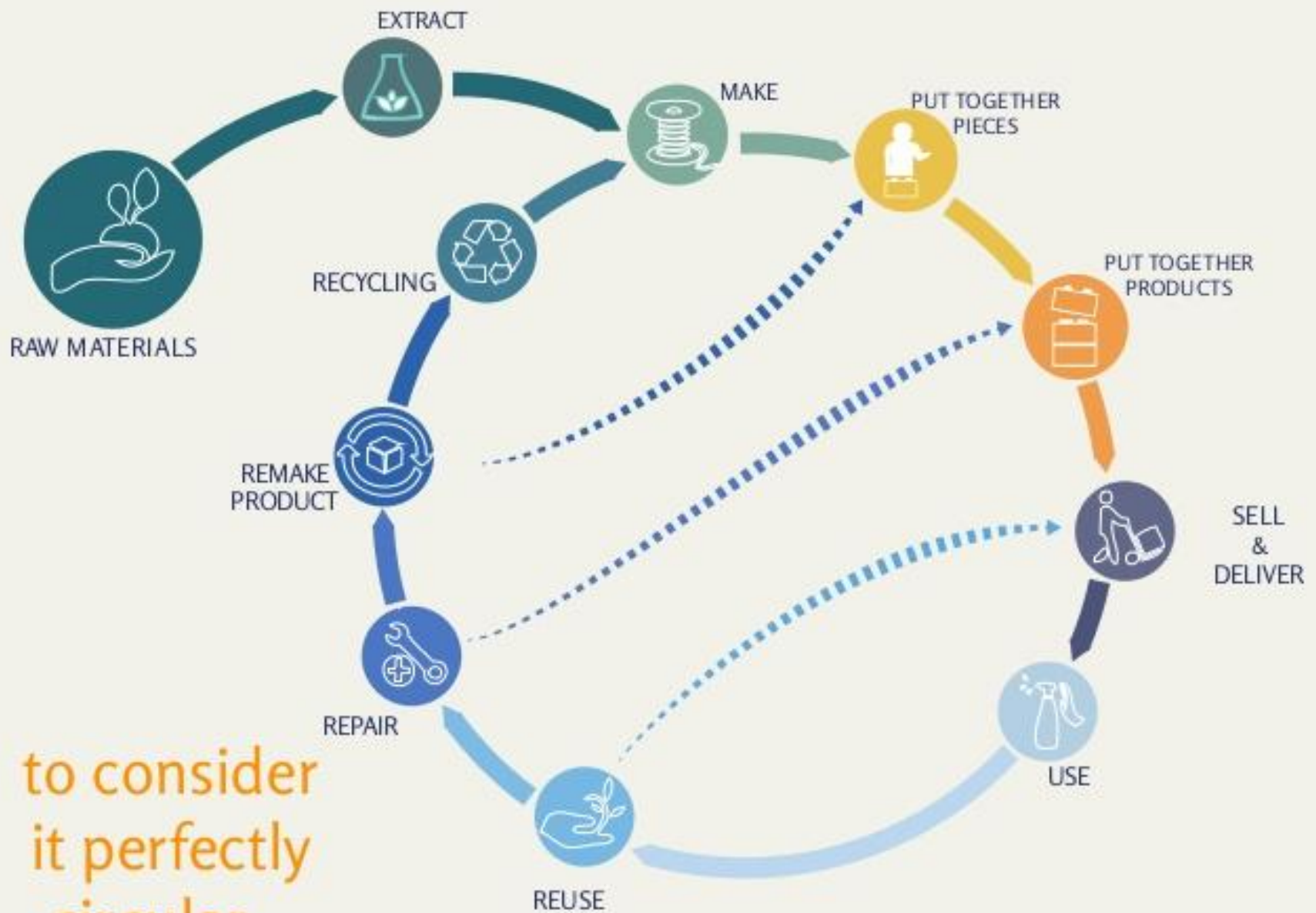
*AND  
THOSE*

YOU  
**THROW  
AWAY**









to consider  
it perfectly  
circular...



# Assignment/Homework

- Find a problem in your work and find a solution to it with the ethics and principles.

# Contacts

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