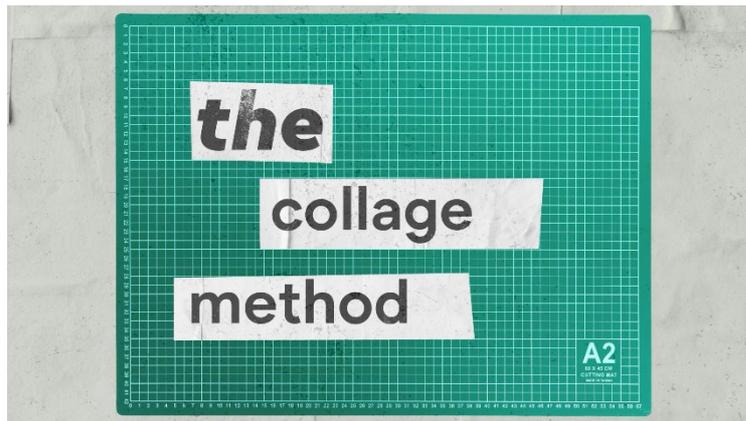


# Four Qualitative Methods for Understanding Diverse Lives.

## Collage Activity Sheet.

**Objective:** To reflect on the experiences, memories, and emotions associated with a specific place through the creation of a collage.



### **Materials:**

- A variety of materials for creating the collage, such as magazines, newspapers, fabric, paper, and glue
- A large piece of poster board or paper for the collage
- Scissors
- Photographs, mementos, or other items related to the place being explored (optional)
- A notebook or journal for taking notes (optional)
- A dictaphone for recording thoughts (optional)

### **Instructions:**

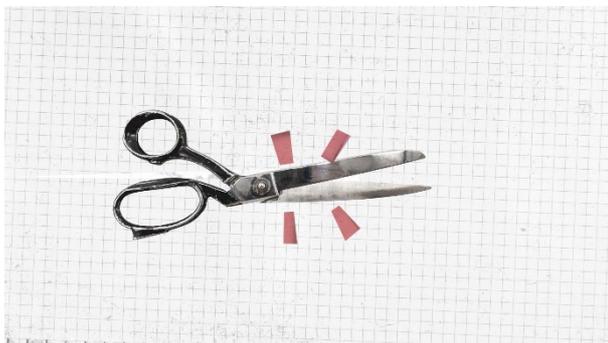
**Step One:** Start by choosing a specific place to focus on, such as a childhood home, a favourite park, or a community.

**Step Two:** Reflect on your experiences, memories, and emotions associated with this place. You could record these experiences in a journal or notebook, or by recording your thoughts into a dictaphone.

**Step Three:** Gather materials for the collage, keeping in mind the feelings and experiences you associate with the place.

**Step Four:** Arrange and glue the materials on the poster board or paper to create the collage, allowing yourself to freely express your experiences and emotions through the materials and design.

**Remember:** If you are the researcher observing a participant create the collage then note down any points you wish to ask the participant about. Why did they choose to foreground a particular word, colour, or photograph?



**Optional:** You can incorporate photographs, mementos, or other items related to the place into the collage to personalise it and to help tell your story.

**Step Five:** When you're finished, take a moment to reflect on the collage. What does it tell you about your relationship with the place? What emotions or memories does it evoke? If you like, you could record these thoughts into a journal, diary or dictaphone.

**Note:** This activity can be completed individually or in a group setting, and can be modified or adapted as needed to meet the needs of the participants. For instance, a participant could complete this activity on their own in their own time and post their collage back to a researcher; a group collage could be made; or the collage could be used alongside a Life History Interview.

National Centre for Research Methods (NCRM)  
Social Sciences  
Murray Building (Bldg 58)  
University of Southampton  
Southampton SO17 1BJ  
United Kingdom

**Web**                [www.ncrm.ac.uk](http://www.ncrm.ac.uk)  
**Email**             [info@ncrm.ac.uk](mailto:info@ncrm.ac.uk)  
**Tel**                 +44 23 8059 4539  
**Twitter**           @NCRMUK