

The logo consists of a stylized blue 'Q' with a question mark inside it, followed by the text 'Reflection points' in a blue sans-serif font.

Reflection points

Belonging as a Quaker

One way of both seeing and sharing where you belong with Quakerism may be to draw a mind map. It can be a really clear, simple way of actually seeing where you are and how you link up with others.

Start to sketch it out, drawing a circle in the middle of a page, with you in the middle; then draw a larger circle around it. What is that circle called? Link group? Local meeting? Perhaps something else completely.

Now, from that circle, branch out; draw lines to other circles that represent other groups; perhaps local meeting if you haven't already put it, or JYM, Quaker events. Put whatever is real to you.

Then think about how any of these groups link up to each other; perhaps through the same people or by a Facebook group.

Then think about larger groups; the Yearly Meeting, the worldwide family of Friends, young Quakers in other countries. These may feel much further away; perhaps you don't feel much connection with them at all, but it is important to remember that they are part of our Quaker family.

A mind map can be as simple or detailed as you like. Once you start it, it can just build and build and all sorts of things might appear that you didn't expect. It can be good to talk to others about it too – friends, family, young Quakers in other groups – to help see the bigger picture.

If you don't know what a mind map looks like, there's two examples below. Of course the design, colours and what it says are completely up to you.

