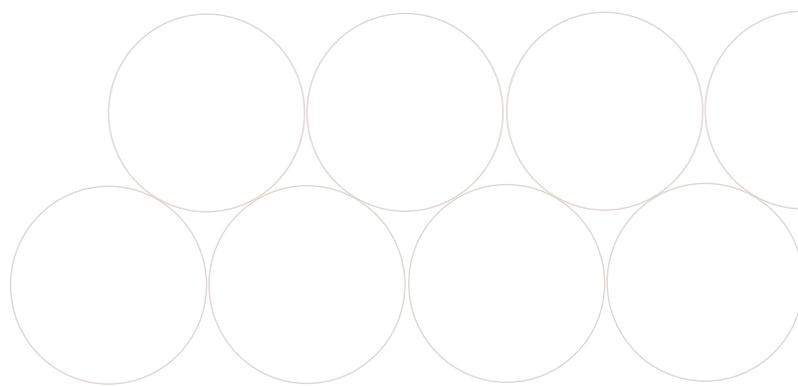


# Building your MDI presentation.



## ● THINK ABOUT PURPOSE AND AUDIENCE

Ask yourself some key questions to know how to tailor your presentation.

- Who's in the crowd? Teachers? Parents? Kids? Is this the first time they've heard of the MDI?
- Do you want to give an overview of how local children perceive their lives? Or will you highlight key areas that require attention in order to initiate collaborative action?

Covering too much information, too quickly and with an unclear purpose will work against you. Make your purpose clear to yourself as you plan your presentation and share that purpose with your audience.

## ● GET FAMILIAR WITH YOUR DATA

There's no need to learn your results by heart - but it is important to review the data included in your report and get comfortable with the broad strokes before you begin planning your presentation. Knowing the full context of your data - strengths and challenges both - can help move the conversation forward if an audience fixates on certain details. Take note of your own reactions and questions - describing your own process of inquiry can help encourage creative and critical thinking in your audience, and they may have some of the same questions on their mind.

## ● FIND SOME BACKUP

Enlist a friend or colleague to be your co-host! This is a great way to bring in a new perspective, encourage interactivity, and share the heavy lifting. Avoid getting labelled as the sole "data keeper" by bringing in partner presenters at the outset and reminding your audience that MDI data can be used by anyone.

## ● MAKE OUR PRESENTATION TEMPLATES YOUR OWN

We've created 3 powerpoint presentations to help get you started: MDI 101, Exploring Data, and Developing Ideas. You can download these slides, including presenter notes, from the Discover MDI Field Guide at [discovermdi.ca](https://discovermdi.ca)

Edit these templates to suit your needs and reflect your community. Add slides of your own, delete some of ours, or change the order. We also encourage you to include photos of your schools, your community, and your kids to help make the data and key messages resonate.

# Navigating your MDI presentation.

## DON'T SKIMP ON THE INTRODUCTION

Don't start your presentation with data! The first few minutes of your presentation is an excellent opportunity to build a welcoming atmosphere and encourage interaction. Take the time to explain why you've brought people together and remind them that you're all there to understand and improve well-being for the kids in your lives. Take it slow and provide an overview of the purpose and value of the MDI survey tool first before launching into the numbers.

## FOCUS ON STRENGTHS

Sometimes it's easy for people to focus on just the things that need "fixing."

But in our experience, audiences are most engaged when strengths are presented alongside suggested areas for improvement. Devote some time to discussing both and remind people of the hard work they're already doing to build environments in which kids can thrive.

From your data, what are the areas of greatest strength? What are you most proud of?

The MDI is designed to explore how communities can and do support children - **it's not a report card.**

## BUILD IN INTERACTION AND DIALOGUE

Ensure there are ways for the audience to participate. This may be as simple as having the audience turning to a neighbour for a quick discussion about the reactions to the results. Consider small group activities to help participants connect with their own experiences and share ideas. We've provided some examples at [discovermdi.ca](https://discovermdi.ca), but feel free to let your creativity and experience customize your presentation.

Check in with your audience as you go to ensure they are following you! If people feel lost, they can't actively participate.

The questions, ideas, and conversations stimulated by your presentation are essential to building an understanding of what's working in your school or community.

## BE PREPARED FOR FEELINGS

Some results may be surprising or difficult for your audience to hear. Remind your audience that the MDI measures children's own perception of their lives and environments, and these perceptions may be different from our own. It's important to honour the voices of children and respect what they have to say - and build from there.

### REMEMBER:

- MDI Reports are the start of inquiry, not the final answer.
- You are already an expert on your own community - and this local knowledge is essential.
- The MDI asks children how they feel - it does not make objective assessments of a school or community.
- You don't need to be a statistician or an expert on the MDI. Make use of the FAQ's, the presentation templates, and the full array of material found at [discovermdi.ca](https://discovermdi.ca)

## checklist

- Access your MDI Report and review the data
- Send invitations (and remember to explain the purpose of the presentation)
- Consider sharing some or all of the MDI results, or our MDI Quicksheets, with your attendees in advance
- Customize our presentation templates or build your own
- Confirm the key messages and questions you want to deliver
- Make sure you have a way to collect feedback during or following the presentation