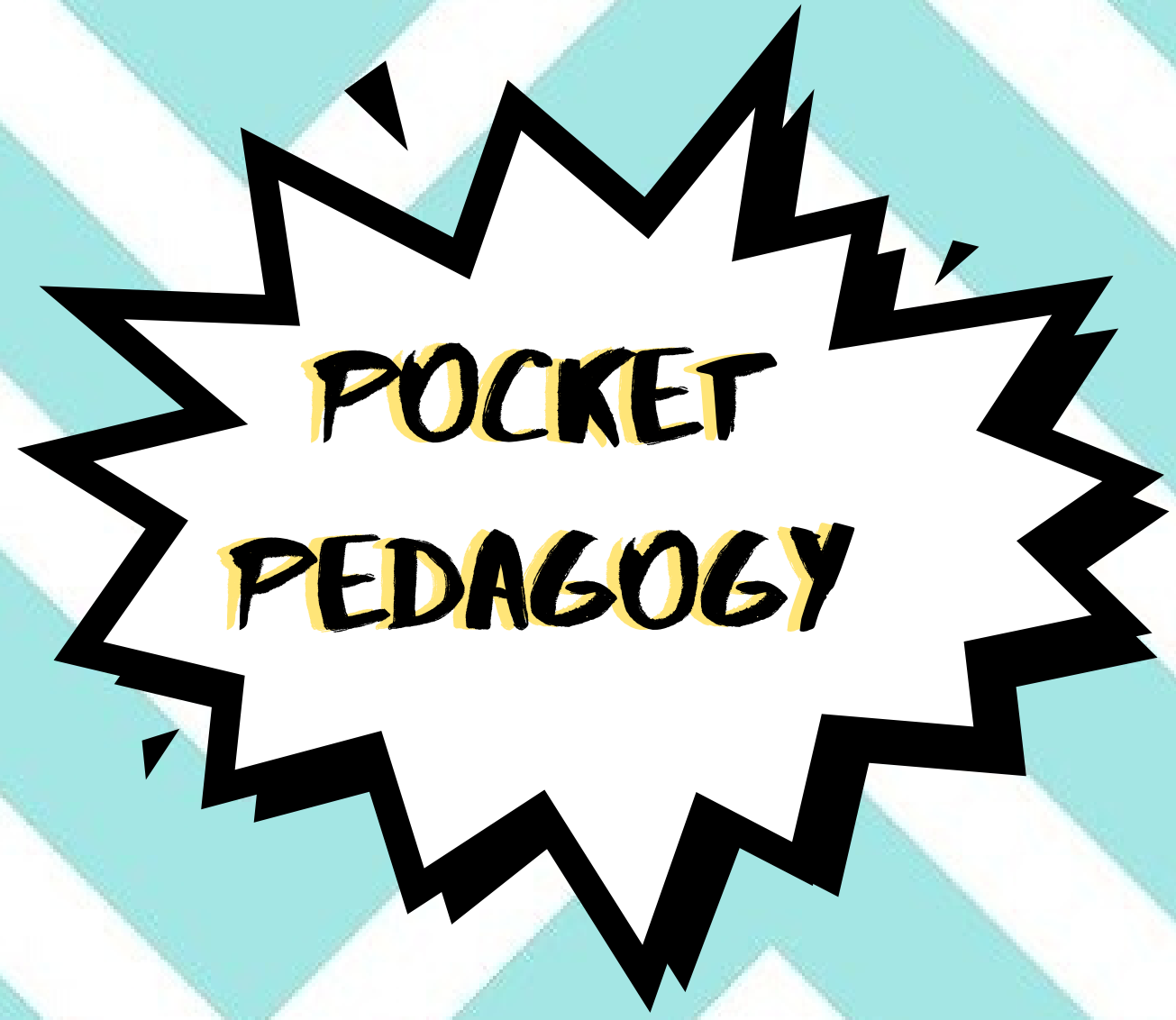


# MISTAKE-DRIVEN LEARNING



## WHAT IS IT?

Mistake-Driven Learning is a philosophy that sees making mistakes as integral to the learning process.

As we learn a new skill, making errors allows us to learn from them and leads to a more rounded understanding of what we are learning.

Using the approach in school means encouraging children to make mistakes, and importantly, to learn from them.

This approach is particularly useful when used in conjunction with problem-based learning (learning through solving open-ended problems).

## WHAT DOES IT REALLY LOOK LIKE?

- Christopher Pappas (2015) outlined some key benefits in allowing and encouraging learners to make mistakes. Although originally outlined for eLearning environments, they can be easily applied to traditional schooling too:

### The Benefits:

- More Risk-Taking - telling a learner that it is OK to fail, allows them to take risks which in turn means they can try creative approaches to using the skill.
- Better Problem-Solving Skills - learning how to overcome mistakes helps to form children's abilities to overcome challenges.
- Links Between Actions and Consequences - by making mistakes when using a new skill, children see the effect of their actions.
- Better Retention - if a child develops a strategy to overcome a problem by themselves they are more likely to remember it.
- Reduces Fear of Failure - if a child is allowed to make mistakes, they are less likely to be scared of them.
- Boosts Confidence - encouraging children to make mistakes will make them feel supported in their learning environment, which can boost their confidence in taking on new challenges.

