A Simple GPS-Inspired Flow

(Created with AI Assistance)

START
 |

 1. DEFINE THE QUESTION
   • One person
   • One place
   • One time frame
   |
   ▼

2. WHAT DO I REALLY KNOW?
   • Separate documented facts from assumptions
   • Identify earliest and latest proven facts
   |
   ▼

3. REVIEW THE STORY SO FAR
   • Timeline with sources
   • Gaps, conflicts, or unexplained changes
   |
   ▼

4. FORM A WORKING IDEA or THEORY
   • Tentative hypothesis
   • Open to change
   |
   ▼

5. DECIDE WHAT'S NEXT
   ☐ Targeted research
   ☐ Better analysis
   ☐ Refine the question
   ☐ Re-examine assumptions
   |
   ▼ PROCEED WITH PURPOSE

Why This Version Works

- Groups steps that naturally belong together
- Reduces the "checklist anxiety"
- Still enforces **definition → evidence → context → decision**
- Easy to explain in **2–3 minutes** during class

If you want, I can also:

- Make an **even lighter "starter" version** (5 steps)
- Create a **visual infographic-style layout**
- Add **one-line AI prompts** to each step
- Provide **facilitator talking points** to introduce this without overwhelm