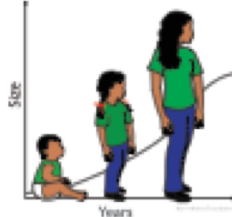


Seeks to understand the big picture



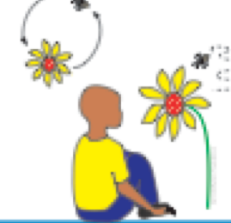
Observes how elements within systems change over time, generating patterns and trends



Recognizes that a system's structure generates its behavior



Identifies the circular nature of complex cause and effect relationships



Makes meaningful connections within and between systems



## Habits of a Systems Thinker



Changes perspectives to increase understanding



Surfaces and tests assumptions



Considers an issue fully and resists the urge to come to a quick conclusion



Considers how mental models affect current reality and the future



Uses understanding of system structure to identify possible leverage actions



Considers short-term, long-term and unintended consequences of actions



Pays attention to accumulations and their rates of change



Recognizes the impact of time delays when exploring cause and effect relationships

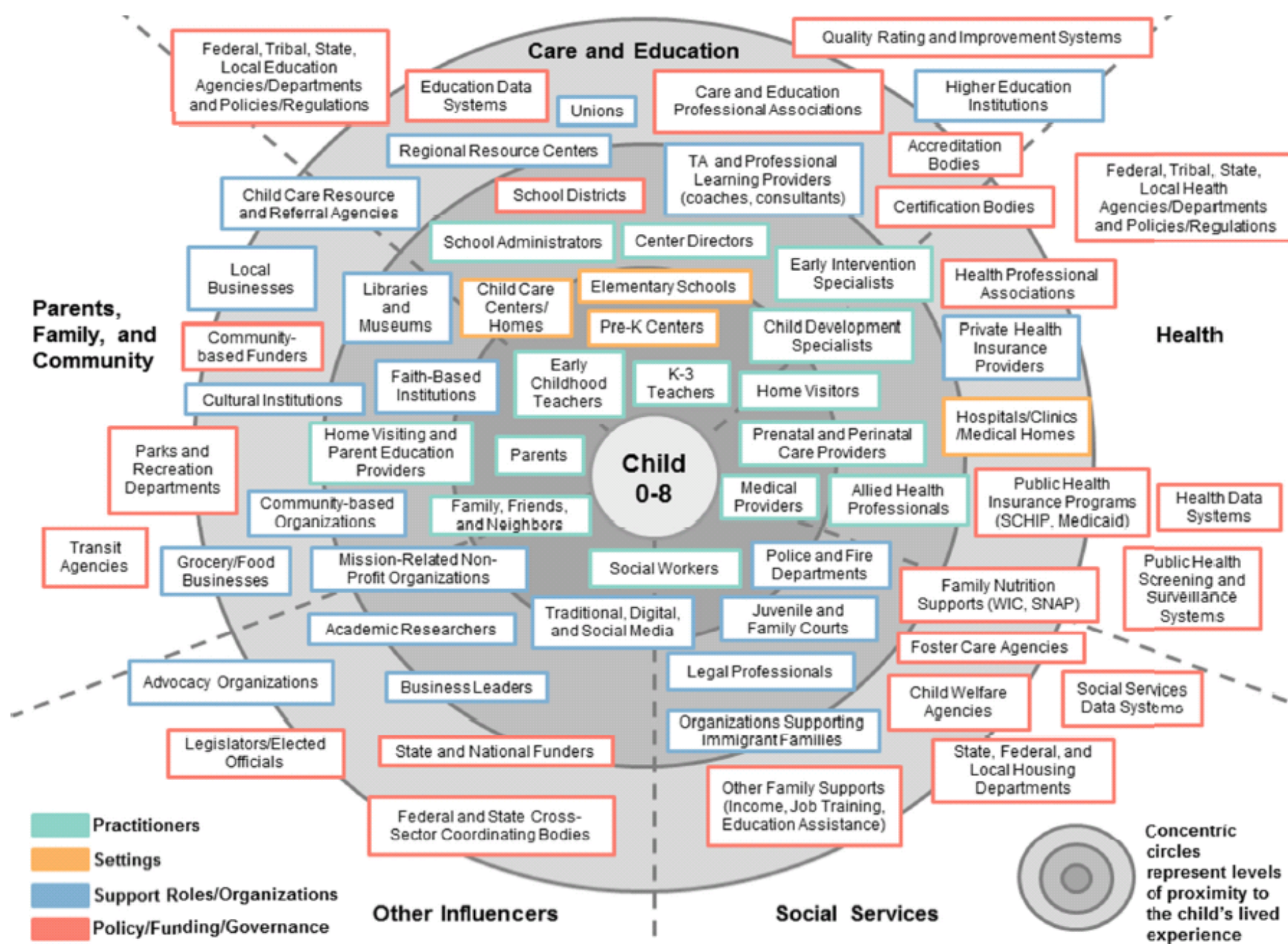


Checks results and changes actions if needed: "successive approximation"



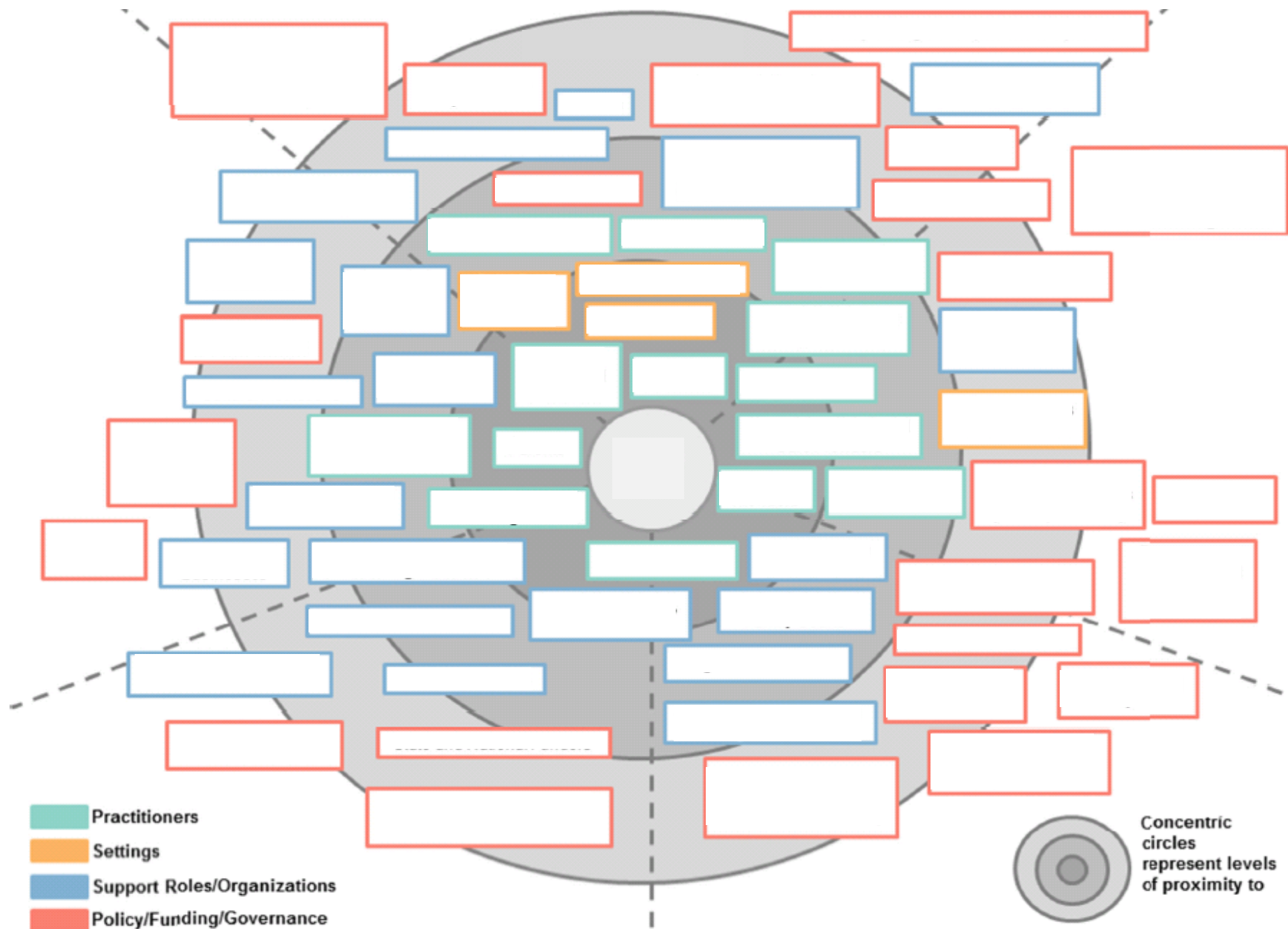
Your system...any system is  
perfectly designed to produce  
the results you are obtaining.

(Adapted from Carr, 2008)



**FIGURE 1-1** The complex landscape that affects children ages 0-8.





**FIGURE 1.1** The complex landscape that affects