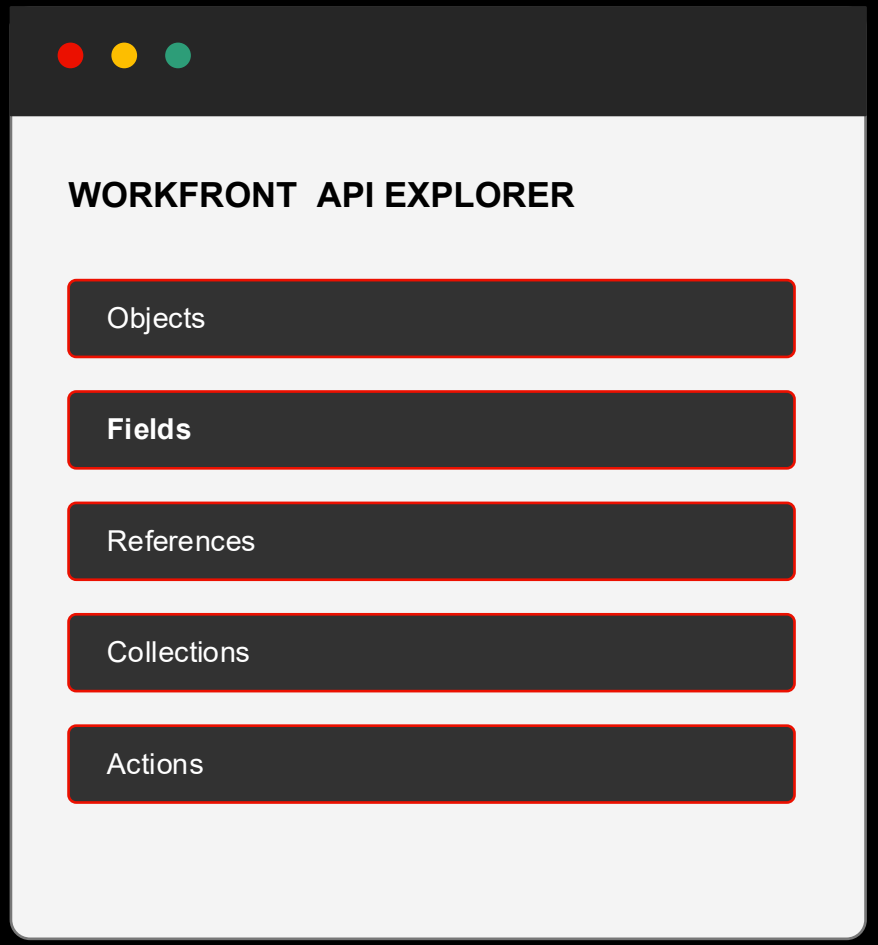
Understanding the Workfront API Explorer

A guide for Workfront leaders, admins, and practitioners



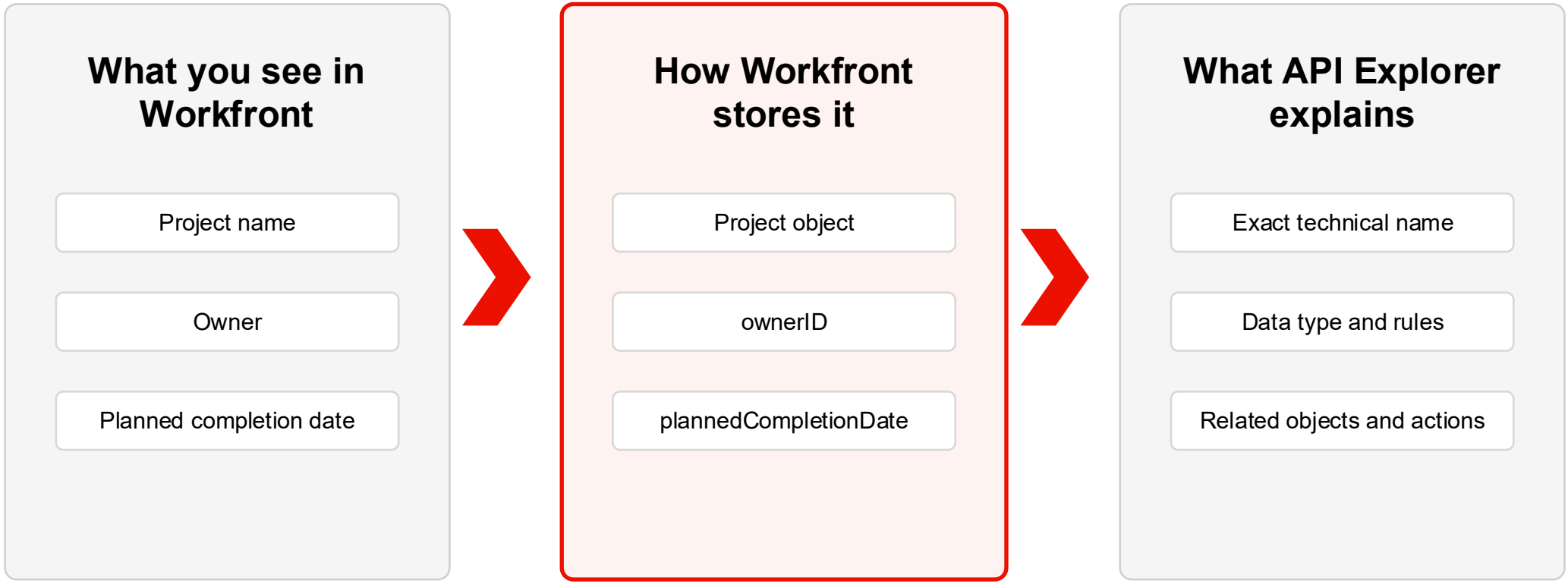
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Start with the right mental model

The API Explorer is a catalog of Workfront data.



Use it to translate a business question into the exact Workfront data structure.

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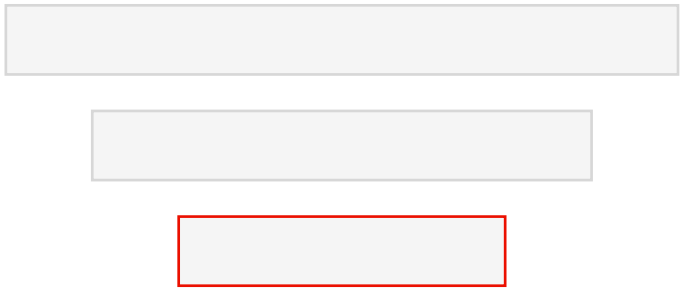
Search and Actions answer different questions

Both tabs support API use, but one retrieves records and the other performs an operation.

SEARCH

Find records that match criteria

Think: “Which projects match my query?”



RESULT SET

Inputs are query parameters.
Output is matching records.

ACTIONS

Run a supported operation

Think: “What can I make this object do?”

attachTemplate

Arguments go in.
A procedure executes.

Use the tab details to confirm the URL, arguments, and result type before building the call.

Sources: Using the API Explorer, Jun 12 2026

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What to do with the tabs

Click on an Object on the main page to expose the tabs. Choose a tab based on the question you are trying to answer.

1

Fields

What data is stored?

Use most often

2

References

What does this object point to?

Use for relationships

3

Collections

What records belong to it?

Use for one-to-many data

4

Actions

What special operation is available?

Use mainly for integrations

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Three customer questions the Explorer can help answer

Use the technical details to support a business conversation.

If Fields are the information written directly on a record, References and Collections are the links to the other records. A project has its own fields, but it also connects to an owner and can contain many tasks. Those connections tell reporting and integration tools where to find the rest of the information.

Reporting

Can this value appear in a report?

- Find the object and field
- Review flags
- Confirm reporting behavior

Fusion / integration

Can an automation read or update it?

- Check field type
- Look for READ_ONLY
- Review actions and relationships

Connected Information

What other information is connected to this record?

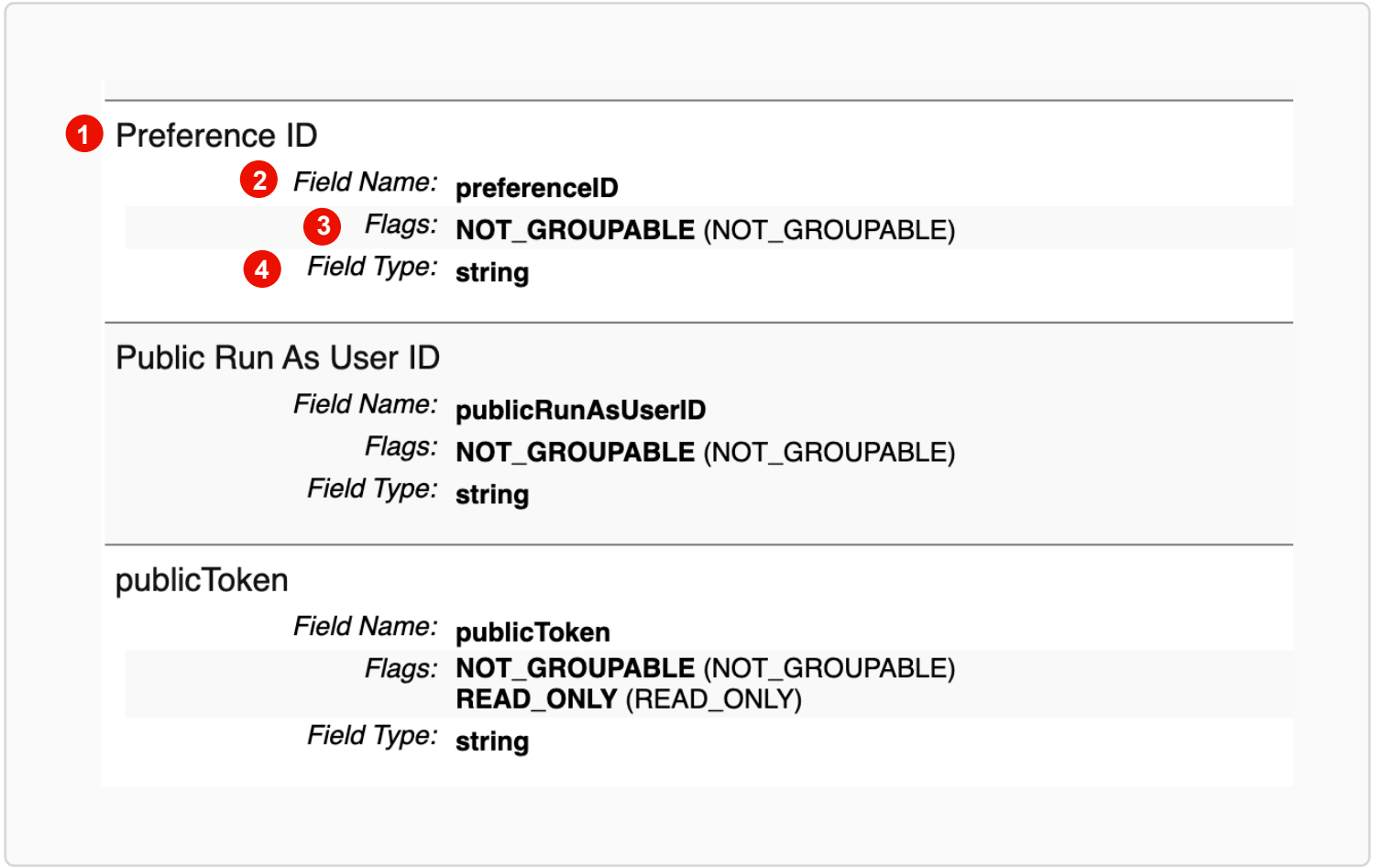
- Start with the main record
- See what other records are connected
- Find the related information you need

The information you need may be connected to the record rather than stored directly on it.

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How to read a field entry

Read left to right: business label, API name, data type, then flags.



1 Field label

Human-readable name

2 API name

Exact technical name

3 Flags

Rules or limitations attached to the field

4 Field type

Text, number, date, true/false, or object

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Flags are warning labels, not errors

They tell you how Workfront allows a field to be used.

READ_ONLY

You can expose the data, but can’t edit

Workfront controls the value.

NOT_GROUPABLE

Does not allow grouping of this field

The field may still be readable or filterable.

NOT_FILTERABLE

You can not filter on this field

The field may still appear in returned data.

DEPRECATED

Field will be deprecated from the platform Avoid using

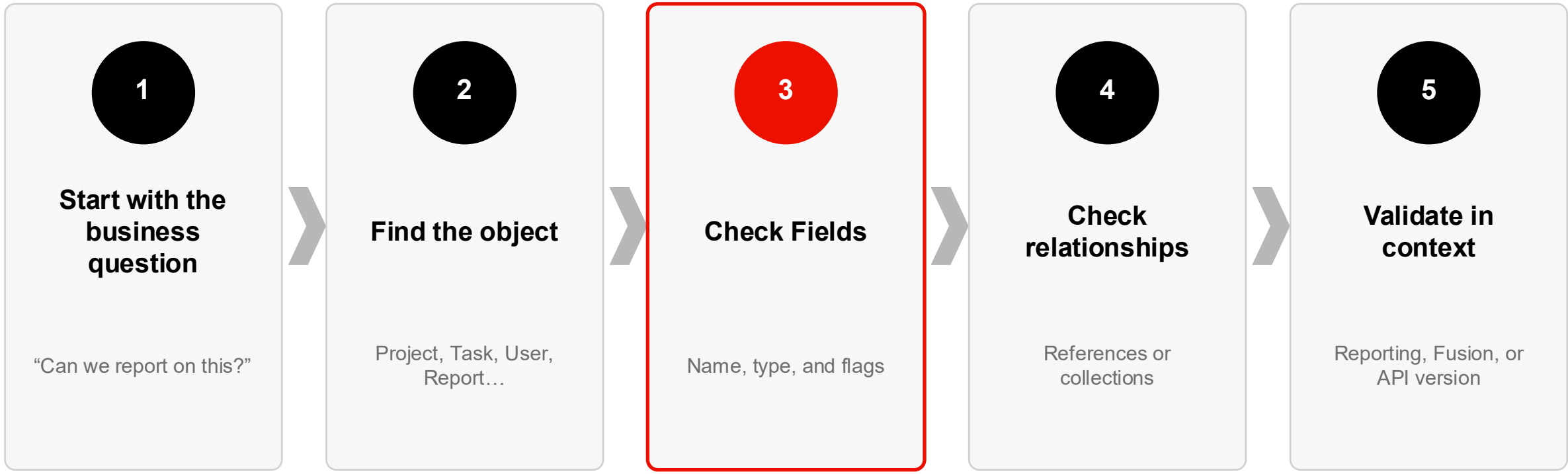
The field will be removed or replaced.

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A practical five-step workflow

Use the Explorer to investigate a question, then validate the result in your Workfront environment.



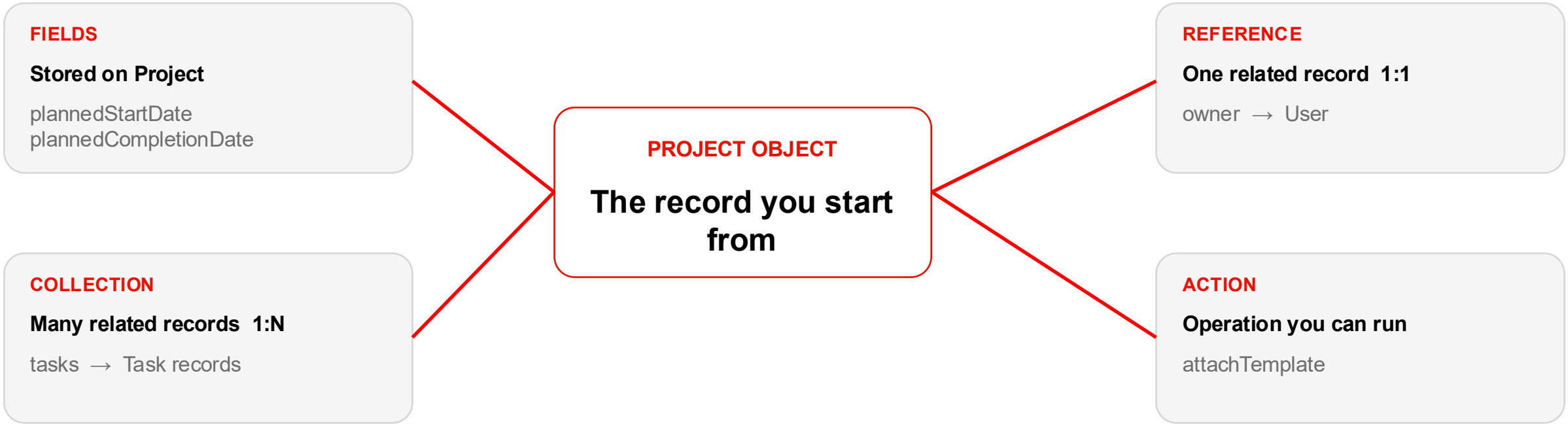
The Explorer tells you what exists. Your use case determines whether that data is useful.

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One object, four ways to explore it

Start at Project, then decide whether the answer is stored directly or connected elsewhere.



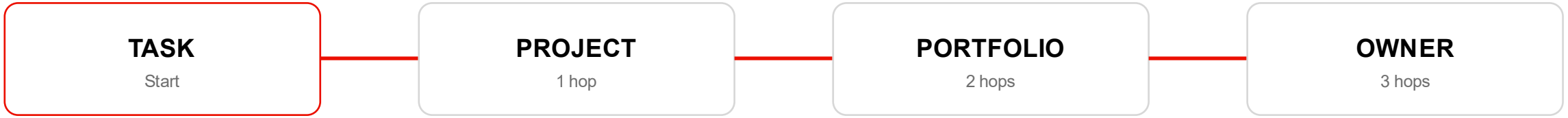
A “hop” follows a relationship to another object. From Project, hop to Owner to inspect User fields, or to Tasks to inspect each Task. See next slide for more on hops.

Sources: Adobe Workfront API Explorer documentation, Jun 12 2026

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How many object “hops” can you make?

A hop means following a reference from the starting object to a related object.



VIEWS

Up to 3 objects away

Example: Task → Project → Portfolio → Owner

FILTER / GROUPING / PROMPT

Up to 2 objects away

Example: Task → Project → Portfolio

CORE API

Follow relationships, not a fixed hop model

Request reference data, retrieve collections, or use IDs in subsequent calls.

Complex paths may require multiple API calls.

CALCULATED CUSTOM DATA

Traverse supported references

Use expressions such as {project}.{name} to derive a value from related data.

Do not treat one-to-many collections as calculated-field joins.

Key distinction: Reports, Groups, Filters and Views have explicit cross-object limits. The Core API can follow relationships through requested data or additional calls. Calculated custom fields can traverse supported references, but they are not designed to aggregate entire collections.

Sources: Text mode syntax overview, Apr 1 2026 | API basics, Jul 10 2026 | Calculated data expressions, Apr 1 2026

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API versions: what changes when you switch

The selected version controls which objects, fields, collections, searches, and actions the Explorer displays.





OLDER

May omit newer resources

SUPPORTED

Use a named version

LATEST

Longest support window

Explorer

Switch the version in the upper-right selector.

API call

Pin a supported version in the URI.

Before changing

Compare metadata and test for breaking changes.

Avoid unversioned “Default” calls: Default advances when a new API version is released.

Sources: API versioning and support schedule | Specify an API Version in your integrations

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What to remember

- ✓ **It is a data dictionary** Use it to understand how Workfront stores information.
- ✓ **Start with Fields** Then use References, Collections, or Actions when needed.
- ✓ **Flags describe restrictions** READ_ONLY and NOT_GROUPABLE are rules, not errors.
- ✓ **Validate before promising** API version, permissions, reporting, and integration context can matter.

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