

Week 5: Key Takeaways

The Map Session — April 2026

- 1. The cave has rooms.** Each room is a tool. The Vault holds your data. The Scriptorium holds your documents. The Workshop is where you direct Claude. The Junction automates things while you sleep. The Docks ship it all. Know which room you're in.
- 2. Structured memory uses fewer tokens.** When Claude needs one field from a spreadsheet, it grabs that field. It doesn't read everything. Recipes, profiles, products — anything with repeating parts belongs in a spreadsheet.
- 3. Some databases aren't efficient to query.** Connecting to an external database (like World Anvil) doesn't automatically make it fast. Your mileage will vary based on how the database is built. If queries are expensive, export to markdown and use that instead.
- 4. MCPs are not just one function.** An MCP opens a whole workshop of tools Claude can use at will — not just one operation. Think of it as hiring a crew, not making a single phone call.
- 5. Search Smithery.ai before you build anything.** Over 7,500 MCPs already exist. Check there first. Quality check: usage in the thousands, uptime above 90%, tools count above 10.
- 6. One N8N execution = one full workflow run.** No matter how many steps are inside. A 30-step workflow that fires once is one execution. Zapier charges per step. N8N doesn't.
- 7. Self-hosted N8N: unlimited executions for ~\$25/month.** Use a host that offers one-click N8N install. You pay for the server, not the software. RJ runs 50,000+ executions a month this way.
- 8. You need N8N when you need to process information without being present.** Chatbots, scheduled automations, infrastructure checks — anything that runs on its own. If you're triggering everything manually, you don't need it yet.
- 9. Cloudflare hosts static sites for free.** HTML, CSS, and JavaScript pages live on the internet at zero cost. DNS, SSL, and CDN are all included. Add your domain, update your nameservers, done.
- 10. Wrangler deploys your pages with two commands.** You don't type them yourself. Claude does it through the Cloudflare MCP. You say "deploy this" and it appears. No drag-and-drop. No monthly builder fees. No translator between you and your page.

HOMEWORK

- Audit what you store. Pick one thing with repeating parts and put it in a Google Sheet or Airtable. Ask Claude to design the columns.
- Search Smithery.ai for one tool you wish Claude could talk to. Do the quality check. Try connecting it.

- If you're paying monthly for a website builder, have Claude read one page and rebuild it as HTML. Deploy it to Cloudflare Pages. See the difference.