

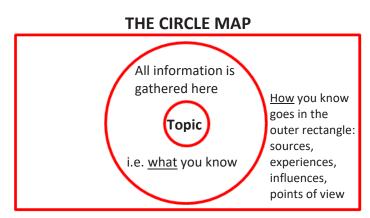
THINKING MAPS APPLICATION TIPS

When you are **Defining...**

Key Words used	Questions asked	Applications
Tell me everything you know	What do you think this word	Formative Assessment of what
about this topic, List, Define,	means? What did we learn about	students already know about a
Note the key points, Name all	this topic? What are the main	topic. This includes misconceptions,
the types (of fractions,	issues raised in this video/book?	which you can be aware of.
forces, habitats, plants,	What are all the points you want	A starting point to gather all ideas –
animals, qualities, points of	to make (or learn) about this	firstly your own, and then perhaps
interest) in this topic.	topic? What are all the ways of	more from peers, video or written
Brainstorm, discuss.	getting to this answer/number?	material; or pre and post revision.

...then the Thinking Map to use is

Note: You can use the Circle Map to measure growth in your thinking, such as checking and selfcorrecting information that is incorrect and adding new information in a different colour.



When you are **Describing...**

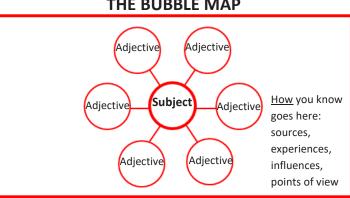
Key Words used	Questions asked	Applications
Describe feelings, attributes,	How would you describe	Generate rich and original adjectives before
characteristics, properties,	this in your own words?	writing – to describe a setting, a character, or
adjectives, qualities. Use	What is this really like?	situation. Considering the properties of
each of the 5 senses to	Which words would	materials or visuals in Natural Science,
explain how it feels, smells,	paint a vivid picture of it	Design and Technology or Art.
sounds, tastes, looks.	in your mind?	

...then the Thinking Map to use is

Note: The Bubble Map is for adjectives only.

It is not a Spider Diagram! (If you are looking for a Spider Diagram, either collect main ideas in a defining Circle Map or main headings in a classifying Tree Map, in which case you can also add sub-points under those headings).

THE BUBBLE MAP





When you are **Comparing and Contrasting...**

Key Words used	Questions asked	Applications
Compare/contrast,	What are the similarities and	Compare and contrast characters in a
discuss	differences between A and B?	book/film, two shapes, methodologies,
similarities/differences,	What do they have in common?	countries, time periods, formulae,
distinguish between,	What is unique to only one of	technologies, types of plant or animal.
differentiate, what	them?	Clarifying identifying properties that
things/concepts have	What distinguishing features help	enhance understanding of forms,
in common or not.	you identify them from each other?	functions, applications and meanings.

...then the Thinking Map to use is

Note: Be careful to connect the lines to the rights places, based on the properties that link or differentiate A and B. Use the most striking or meaningful similarities and differences without mechanistically mirroring them (e.g. tall and short may be less distinguishing than that A is gangly and B is well-dressed). A and B can have different numbers of differences.

Difference Similarity Difference Difference A Similarity B Difference Difference Similarity Difference

When you are Classifying...

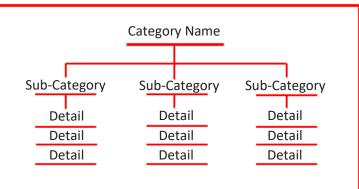
Key Words used	Questions asked	Applications
Classify, sort,	How might you group the main ideas,	Making notes or summaries in any content
group,	supporting ideas and details in this	area – students think about the category
categorise, give	topic? What are the key headings in	headings and the details of what they learn.
related detail,	this unit of work/project/talk/essay?	Categorising information from a Circle Map
types of, kinds	Can you sort all the information you	in preparation for writing about a topic or
of, list and	have gathered into key concepts?	giving an oral presentation.
elaborate,	What important details do you want	Collecting information under predetermined
taxonomy	to add under each heading?	headings whilst reading a text.

...then the Thinking Map to use is

Note: Be careful to draw the Tree Map exactly as structured here.

You can use the Tree Map to give students an overview of a subject, to see what is coming up and how units of work fit in. It is also extremely useful for revision.

THE TREE MAP





When you are **Sequencing...**

Key Words used	Questions asked	Applications
Sequence, map the steps in	What is the process/project you	Mapping a sequenced step-by-step
this project, put in order,	are sequencing? What is the step-	project in PBL. Life Cycles and
order, recount/re-tell, what	by-step sequence of events in the	processes in Natural Science/Social
happens next, cycles,	process/project? What are the	Science. Time lines in history.
patterns, processes, change,	sub-stages? Is each step in the	Planning the sequence of a story for
solve multi-step problems	right order?	writing/recording the sequence of a
		story. Recording a thought process,
		such as in problem solving.

...then the Thinking Map to use is

Note: Make sure that the Flow Map has arrows showing the order of events/stages. For life cycles it becomes a circle.

General Note: Whilst it is vital to apply the Thinking Maps with the elements of each map exactly as they were designed, please don't squeeze student thinking to the size or number

Stage 1 Stage 2 Stage 3 Sub-stages can be added if required (optional)

of circles or blocks. Freehand maps that are corrected as they develop, capture more expansive thinking!



THINKING MAPS OVERVIEW

Questions	Thinking Process	Thinking Map
Tell me everything that you know about this. How are you defining it? What is your context? What is your frame of reference?	Defining in Context	Circle Map
How would you describe this object/idea/person? Which adjectives would you use?	Describing	Bubble Map
What are the similarities and differences?	Comparing and Contrasting	Double Bubble Map
How might you group the main ideas, supporting ideas and details?	Classifying	Tree Map
What are the parts that make up the whole object? Can the parts be broken down into sub-parts?	Part-Whole Relationship	Brace Map
What is the sequence of events? What are the sub-stages?	Sequencing	Flow Map
What are the causes and effects?	Cause and Effect	Multi Flow Map
What is the analogy being used for?	Seeing Analogies	Bridge Map



KEY THINKING WORDS

THINKING MAP	THINKING PROCESS	KEY WORDS
Circle Map	Defining in Context	Context, context clues, list, define, tell everything that you know, brainstorm, tell about, explore the meaning, discuss
Bubble Map	Describing	Describe, use vivid language, observe using 5 senses, describe feelings, attributes, characteristics, properties, adjectives, qualities
Double Bubble Map	Comparing and Contrasting	Compare/contrast, discuss similarities/differences, distinguish between, differentiate
Tree Map	Classifying	Classify, sort, group, categorise, give sufficient and related details, types of, kinds of, list and elaborate, taxonomy
Brace Map	Part-Whole Relationship	Parts of, take apart, show structure, physical components, anatomy,
Flow Map	Sequencing	Sequence, put in order, order, recount/re-tell, what happens next, cycles, patterns, processes, change, solve multi-step problems
Multi Flow Map	Cause and Effect	Causes and effects, discuss consequences, what would happen if, predict, change, identify motives, why, results, outcomes, benefits
Bridge Map	Seeing Analogies	Identify the common relationship, guess the rule, interpret symbols, simile, metaphor, allegory, ratio

