

HOW TO MIND MAP

FOR 3RD-5TH GRADE, THIS LESSON HELPS STUDENTS CREATE OR STRENGTHEN THEIR SKILLS TO PLAN BEFORE WRITING AN ESSAY

MATERIALS

- Blank paper
- Pencil
- Multiple writing prompts to practice with

RESOURCES

<https://creately.com/blog/diagrams/thinking-maps-templates/>

<https://blog.papertrue.com/mind-mapping-essay-writing/>

OBJECTIVES

SWBAT

1. Plan an essay by using a mind map
2. Create more than one kind of mind map to organize thoughts

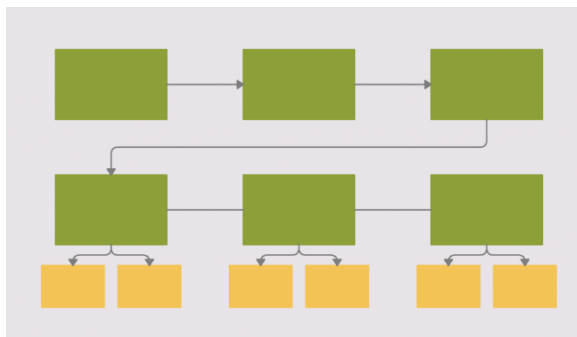
Anticipatory Set (Motivation)

- Have students talk with a partner about what they think a mind map without telling them what it is.

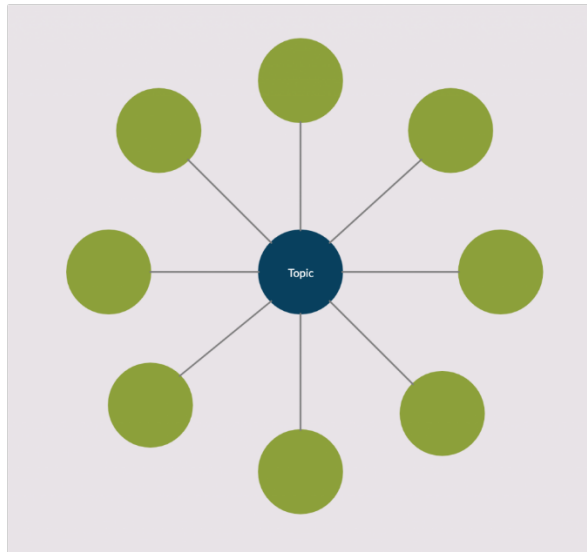
Activities

Direct Instruction (“I Do”)

1. Explain what a mind map is
 - a. “A mind map is used to help plan something. You can use them for essays or goals. It’s kind of like an outline. There’s more than one kind, but today we’re going to talk about 2 major kinds. The flow map and the circle map. “
2. Define the two mind maps and draw them out on the board or on paper
 - a. A Flow map is used to help figure out order of events



- b. A circle map is used to help organize brainstorming.



3. Both mind maps are good to use, and there are more out there.
4. Explain how to use each mind map
 - a. Flow Chart
 - i. Draw out the flow chart and write what you would put in each slot for an essay. (“Introduction, Body #1, Body #2, Body #3, Conclusion”)
 1. Another prompt example is “Describe a routine you do, whether in the morning, for exercise, etc.”
 - ii. Put the main idea for each section, in order.
 - b. Circle map
 - i. Draw out the circle map
 - ii. Topic of the paper goes in the center with each branch being a main idea for paragraphs

Guided Practice (“We Do”)

1. Pick a prompt
 - a. List of possible prompts: <https://www.journalbuddies.com/prompts-by-grade/best-writing-prompts/>
 - b. Example prompt for lesson: “Do you get nervous speaking in front of people? Why or why not?”
2. “We’re going to make a mind map together for this prompt. What kind of map should we make?”
 - a. A Circle map will be easier
3. “What is our main topic?” – Nervous when speaking in front of people
 - a. Write that in a bubble in the center, have students copy
4. “What are our possible options?” – Yes and no.
5. “Now we need to answer the question of why or why not for both sides. Each idea will be its own bubble” Take examples from students as to why they do or do not feel nervous speaking in front of people.
 - a. Write each idea in its own bubble branched off from the yes or no bubble, have students copy
6. “After finishing all my thoughts, I can use these to write my essay”

Independent Practice (“You Do”)

1. Provide a new prompt for students to brainstorm to
 - a. You can also provide multiple and let the students decide which one they want to do
2. Students will make their own mind map and turn it in.

Closure

1. Ask students about what they like or don't like about mind mapping and why they think it is important.