



USE OF MIND MAP IN TEACHING

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Abstract

Teaching and learning are the two main factors in education and teaching must include two major components sending and receiving information. The purpose of this paper is to evaluate innovative practices in teaching and to suggest other useful teaching methods that can be attempted in imparting knowledge to the students. Ultimately, a teacher tries his best to impart knowledge as the way he understood it. The use of innovative methods in educational institutions has the potential not only to improve education, but also to empower people, strengthen governance to achieve the human development goal for the country.

Keywords: Mind Map, Mind Map in education and teaching, Uses, Conclusion.

Introduction

Education is an engine for the growth and progress of any society. It not only imparts knowledge, skills and inculcates values, but is also responsible for building human capital which breeds, drives and sets technological innovation and economic growth. In today's era, information and knowledge stand out as very important. Education is a light that shows the mankind the right direction to surge. The purpose of education is not just making a student literate but adds rationale thinking, knowledge ability and self-sufficiency. When there is a willingness to change, there is hope for progress in any field. Creativity can be developed and innovation benefits both students and teachers.

Concept of mind maps

Mind maps differ from concept maps in that mind maps focus on *only* one word or idea, whereas concept maps connect multiple words or ideas. Also, concept maps typically have text labels on their connecting lines/arms.

Mind maps are based on tree structures denoting relationships with a central governing concept, whereas concept maps are based on connections between concepts in more diverse patterns. However, either can be part of a larger personal knowledge system.

The Curriculum Context

Mind or model mapping has been in use in schools and Higher Education institutions for a number of years. Initially the main emphasis on mind mapping was as a student tool for the organization of information and production of useful revision materials. Recently, however, it has been strongly argued that mapping can be used to teach thinking and learning skills and that it is a tool which can transform teaching and learning in classrooms.

Definition of a Mind Map

1. A mind map is a visual representation of hierarchical information that includes a central idea surrounded by connected branches of associated topics.
2. A **mind map** is a diagram used to visually outline information. A mind map is often created around a single word or text, placed in the center, to which associated ideas, words and concepts are added. Major categories radiate from a central node, and lesser categories are sub-branches of larger branches. Categories can represent words, ideas, tasks, or other items related to a central key word or idea.

Mind maps can be drawn by hand, either as "rough notes" during a lecture or meeting, for example, or as higher quality pictures when more time is available. An example of a rough mind map is illustrated.

Mind maps are considered to be a type of spider diagram. A similar concept in the 1970s was "idea sun bursting".

(1) Mind Map

Mind maps were developed by Tony Buzan as a way of helping students make notes that used only key words and images, but mind map can be used by teachers to explain concepts in an innovative way. They are much quicker to make and much easier to remember and review because of their visual quality. The nonlinear nature of mind maps makes it easy to link and cross-reference different elements of the map.

Mind Maps are also very quick to review, as it is easy to refresh information in your mind just by glancing once. Mind Maps can also be effective mnemonics and remembering their shape and structure can provide the cues necessary to remember the information within it. They engage much more of the brain in the process of assimilating and connecting facts than conventional notes.

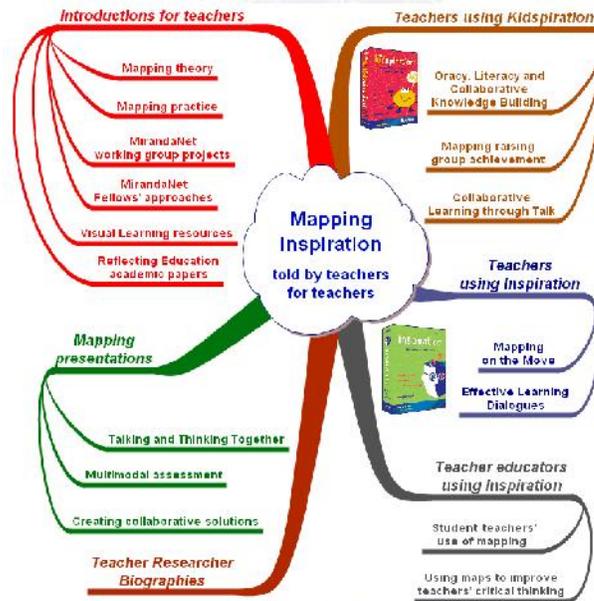
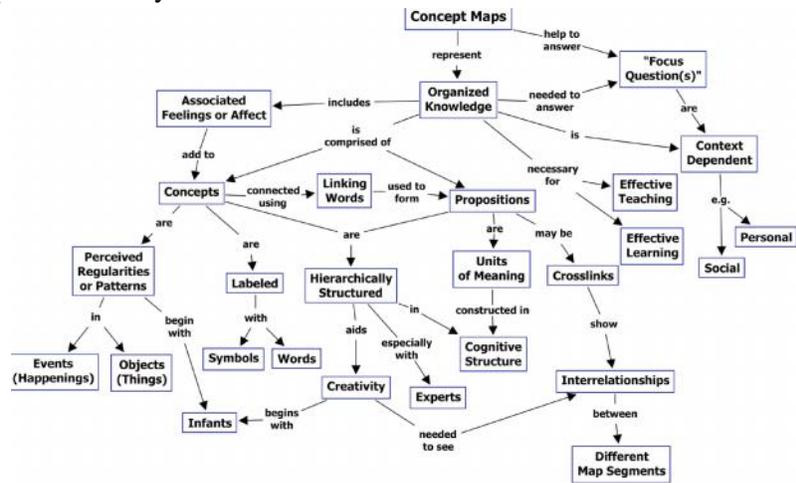
The key notion behind mind mapping is that we learn and remember more effectively by using the full range of visual and sensory tools at our disposal. Pictures, music, color, even touch and smell play a part in our learning armory will help to recollect information for long time. The key is to build up mind maps that make the most of these things building on our own creativity, thinking and cross linking between ideas that exist in our own minds.

Mind Maps in Education and Teaching

Mind mapping is a beneficial learning tool to help students brainstorm any topic and think creatively. Mind maps are particularly helpful in the writing process and provide students with a natural way of thinking.

Mind maps also provide teachers with insight into their students' thought process regarding a specific topic. By asking students to create mind maps demonstrating their comprehension of a concept, teachers are able to understand what a student's prior knowledge was and how well the student understands the assignment or the material being taught. This is a very effective way of evaluating students' understanding.

Mind Map Images
Concept maps - Novak-style



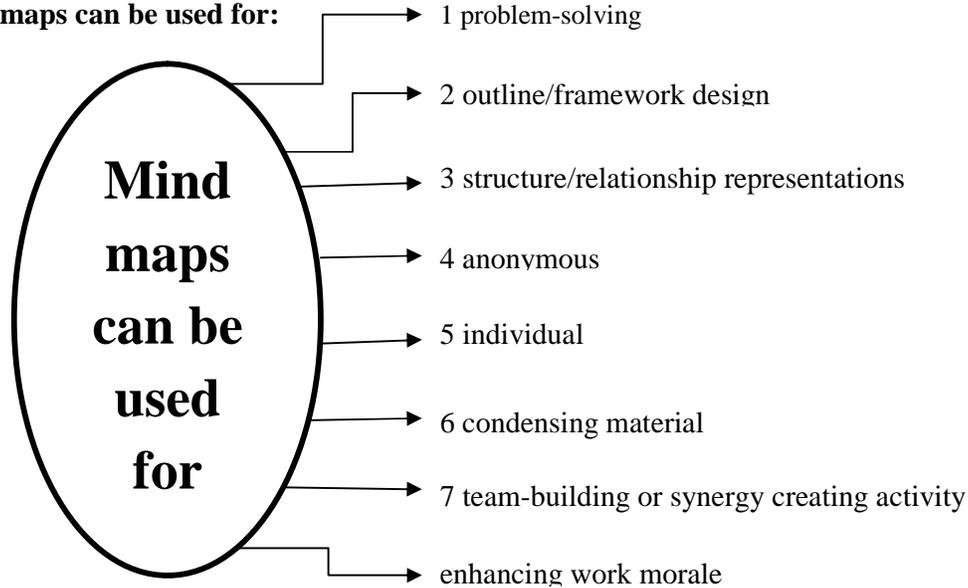
Mind map guidelines

The following guidelines for creating mind maps:

1. Start in the center with an image of the topic, using at least 3 colors.
2. Use images, symbols, codes, and dimensions throughout your mind map.
3. Select key words and print using upper or lower case letters.
4. Each word/image is best alone and sitting on its own line.
5. The lines should be connected, starting from the central image. The central lines are thicker, organic and thinner as they radiate out from the centre.
6. Make the lines the same length as the word/image they support.
7. Use multiple colors throughout the mind map, for visual stimulation and also to encode or group.
8. Develop your own personal style of mind mapping.

9. Use emphasis and show associations in your mind map.
10. Keep the mind map clear by using radial hierarchy, numerical order or outlines to embrace your branches.

Mind maps can be used for:



Conclusion

Mind map approach is new approach. The demand for technology continues to rise, colleges and universities are moving all sorts of student services, from laundry monitoring to snack delivery online. In the new paradigm of learning, the role of student is more important than teachers. The concepts of paperless and penless classroom are emerging as an alternative to the old teaching learning method. Nowadays the teacher is changing to that of facilitator. We need to have interactive teaching and this changing role of education is inevitable with the introduction of multimedia. In those environments use of mind map approach are the ideas that can very well be practiced.

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