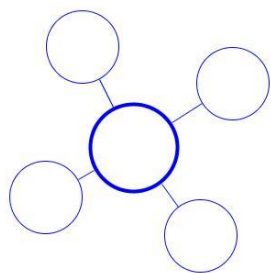


Thinking Maps: Tools for Learning

This week's focus:

The Bubble Map



Purpose:
To describe

Key Words:

describe
traits
characteristics,
feelings
attributes
properties
qualities
adjectives
using senses

Thinking process:

This map is used to help us describe a topic. The center circle is for the topic while the outer circles are for the qualities of that topic. It is important that these qualities are "adjectives." You can describe the attributes, properties, or traits of things.

It may help to think of the topic as a subject followed by the correct form of the verb "is." This will help to lead you towards adjectives or adjective phrases. For example, "School is..."

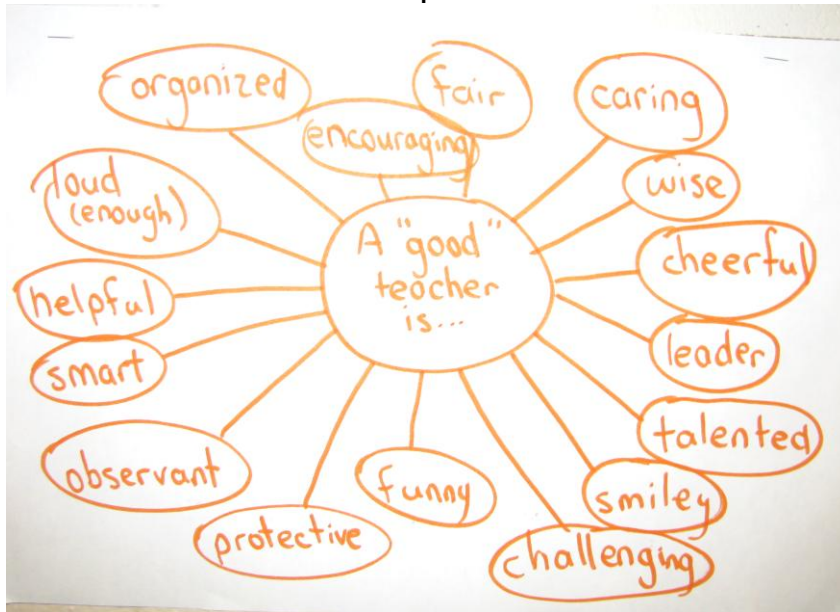
The frame of reference plays an interesting role with this map as our perspectives *may* change our descriptions. Would a first grader and eighth grader describe school the same way?

How to create this map:

1. In the center of your paper write the topic or idea that you are trying to describe. Then draw a circle around it.
2. Write a word that describes this topic outside of the center. Then circle it and connect it to the topic with a line.
3. Continue this process until you do not have anything else to add.
4. Do not forget to add your "frame of reference."

Turn over to see examples and suggestions.

Here are examples of bubble maps from classrooms.



Sample questions you could ask at home:

How would you describe your bedroom, kitchen, garage, or basement? (select one)

Describe your house.

What characteristics describe _____(a person in your family)?

Describe a family pet.

What qualities do you value in your family?

(Our family is...)

Select one of the questions to the left or come up with your own idea of how your child or your family could use this bubble map.