Module 1: How Can Visual Tools Enhance Literacy More Quickly?
30 minutes of video
42 minutes completion time

Alvin Tofler wisely said, "The illiterate of the future are not those who cannot read or write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn." With the vast amount of information students take in every day through lectures, text and images, there is a need to provide them with tools to better organize what they learn. David Hyerle, researcher, author, and developer of Thinking Maps®, introduces Visual Tools for Literacy, a program designed to show you how to facilitate your students’ literacy - from kindergarten through college. Learn which tools are best to use with whole school change and how to develop thinking skills for life-long learning.

Module 2: Visual Tools in Practice - Follow the Map
30 minutes of video
42 minutes completion time

Unlike text or language, connections made in the brain are not linear. Learn how visual tools facilitate learning and the nonlinear construction of knowledge. Find out why cartography is the most powerful visual tool and how mapping can be used to promote cognition among students working independently or together. Learn how to access student performance as they use these tools.

Module 3: Webs of Creativity - Learning Will Stick
30 minutes of video
42 minutes completion time

Introducing creativity into the classroom leads to open-ended brainstorming, prewriting exercises and the development of ideas. By using simple web-like mind-mapping techniques, you can jump start student thinking prior to reading an assigned story. Listen as Dr. Hyerle shows you how to reflect and look for richer patterns. Webbing will also improve memory, and provide a foundation for fluent thinking and literacy. Learn the techniques of clustering, webbing, and mind mapping, as well as the positive and negative uses of each.

Module 4: Organizing the Mind Using Graphic Organizers
35 minutes of video
49 minutes completion time

One of the most fundamental needs for students is organization. By using graphic organizers, students can “chunk” memory to better organize and work with the many ideas they have. Discover task-specific organizers, how to scaffold the writing process, and how to better assess students’ writing. Graphic organizers are not only recommended for organization, but for non-fiction reading, note taking, and aiding special-needs students. Included are seven troubleshooting tips to ensure graphic organizers are working correctly in your classroom.

Module 5: Conceptual Learning Using Thinking Process Maps
30 minutes of video
42 minutes completion time

Thinking process maps help students take control of “the box” so they can think outside of it. Learn how process maps can be used to illustrate cause and effect scenarios, or compare and contrast questions. By applying thinking process maps, you and your students can build a “tower of understanding” in order to facilitate thinking and conceptual understanding. Thinking process maps prepare students for higher levels of learning where they will be asked to understand these rich, deep, abstract concepts and make them concrete.

Module 6: Common Visual Language for Learning
30 minutes of video
42 minutes completion time

Some of the best visual tools promote brainstorming and organizational thinking. David Hyerle introduces Thinking Maps®, a tool that defines, describes, compares, compartmentalizes, sequences, and plots cause and effect relationships, metaphors, and analogies. These maps can be used from pre-K through all grade levels. Gain critical insight into using visual tools as isolated graphics or to accomplish multiple tasks. Learn what Thinking Maps® can do for your classroom, as well as your school! Real examples of fourth grade reading are demonstrated.

Module 7: Change Your Whole School, Not Just Your Classroom
7 minutes of video
10 minutes completion time

Literacy is about making students better thinkers by combining their reading and writing skills. By using visual literacy tools such as Thinking Maps®, teachers and administrators can improve not only the work of their students, but their own lesson planning skills. Hear examples of how literacy was improved through a whole-school implementation. Hear the results and experiences of how Thinking Maps® changed a first grade class in Mt. Airy, MD.

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