

Thinking Maps®: Developing Confident & Competent Thinkers & Learners - Bikolos Nur Academy



Hannan



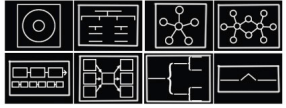
Abdurahemen



Sabontu



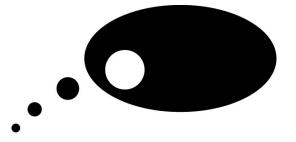
Hussien



Thinking Maps®

Thinking Maps® for Organizing Thinking

Bikolos Nur Academy, Addis Abba, Ethiopia Students and Teachers share their reflections on the use of Thinking Maps® as part of Thinking Schools Ethiopia



Students

Hannan: I really think that Thinking maps make a big difference in my life because before I really didn't read my books much because it takes too much time to understand, but now I am interested to open my exercise books make Thinking Maps to actually study and know what I am reading. We can be independent and learn by ourselves, because Thinking Maps are our teachers. They make everything easy so that we can read and remember — it makes you visualize things. Thinking Maps capture our thinking in our mind.

Hannan Abdulfetah, Grade 9 Student

Abdurahemen: Thinking Maps have helped me a lot in studying. Next year I am taking national exam. I am preparing my summaries using Thinking Maps because it is taking a shorter time with Thinking Maps. It is more effective because by looking at the circles and the other maps, I can remember what is inside and that makes it easier for me to study.

Abdurahemen Kassim, Grade 9 Student

Hussien: We are using the maps very effectively and the class is now more student centered with everybody participating. The eight Thinking Maps are so helpful because we can do our work easily — for example our book is a huge book so it is tiresome and consumes much time. But you can use a piece of paper and draw maps and easily analyze the things about the subject in few minutes. When we do Thinking Maps in group work everybody is participating on it, so it is going to be fun and interesting.

Hussien Abdulnessir, Grade 9 Student

Sabontu: Thinking Maps are very easy to use and to remember. Before when we work in groups there was not much argument but now we can easily visualize things and remember what you see in pictures in the mind. These maps are like pictures and have different designs and very easy to remember.

Sabontu Ali, Grade 9 Student

Teachers

Adefres: I really want to thank the thinkers who give us Thinking Maps and make us think to ourselves and for our students. Thinking Maps are very helpful. I have spent many years teaching chemistry and I have been trying many methods to visualize chemistry to students. The thinking maps made everything clear in these 2-3 weeks after the training.

Adefres Zerihun, Vice Director and Chemistry teacher

Huda: Thinking Maps makes our life easier and help us impart lessons which were difficult to comprehend. The students have accepted Thinking Maps in a very special way and related to the maps. I hope the Thinking Maps will go on so that we can give them what they deserve and we can get from you what we deserve.

Huda Seid, Vice Director and English teacher

Mohammed: Starting with the Thinking Schools training, I understood that the training and the Thinking Maps is participatory. We were at the training on a Friday and started implementing Thinking Maps on Monday. The training has helped me a lot because before I had hard time delivering my subject to my students. But after learning the Thinking Maps and introducing the eight Thinking Maps to my students, my subject is understood more easily. We are always told about student centered teaching but it is with Thinking Maps I could involve all types of learners in my class. This is also the policy of our country and if we regularly implement them and get reference materials, we can even do better. Both the staff and the students have loved it and we thank you.

Mohammed Awol, Social sciences teacher

Usman: I have used all the Thinking Maps except the Bridge Map in my grade 3 lessons. I am very excited. My students love the Thinking Maps and are internalizing the maps. The Thinking Maps are helping us to identify the level of the students. For example, some students remain in the circle map and others apply the other maps achieving higher order thinking in Blooms Taxonomy. So generally I am very happy as the Thinking Maps assists us in effective teaching methodology and students. Recent results have shown slight increment of growth from last quarter over a period of three weeks.

Usman Mohammed, Grade 3 Science Teacher

Zewdu: Thinking Schools Ethiopia is very interesting starting from the training. The Thinking Maps makes our minds visualize information. In this short time students are referring to and using the Thinking Maps more than the previous methods. All students are more active than the previously because they can easily understand the topics and remember what they are learning.

Zewdu Hailu, Vice Director and Physics teacher

Fatuma: The first time I took the training was through our school network with around 15 other schools. By then, I was convinced and believed this is the way to quality education. After the training, immediately, I introduced Thinking schools to my school. Now, it is a month since its introduction and within this time I have seen a big change. The students are starting to think clearly and improved creativity as well as creating their own way of thinking and simplifying things.

Fatuma Ahmed, Founder and School Director



Fatuma



Adefres



Huda



Mohammed



Usman



Zewdu