

Contents

Introduction

Activity Cards

Aha!
Amaze yourself
Analogy
Analysing Objects
Analysing a Process
Believing
Boring Topics
Borrowing Ideas
Brain Quiz
Brainstorming
Breaking Habits
Cause and Effect
Certainty
Changing your Mind
Classifying
Codes
Combinations
Common Sense
Comparing and Contrasting
Constructive Criticism
Critical Thinking
Day in the Life of your Brain
Debating yourself
Decision Making
Deductions
Deductions that Don't Make Sense
Defining Words
Differentiating Actions
Differentiating Objects
Divergent Thinking
Divergent Thinking (Tasks)
Drawing your Thoughts
Dreaming
Estimating
Etiquette
Examples

Expertise
Explaining
Facts
Facts that Change
Failure Analysis
False Analogies
Feedback
Generalisations
Generalisations to Check
Get Smart
Hunting Ideas
Hypotheses
Impossibilities
Improving Things
Indexing your Knowledge
Induction
Inferences
Interpreting Proverbs
Interview a Thinker
Inventing Step-By-Step
Invention Stories
Joke Study
Judging with Objectivity
Keeping an Open Mind
Loaded Words
Logical Thinking
Making Something Strange
Mapping your Mind
Memorising Facts
Memorising Literature
Metaphorical Thinking
Missing Facts
Mistakes
Model Making
Naming Products
Negotiating
Observing
Opinions
Organising Things

Paradoxes
Paraphrasing
Pattern Detecting
Personification
Planning
Planning for Trouble
Point of View
Point of View in Stories
Predicting the News
Probability
Problem Collecting
Problem-Solving
Proof
Pros and Cons
Questioning
Ranking
Reading Smart
Rebutting
Recipe Writing
Relationships
Relationship Pairs
Remembering
Renaming
Replacements
Resizing
Reverse Engineering
Right Answers
Role-Playing
Rules of Thumb
Sensing
Sequencing
Shrink Yourself
Similarities
Standards of Excellence
Step Back
Stereotyping
Symbols
Team Thinking
Testing Story Ideas
Translating Pictures
Translating Text
Transplanted Ideas
Troubleshooting

Twist an Old Product
Twist an Old Story
Unblock Your Creativity
Uncommon Sensing
Venn Diagram
Venn Diagram Making
Visualising
What if?
Wonder
X-Ray Vision
Yes or No
Zoom in, Zoom out

Resources **73**

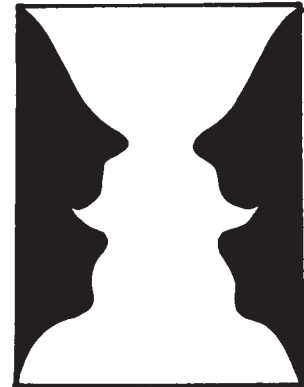
Teaching Extensions
Activity Log
Thinking Starters
Proverbs to Interpret
Thinkers to Study
Inventions to Study
-ologies
How to Stage a Debate
Read-around-the-Library
Thinking Quotations
Answers

Resource List **96**

Aha!

Discovery often begins when someone notices something that's weird or surprising. Scientists, artists, detectives and other thinkers train themselves to look for the unexpected.

Try this: Study this optical illusion. At first, it will look like one thing, and then like something else. Describe what you see and how the illusion makes you feel.



Extra: Copy the optical illusion onto a piece of paper. Show it to someone else and observe how the person reacts. Write a few sentences comparing that person's reaction to your own.

Amaze Yourself

If you think the world is dull, it will seem dull to you. If you decide that it's interesting, you will find endless things to think about.

Try this: Imagine that you have just been born. Look around and find at least ten things that are amazing. For each item on your list, write a sentence that explains why the thing is interesting.



Extra: Make a book for children about amazing things found in everyday life.

Analogy

Things that seem different may be alike in surprising ways. For example, an umbrella and a roof both keep people dry. Pointing out this kind of similarity is called making an 'analogy'.

Try this: Make an analogy using one of the following pairs. Explain how the two items are similar.

- glue and a paper clip
- a handshake and a smile
- a clock and a scale
- feet and bicycle tyres
- a river and a road
- a fence and a law

Extra: Describe an analogy between part of your face and an everyday object.



Analysing Objects

'Analysing' means taking a thing apart and studying how the pieces work together. For example, if you analyse a bicycle, you might look at the pedals, the wheels and the gears.

Try this: Choose three of the following objects. For each one, list as many of its parts as you can.

- an apple
- an egg
- a flower
- a book
- a hand
- a bed
- a shoe
- a room
- a pen

Extra: Choose an object that you don't know much about. Do research and write a report about its parts and how they fit together.



Analysing a Process

A 'process' is a way of doing a task. You can study a process step-by-step just as you can study a thing part-by-part. For example, hitting a cricket ball includes gripping the bat, setting your feet and watching the bowler.

Try this: Pick one of the following processes and describe it step-by-step.

- playing an instrument
- washing dishes
- making a phone call
- writing a poem
- making a pizza
- playing a sport

Extra: Choose a process that you don't know much about. Do research and write a report about it.



Believing

'Believing' means thinking that something is real. Such thoughts can affect behaviour. For example, a scientist who believes there is life on Mars might conduct experiments to find life there.

Try this: In a few words, write something that you believe about three of the following topics:

- friendship
- fun
- giving
- school
- science
- hard work

Extra: Write an essay about several beliefs that are important to you. These might be about people, places, activities or ideas.

