

What is a Mind Map ?

- Mind maps are a visual method for recording thoughts and related ideas graphically. They work by using one central keyword or idea and surrounding it with a brainstorm style shower of thoughts that somehow relate to that central word. The beauty of the mind map is that it is a very freestyle way to collect and organize information, without being restricted to a particular structure. Use of connecting lines, colors and symbols work together to boost visual perception of the physical map and to increase memory retention of the information.
 - From mindmaps.net

Rules of Mind Mapping:

Always use a central image and images throughout

Put one main topic on each “branch”

Put sub-topics on their own “sub-branches”

Use three or more colors

Use one key word per line

Print all words clearly

Leave space for unexpected topics or new thoughts

Let your mind wander!

Trends: Sharing the Visual, and Embracing the Right Brain

- Etsy (2005) – a starting point of the current maker/DIY/artisan culture & economy that embraces visual “shareables” on Instagram, FB, and other social media
- Embracing the use of the “right brain” in business and project management (mentions as early as 2006, trending since 2010)
 - *The Back of the Napkin* by Dan Roam
- Sketch-Noting or Visual Note Taking (2012) – Mike Rohde, rohdesign.com/sketchnotes
- Bullet Journaling (2013) - Ryder Carroll, bulletjournal.com
- *The Rise of the Right-Brained Organization* Forbes, May 2020



SAMPLE

MAPS



Mind Maps can be used for:

- Home Organization
- Studying
- Project Management
- Trip planning
- Business plans
- Group Icebreakers
- Character development
(novels or screenplays)
- General brainstorming

Templates – Bubble

Bubble templates are the most free-form. Starting with a central idea, the map is formed by creating connected bubbles that may spread out infinitely depending on the depth to which the idea is explored. Different colors can be used to group related bubble groups and/or related groups can be different shapes other than round to reinforce their relationship.



Templates – Stacks

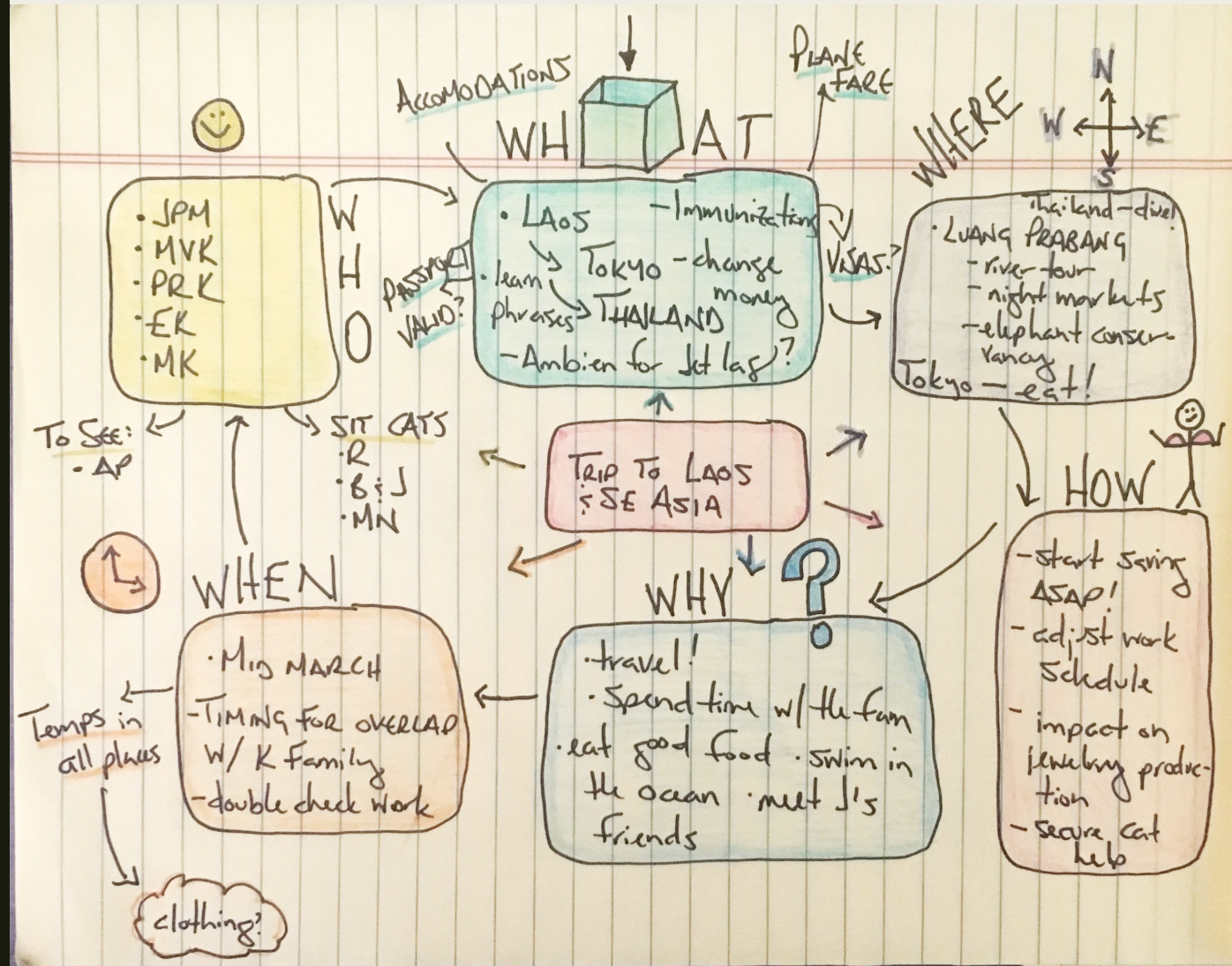
The stacks style template is perfect for managing the actions needed to accomplish your idea. Think of it as a to-do list that writes itself! You can map your idea directly into the stack, or create a bubble/6W's map first, and then filter those concepts into the stacks format. The stack works towards “action” as it becomes more and more specific (in this case from left to right). Colors are still used to group related ideas as they move towards becoming “actionable” items.

Creative Mind Mapping

First Night	Student intros	Interest/Goals for Class	
		Interactive Mind Map Exercise	
		Name Tags	make
	Subject Intros	history Ancient-Tony Buzan	
		Modern Resurgence	online and library research
		Biz/Personal/Study	
	Power Point	Analog vs. Digital	
		Pinterest Examples	choose
		Printable Template (see below)	create
	Templates	Intro Material	4-5 slides
Resources (see below)		1 slide	
Syllabus		write as a mind map	
Homework	Radial	create	
	Linear	create	
		create	
Second Night	Review	mind map sketch	
		suggested additional supplies	make a list/handout
		paint chips, photos, markers or pens	
	Art Supplies	Talking points from 1st night	1 slide
		Volunteer to share a map	choose/make
		Creative map I have made	
Make a Map	Watercolors and Paper	shop	
	Sharpie Markers		
	Gluestick		
Resources	Needle and thread		
	Play time		
	Guide several creative examples	decide on specifics	
	Demo ideas with materials provided		
	Library books	1 slide/page	
	online		
	pinterest		
	blick		

Templates – The 6W's

By starting with boxes (or other shapes) to represent the questions: Who, What, Where, When, Why, and How, the 6W's template provides a framework that is the starting point for your mapping. By brainstorming on each of these elements, details for events, travel, deadline-based projects, etc. can be quickly and easily mapped. Additionally, using an icon to represent each W can provide an additional visual cue when working outside the map structure.



Things to Remember

- Use different colors for each related group that comes off the center of your map
- Don't overthink it – great maps can be made in just 60 seconds
- Branches/Bubbles can become the root of a new map when more details are needed
- Don't be afraid to add drawings – even if you “can't draw”
- Make your map first and fast, then spend the time to get creative