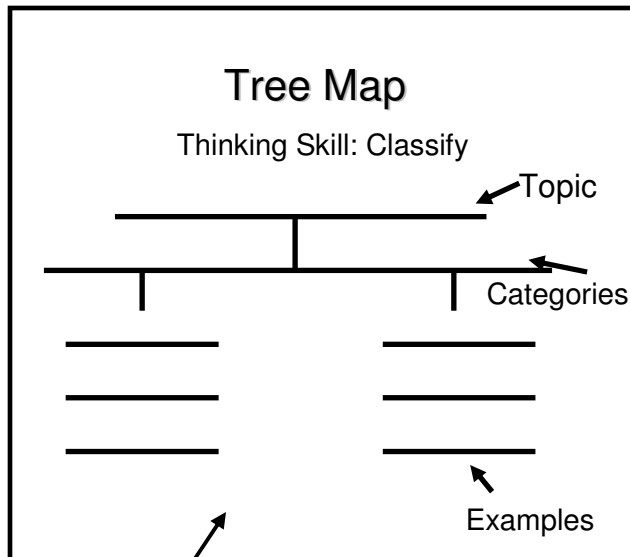


Map Memo for Families: The Tree Map

A **TREE MAP** focuses on the thought process of categorizing. This map is used for classifying or sorting things into categories or groups and/or identifying main idea and supporting details.



Frame of reference

Topic: This is the category name or main idea of the topic.

Categories: Individual subcategories of the topic are shown with an "connection line" to the topic.

Examples: Specific members of the categories or specific details are listed under each subcategory.

Frame of reference: The frame of reference around the map allows students to indicate how they know what they know about the categories or to determine if one source is better than another or if a certain point of view influences how the information is classified.

KEY WORDS FOR TREE MAPS

Classify, sort, group, give sufficient and related details, types of, kinds of, list and elaborate, taxonomy

In each of the examples below students can best organize their thinking by using a **TREE MAP**.

"List important details of the story elements as you read."

"Sort these foods into categories identified in the food pyramid."

"Classify musical instruments in main categories and provide examples of each."

"List examples of edible and ornamental plants."

"Organize the animals according to species."

"Collect and organize a list of words to increase vocabulary."

"Group all the ways we measure things into categories and include specific examples."

Parent Tip: ask your child to tell you what they know about TREE MAPS and how they have used them at school.