

Hexagonal Thinking Activity



ACTIVE LEARNING
FOCUS

SINGLE LESSON – Activity Template and Example

ABOUT THIS RESOURCE

Hexagonal thinking combines discussion and debate, critical thinking, and problem-solving. Students move around hexagons labeled with concepts or terms, making connections to build a web from the identified patterns. Students reflect on the connections they identify and assess one another's arguments about how the web should be built. Webs evolve as students move, add, or remove tiles and no two hexagonal webs will look the same.

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

1. Review the [example](#) hexagonal thinking activity about human genetics.
2. Then customize the [template](#) with directions for your class and learning goals. If using Google Docs, double click on the hexagon template to edit the text boxes on the drawing.

IMPLEMENTATION TIPS AND OPTIONS

- Use this activity for a variety of instructional purposes:
 - as an icebreaker or team-building activity
 - as a formative assessment to check for understanding of content (concepts, terms, academic language, or key elements from a lesson)
 - as a review for concepts or terms before a summative assessment
 - as a warm-up to generate interest and discussion or introduce new ideas
- Ask students to add their own topics or ideas from a unit, text, or topic by giving them a blank template.
- Set up a gallery walk for groups or entire classes to display their work. Invite students to provide feedback on the maps as they view them during the walk.
- To see this activity in the context of a full project, check out this [Hexagonal Thinking Project](#) with a template and English example.

EXAMPLE

Hexagonal Thinking - Human Genetics

Directions: Fill out the template below with your personal phenotype for each trait. Circulate around the room and see how many traits you share with your peers. After you have made several peer connections, work together to create one map that connects all hexagons together.

shape of ear lobe: free or attached

eyelash length: long or short

widow's peak: present or absent

Name

ability to roll tongue: yes or no

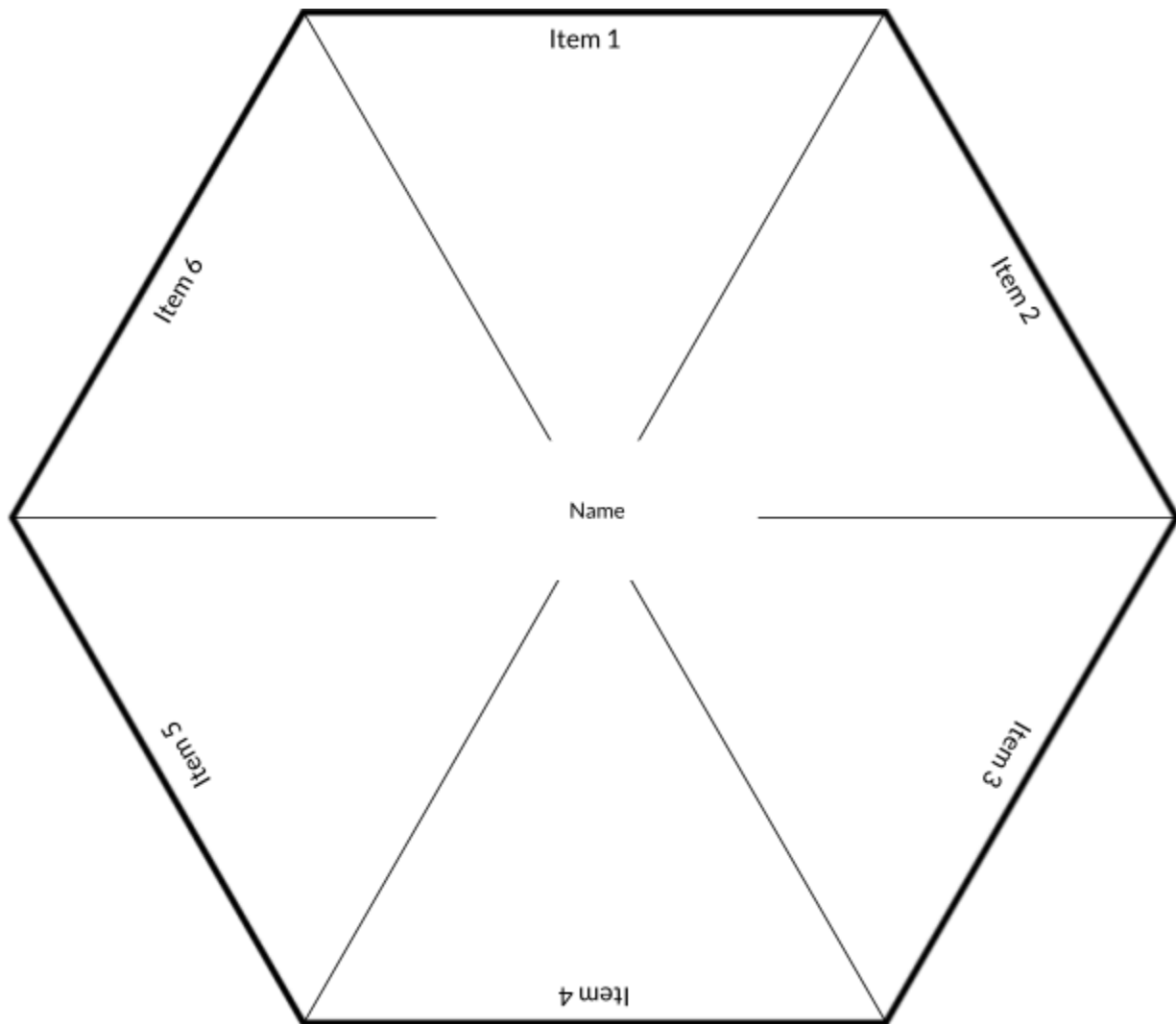
shape of little finger: end joint bent or straight

hair form: curly or straight

<< TEMPLATE >>

Hexagonal Thinking - [Topic]

Directions: Fill out the template below with [topic or concept description]. Circulate around the room and [specific directions for collaboration]. After you have [insert directions for collaboration], work together to create [required number of maps] that connect [number of hexagons] together.



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