

Use Graphic Organizers

Graphic organizers are a useful way to illustrate a thinking process that is otherwise invisible.

Considerations for Using Graphic Organizers

1. Graphic organizer should be appropriate for the reading task.
2. Teach each type of graphic organizer one at a time.
3. Graphic organizer should be used in a think aloud to model how content is related or organizer.
4. Use graphic organizers with support of the teachers.
5. Once all graphic organizers are taught, have students self select the appropriate graphic organizer for their reading task.

Best Uses of Graphic Organizers:

T-W-L- Think you know- Want to learn- Learned

Venn Diagrams- Compare and Contrast

Flow Chart- Sequencing

Spider Web- Main Idea and Details

Cause and Effect- Show relationship between words

Story Maps- Elements of a fiction text

Association Maps- Connection between words or concepts

Alphabet Map- Brainstorm about a word or concept

