Six Thinking Hats in Action: A Sample Lesson

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Which statement sounds most and least like you?

**Yellow**= I tend to be optimistic, seeing the good side of everything.

**White**= I tend to be very rational and objective; I feel most comfortable looking at the facts.

**Red**= I tend to be emotional, and to think about how things make me and other people feel.

**Black**= It is easy for me to see the flaws in things and to know when an idea is wrong. I tend to be very logical.

**Green**= I tend to think about how things could be improved or changed. I like to invent and create things.

**Blue**= I tend to think about how a situation needs to be managed or handled— I like to be in charge.
Name:

Rank order from the statement that sounds MOST like you (1) to the statement that sounds LEAST like you (6)

1 = most like me
6 = least like me
Example

• Holly Davis
  1 = black (most like me)
  2 = green
  3 = red
  4 = white
  5 = yellow
  6 = blue (least like me)
Six Thinking Hats is a strategy that teaches students to be FLEXIBLE THINKERS.

Students learn about six different types of thinking they can apply to any situation, represented by different colored hats:

- Optimistic
- Judgmental
- Creative
- Emotional
- Direction-Giving
- Factual
Students learn which of these “hats” they tend to rely on most— and how to change this so they can “think smarter”

Students learn which “hat” works best in what type of learning situation
### Thinking Hats Think Dots

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Which of the solutions to problem 1 do you think is best?</th>
<th>Find the mistake in the solution to problem 2.</th>
<th>List all of the properties of a quadrilateral.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Circle" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Circle" /></td>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Circle" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write out a set of directions that shows how to solve problem 3.</td>
<td>Create a new shape, name it, and list its properties.</td>
<td>Which of the shapes that we’ve learned about do you like the best? Why?</td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Four circles" /></td>
<td><img src="image5.png" alt="Five circles" /></td>
<td><img src="image6.png" alt="Six circles" /></td>
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Six Thinking Hats Activity

1. Read the description of your assigned hat color.
2. Get into a group with other people who were assigned the SAME color thinking hat as you and discuss what type of thinking students are asked to do when wearing that color hat. PLAN TOGETHER HOW YOU WILL TEACH WHAT THIS HAT MEANS TO THE WHOLE GROUP.
3. ***FEELING CREATIVE?? You and your group can make a thinking hat out of construction paper…
4. Present your hat and the type of thinking it represents to the whole group.
Now…

• Read the story at your table.
• Look at the questions designed for your color hat.
• As a group, discuss and respond to the questions. We’ll have a whole-group discussion of the book and its related time period— and you must remain “true” to your hat color throughout the discussion.