Semantic Map

To organize and activate knowledge about a specific topic.

Procedure:

1. Select the main idea or topic of the passage; write it on a chart, ActivBoard, or anywhere it can be easily seen. Put a circle around the main idea.
2. Have students brainstorm subtopics related to the topic. Use lines to connect to the main topic.
3. Have students brainstorm specific vocabulary or ideas related to each subtopic. Record these ideas beneath each subtopic.
4. Read the text and revise the Semantic Map to reflect new knowledge.

Science Example: