A Concept map is a schematic device for representing a set of concept meanings embedded in a framework of propositions.

It is a drawing in which key ideas of identified and the relationship between and among them is described.

Definitions:

Concept: A mental image, key idea, or term (such as events, objects, values, skills, attitudes)

Proposition: Two or more concepts linked appropriately by linking words (such as are, where, the, in, how, does, makes)

Strategy:

Circles: Concept words are circled

Placements: Concepts may be placed on the page in a hierarchical form from global to specific, or complex to easy, from superordinate to subordinate or by some other meaningful pattern

Cross Links: One set of concepts may be linked not only among themselves but also to other sets of concepts. If relationships (valid, significant, and/or creative) are found they can be diagramed and linked.

Examples: these may be listed for illustrative purposes

Educational Applications of Concept Mapping:

1. Exploration of what learners already know
2. Road mapping a learning route
3. Extracting meaning from texts
4. Extracting meaning from laboratory, studio, and/or field studies
5. Reading articles in newspapers, magazines, and journals
6. Planning a paper or exposition