VISUAL METAPHORS
FOR
PEER-LEARNING
&
SENSEMAKING

A TOOL OF THOUGHT
Once Upon a time...

**Why are metaphors so powerful a tool for thinking?**
Douglas Hofstadter: 

**Analogy and metaphor are the 'core of cognition.'**

**How we make sense of the novel & unexpected.**

**But how can we apply this to our teaching?**
We already use metaphors to explain, but what else could we do?

**Creative methods in org. research**
Torner & Englemiller
Lakoff & Johnson

**Not so long ago**

Beatriz, my mind is in a muddle.
There are so many ideas in these texts.

**Don't worry, I have pencils.**
LET'S DRAW THE METAPHORS IN THE TEXTS. THAT'S FUN!

Hey, this is really useful!

We could do this with the students.

Then...
THE PURPOSE

SEEING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARTS AND THE WHOLE

WHY IT WORKS

WORDS, PICTURES, & SPACES

PRINCIPLES

IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW GOOD YOUR DRAWINGS ARE

DON'T BE SHAMED

USE LEGEND

BRING YOUR OWN EXPERIENCES & BURNING QUESTIONS TO THE TABLE
First... a warm up exercise

1. Draw as many circles as you can in 30 seconds.

2. Make each one into a different thing (in 2 minutes).
How to do it

Task 1
Spot the metaphors in your text
Underline or highlight them
Put each one on a post-it one per post-it please

Task 2
Compare & Categorise

Task 3
Assign roles in your group
- Scribes: to draw & label
- Managers: to ensure the group is on task
- Critics: to question

Task 4
Choose a central metaphor and draw it on your large paper
Now...
Can you extend or combine elements?
Question your metaphor

Task 5 (Final Task)
Draw it better...
Within your metaphor, what might a solution look like?
Then... what might a literal translation be?

Show your image to a neighbouring group
Be Critical Friends
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