

**INSTRUCTIONAL CONNECTIONS**

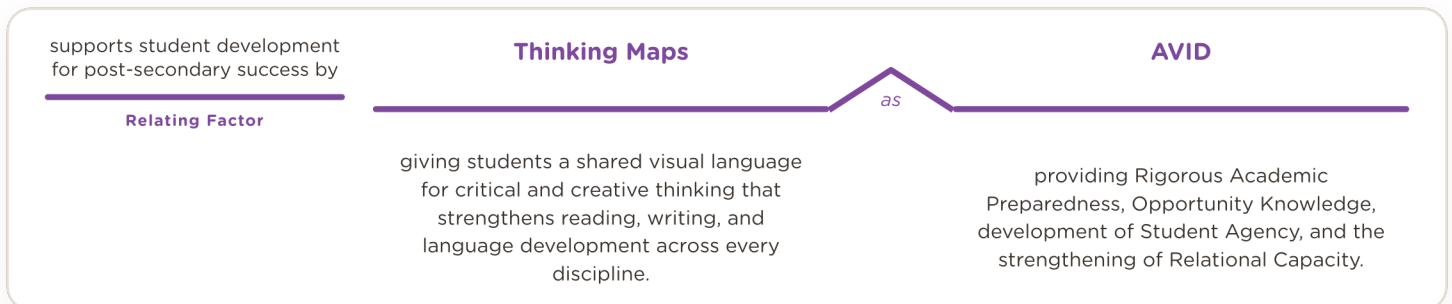
Supporting AVID Practices with Thinking Maps

Making the thinking visible across WICOR, Costa's Levels of Thinking, and college and career readiness

Thinking Maps begins with the thinking. Students learn the eight thought processes and the academic language that names each one, then use a consistent visual pattern to make rigorous thinking visible. Repeated across grades and disciplines, that shared language builds critical thinking and metacognition: students recognize the thinking a task requires and choose the Map that represents it.

AVID gives students repeated opportunities for rigorous thinking, with the support to meet it, through an instructional framework focused on college and career readiness.

Thinking Maps are not a second initiative. They make the thinking students are already being asked to do visible, transferable, and increasingly independent.



About Thinking Maps

Thinking Maps is a whole-school, brain-based approach to teaching and learning that builds the critical thinking, problem-solving, comprehension, and communication skills academic success requires. Eight Maps, eight fundamental thought processes, one visual language for learning used in every grade and discipline.

About AVID

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a global nonprofit organization committed to closing the opportunity gap by preparing all students for success in a global society. Its instructional framework, together with social and emotional learning, relational capacity, and culturally relevant teaching, helps schools pair rigor with support.

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Thinking Maps and WICOR

WICOR names skills every classroom asks for: writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading. The thinking inside each one is shared ground. Thinking Maps make that thinking and its academic language explicit, then give students a consistent visual structure to represent it.

WICOR	HOW THINKING MAPS MAKE THE THINKING VISIBLE	WHERE IT SHOWS UP IN AVID PRACTICES
Writing	Organize, develop, sequence, explain. Students map the thinking first, so the thinking is visible before drafting begins.	Focused Notes, learning logs, quickwrites, process writing, peer evaluation.
Inquiry	Question, analyze, connect, reflect. A Map holds the thinking a question requires, and the Frame of Reference asks students where their thinking came from.	Skilled questioning, Costa's Levels of Thinking, tutorials, investigations.
Collaboration	Explain, compare, build, revise thinking. A shared visual structure makes each student's thinking visible to the group, so partners can build on it or revise it together.	Socratic Seminars, tutorials, Philosophical Chairs, peer editing groups.
Organization	Classify, sequence, prioritize, connect. Students organize information and notes in the same structures they use to think, and keep them in a Map Builder portfolio, so the thinking carries from one task to the next.	Binders, planners, focused note-taking, study groups, SMART-goal planning.
Reading	Define, analyze, compare, summarize. A Map sets the purpose for reading and gives students a place to capture academic vocabulary, key ideas, and summary.	Deep reading strategies, note-taking, vocabulary building, reciprocal teaching.

It is not this or that. It is this and that.

Thinking Maps give teachers and students one visual language for that thinking, so it transfers across grades, disciplines, and AVID practices.

Thinking Maps and Key AVID Practices

Each practice calls on several of the eight thought processes, so there is no one Map per practice. Name the thinking first, then choose the Map.

AVID PRACTICE	HOW THINKING MAPS SUPPORT THE THINKING
Tutorials	Uncover what caused the point of confusion. Students map the Point of Confusion on the back of the Tutorial Request Form, so the TRF starts from something visible.
Critical reading	One text can ask for three different kinds of thinking: trace a sequence, compare perspectives, classify key ideas and evidence. Students recognize the academic language that enables them to identify the thinking, then choose the Map that represents that thinking.
Focused note-taking	The purpose picks the Map, never the other way around. Students name the thinking their notes require, then use the Map and the Frame of Reference to organize, reflect on, and extend it.
The writing process	Writing begins before students write. They generate ideas and organize the thinking the purpose calls for, then write from notes where that thinking is already visual.
Costa's Levels of Thinking	Costa's Levels deepen the thinking; they do not change the Map. One Map can carry all three levels of demand, and the Frame of Reference pushes the thinking further.

Tutorials and TRFs

In the AVID Elective, students bring a point of confusion from their academic classes to a tutorial. One educator walks through that process in order, and where Thinking Maps give students more tools to show their thinking.

How A Point Of Confusion Moves From A Classroom To A Tutorial

Students in the AVID Elective analyze information from their academic classes and identify something they need to review or do not understand well.



They take that information and think more critically about it using a tool called the Tutorial Request Form.



On the back of the TRF, a section asks students to show their thinking about a specific content topic and identify what they are struggling with.

- Students often default to math questions, because math has a clear process and their thinking about it is easier to show.
- Sometimes students need help in other subjects but struggle to show their thinking. Thinking Maps give them more tools to demonstrate it, so they can get help beyond math as their ability to organize their thinking grows.

Sequencing the Tutorial and TRF process, shown here on a Flow Map.

Make the thinking visible in every classroom.

Talk to your Thinking Maps representative about how a shared language for thinking, made visible through Thinking Maps, can support the work your teachers and students are already doing.

Contact your Thinking Maps representative to learn more.

Find Your Rep

<https://www.thinkingmaps.com/find-your-rep/> 1-800-243-9169

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