[](http://images.google.co.nz/imgres?imgurl=http://www.reply-mc.com/UserFiles/Image/Six%20Thinking%20Hats.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.reply-mc.com/category/adam-smith/&usg=__fGAlP4YCO-Bd61qCPmUv80LHeeo=&h=313&w=280&sz=9&hl=en&start=17&tbnid=wTvNpNxhk0lCtM:&tbnh=117&tbnw=105&prev=/images?q=six+thinking+hats&gbv=2&hl=en&sa=G)Six Thinking Hats

Created by Edward de Bono

Aim:

To encourage parallel thinking (everyone explores all sides of an issue at the same time).

To focus thinking more clearly.

To encourage more creative thinking.

To improve communication and decision making.

[](http://images.google.co.nz/imgres?imgurl=http://javey.net/images/hats/white.jpg&imgrefurl=http://note19.com/category/books/&usg=__HSfRQkXUk4Sg35PVRef0sKAKdNE=&h=300&w=300&sz=8&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=pOINzOwo1t-S2M:&tbnh=116&tbnw=116&prev=/images?q=de+bono+white+hat&gbv=2&hl=en&sa=G)

**White hat: Data, facts, information known or needed.**

*What information do we have?*

*What do we want to find out about?*

*What information do we need to get?*

*How do we get the information we need?*

*[](http://images.google.co.nz/imgres?imgurl=http://javey.net/images/hats/black.jpg&imgrefurl=http://note19.com/2007/04/&usg=__5KIDuIDSlm0Y3YC7U3iUB_98D2A=&h=300&w=300&sz=6&hl=en&start=4&tbnid=PQAWR9VnC8L04M:&tbnh=116&tbnw=116&prev=/images?q=de+bono+black+hat&gbv=2&hl=en&sa=G)*

**Black hat: Difficulties, potential problems. Why something may not work.**

*What are the weaknesses?*

*What is wrong with it?*

*What do we need to be cautious about?*

*Why won’t this work?*

*[](http://images.google.co.nz/imgres?imgurl=http://javey.net/images/hats/red.jpg&imgrefurl=http://note19.com/category/books/&usg=__CpuJwqw3BFnSLZlJLswkG_950D8=&h=300&w=300&sz=12&hl=en&start=4&tbnid=bwTTACLZRhXZyM:&tbnh=116&tbnw=116&prev=/images?q=de+bono+red+hat&gbv=2&hl=en&sa=G)*

**Red hat: Feelings, hunches, gut instinct, and intuition.**

*How do you feel about this?*

*How will it make other people feel?*

*What does your intuition tell you?*

*What do you like best, based on your feelings?*

**[](http://images.google.co.nz/imgres?imgurl=http://javey.net/images/hats/green.jpg&imgrefurl=http://note19.com/category/books/&usg=__VxRRjZDxJKItw4sOmkzk9xlqFuE=&h=300&w=300&sz=12&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=9E-7CjN1HmdjVM:&tbnh=116&tbnw=116&prev=/images?q=de+bono+green+hat&gbv=2&hl=en&sa=G)Green hat: Creativity – possibilities, alternatives, solutions, new ideas.**

*What are some other ways to solve this?*

*What are some possible ways to work this out?*

*What new ideas can you think of?*

*What if…*

*[](http://images.google.co.nz/imgres?imgurl=http://javey.net/images/hats/yellow.jpg&imgrefurl=http://note19.com/2007/04/&usg=___c51pxvnLSX1srHvXctK_CPQ27o=&h=300&w=300&sz=11&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=afKxI1-H5hZgQM:&tbnh=116&tbnw=116&prev=/images?q=de+bono+yellow+hat&gbv=2&hl=en&sa=G)*

**Yellow hat: Values and benefits. Why something may work.**

*What are the good points?*

*How will this benefit us?*

*What is a positive outcome of this?*

*Why will it work?*

*[](http://images.google.co.nz/imgres?imgurl=http://javey.net/images/hats/blue.jpg&imgrefurl=http://note19.com/2007/04/&usg=__vATrIMjMW49leFEF1VNor5s_tUE=&h=300&w=300&sz=11&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=NsT62mK5gTEulM:&tbnh=116&tbnw=116&prev=/images?q=de+bono+blue+hat&gbv=2&hl=en&sa=G)*

**Blue hat: Manage the thinking process, focus, next steps, action plans.**

*What have we done so far?*

*What do we need to do next?*

*What thinking is needed?*

*How did we get to this decision?*

Templates for posters and cards can be found at:

<http://www.eastonsd.org/eaa/teachers/brodheadj/Site/Thinking_Hats.html>