

# Learning Strategy of the Week:

## De Bono's Hats







- How to use it:
  - When thinking of a topic, try on different hats or look at it from a different point of view to get a whole picture



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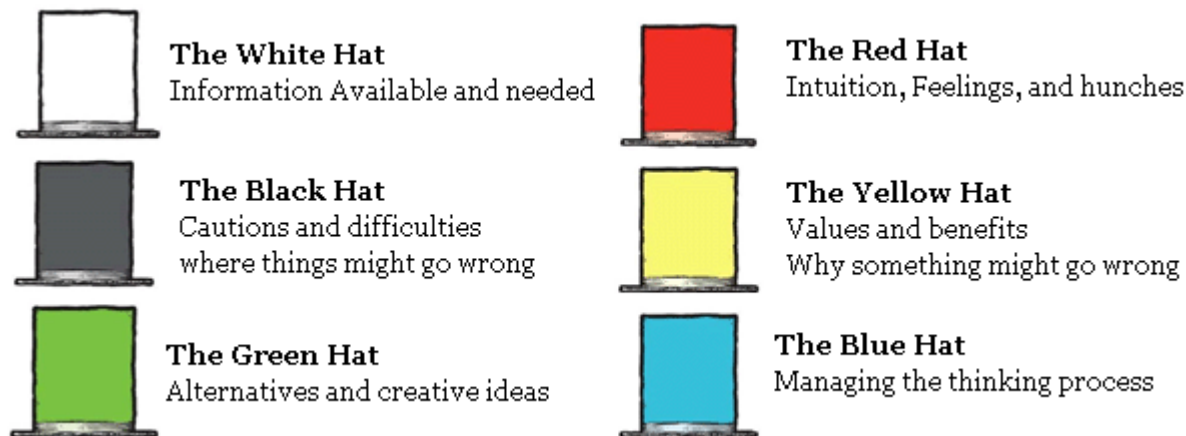
- What each of the hats mean:

COLOURED HAT	THINK OF	DETAILED DESCRIPTION
	<b><i>White paper</i></b>	The white hat is about data and information. It is used to record information that is currently available and to identify further information that may be needed.
	<b><i>Fire and warmth</i></b>	The red hat is associated with feelings, intuition, and emotion. The red hat allows people to put forward feelings without justification or prejudice.
	<b><i>Sunshine</i></b>	The yellow hat is for a positive view of things. It looks for benefits in a situation. This hat encourages a positive view even in people who are always critical.
	<b><i>A stern judge</i></b>	The black hat relates to caution. It is used for critical judgement. Sometimes it is easy to overuse the black hat.
	<b><i>Vegetation and rich growth</i></b>	The green hat is for creative thinking and generating new ideas. This is your creative thinking cap.
	<b><i>The sky and overview</i></b>	The blue hat is about process control. It is used for thinking about thinking. The blue hat asks for summaries, conclusions and decisions.

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- Great for:
  - Looking at lots of different perspectives or viewpoints
  - Thinking about a topic in new ways
  - Challenging your thinking on a topic
  - Listening to other student's point of view



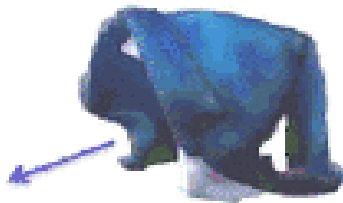
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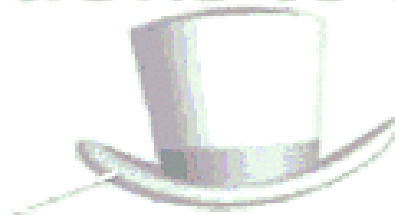
### The Questions to be Asked



How do I feel about this right now?



What is our focus?  
What thinking is needed?  
What have we done so far?  
What do we do next?



What information do we have?  
What information do we need?



What are the good things about this?  
What are the strengths and pluses?  
How will it help us?  
Why will it work?



What are the minuses about this?  
What are the weaknesses?  
What might go wrong with this?



What is possible?  
What ideas do you have?

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### Six Thinking Hats

A way of encouraging parallel/full spectrum thinking rather than adversarial thinking.

Separates ego from performance leading to more effective thinking and idea development.

Edward De Bono



#### *The Yellow Hat*

What are the good points?  
What are the benefits?  
Why will this idea work? Why is this worth doing?  
How will it help us? Why can it be done?

- \* Optimism and sunshine
- \* Logical positive view of things
- \* Feasibility
- \* Opportunity.



#### *The Black Hat*

Is this true? Will it work?  
What are the weaknesses?  
What is wrong with it?

- \* Caution
- \* Judgement
- \* Assessment.
- \* Logic
- \* Evidence
- \* Consequences
- \* Weaknesses
- \* If things will work



#### *The Red Hat*

How do I feel about this right now?  
How cold or warm do I feel about this?  
How am I reacting to this?

- \* Intuition
- \* Feelings
- \* Hunches
- \* No need to justify feelings.



#### *The White Hat*

What information/facts do we know?  
What information is missing?  
What information/facts would we like to have? How are we going to get the information?  
What is relevant? What is most important? How valid is this?

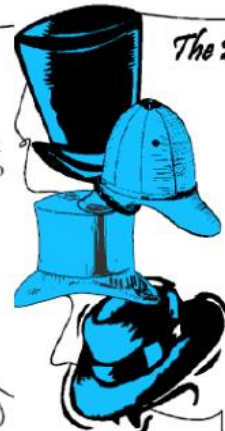
- \* Examine the facts, figures and information
- \* Note all information, formal and informal



#### *The Green Hat*

What are some possible ways to work this out? What are some other ways to solve the problem?

- \* Plants springing from seeds, movement, creativity..
- \* New, different ideas
- \* Suggestions
- \* Alternatives and enhancing
- \* Ways to solve problems
- \* Proposals



#### *The Blue Hat*

What have we done so far?  
What do we do next?  
What decision have we reached?

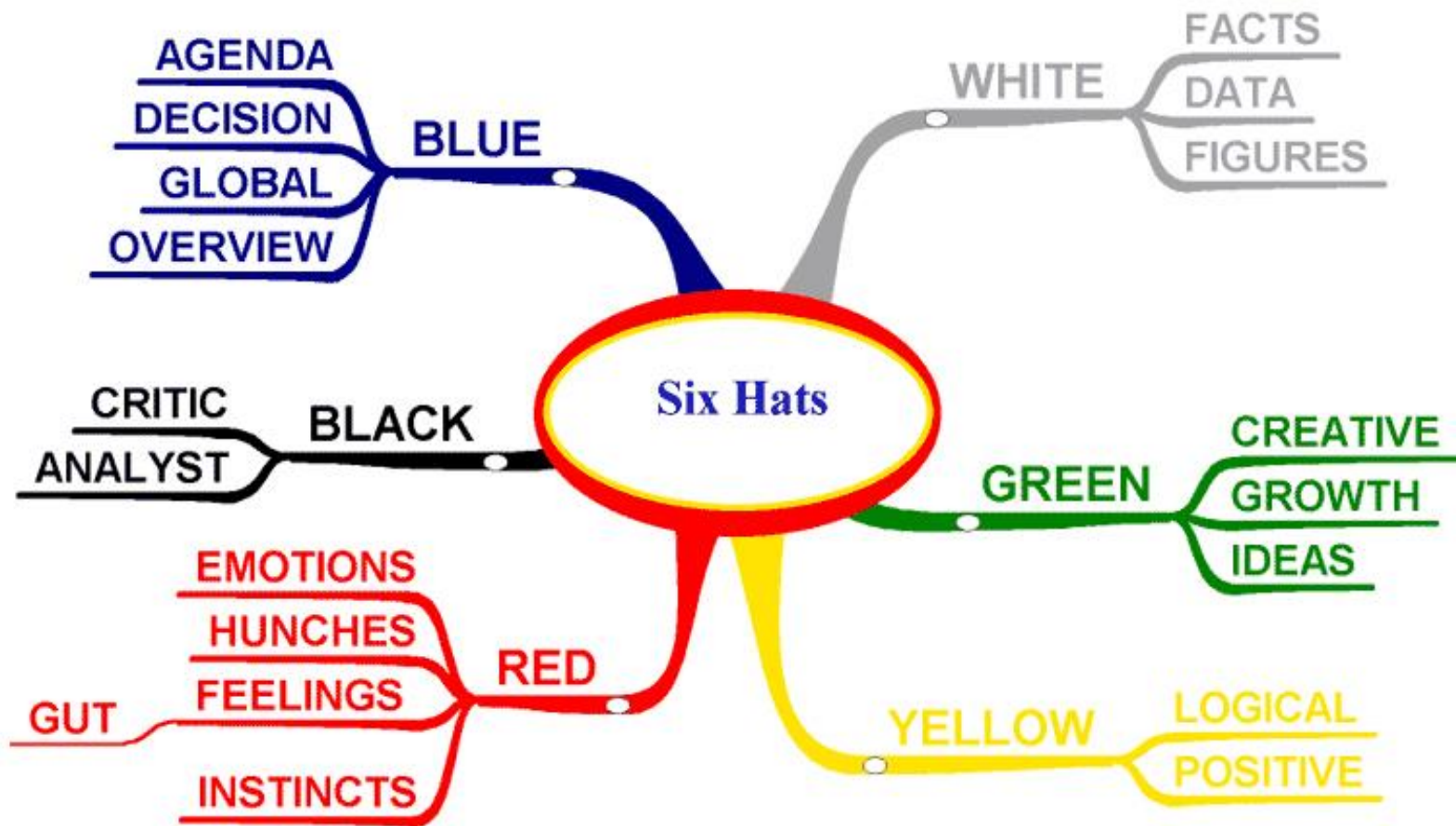
- \* Controlled
- \* Orchestra conductor
- \* Thinking about thinking
- \* Organisation
- \* Getting focus & purpose
- \* Making up a thinking plan
- \* Making decisions & conclusions



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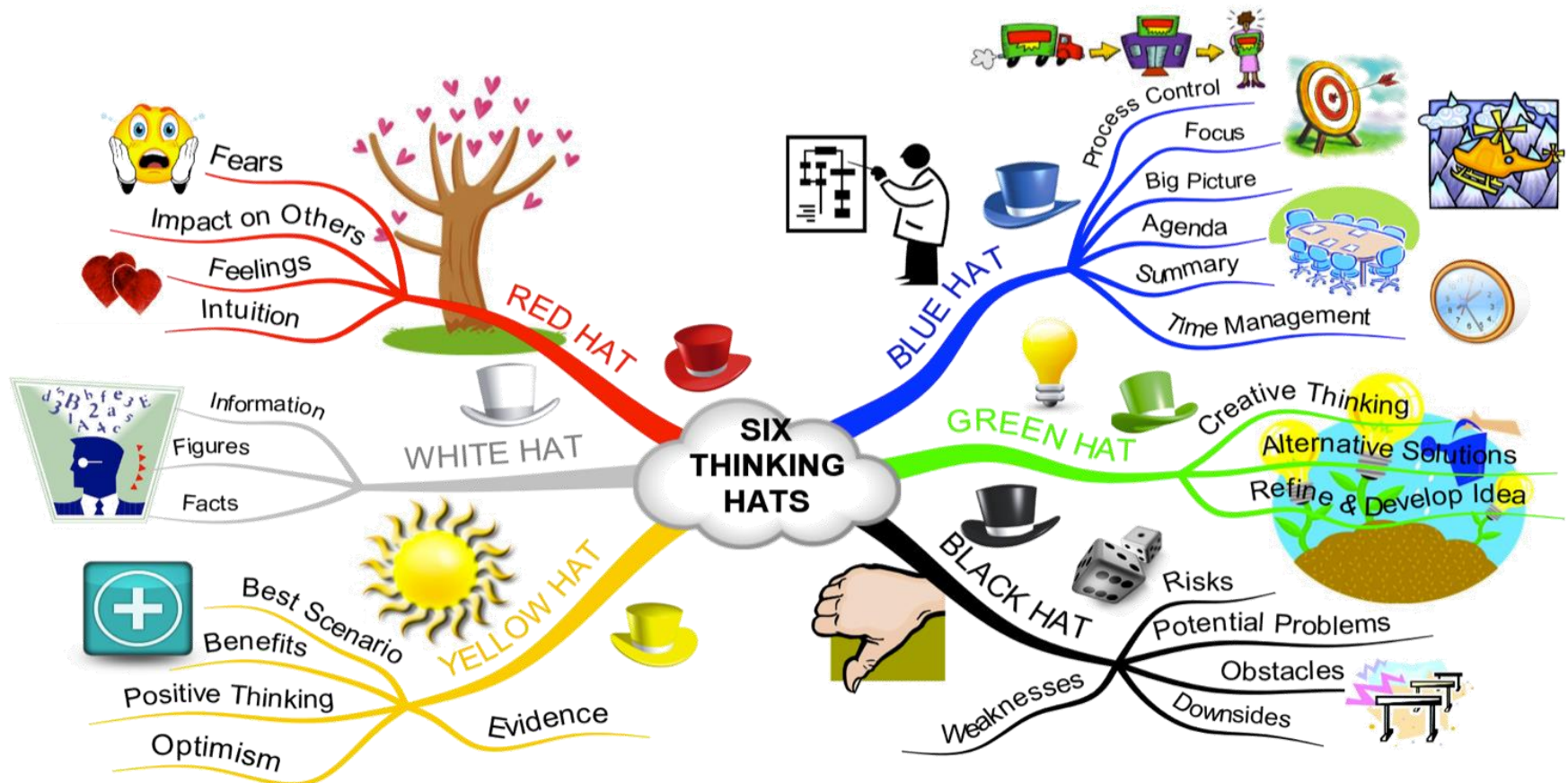
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