Introduction to Depth & Complexity

Marcie Griffith
mgriffith@ggusd.us

Garden Grove Unified School District

Extending the Core
OCC GATE 2013

Depth and Complexity Defined

	DEPTH THINKING TOOLS
	Language of the Discipline: Vocabulary related to content or discipline being studied. May include phrases, signs/symbols, figures of speech, or abbreviations.
	Details: Information that enhances understanding. May include parts, factors, attributes, traits, or variables.
	Patterns: Reoccurring elements or factors in ideas, objects, stories, & events. Items may be predictable, repetitive or ordered.
	Unanswered Questions: Information or ideas that are unclear, unresolved, or not fully developed. May include the unknown, unexplored or unproven.
	Rules: Organization elements that create structure, order or sequence. May include hierarchy, guidelines, or classification.
	Ethics: Moral principles or conflicts surrounding different points of view on events, ideas, or issues. May include bias, values, or judgments.
	Trends: General direction of change. Direction may be influence by varied forces. May include current styles or tendencies.
	Big Idea: General statement about a principle, theory, concept or idea. May include a main idea, universal concept or generalization.
	COMPLEXITY THINKING TOOLS
	Over Time: How people, ideas, events and elements change over time. May include comparing past, present and future, predicting, or connecting points in time.
	Multiple Perspectives: Different points of view on ideas, events, people and issues. May include roles, careers, fields, or opposing viewpoints.
	Across Disciplines: Connections within, between and across subject areas. May include connections, linked ideas, or integrations.

Depth and Complexity developed under the auspices of OERI, Javits Curriculum Project T.W.O., Dr. Sandra Kaplan , 1996

Understanding the Depth and Complexity Framework

DEPTH THINKING TOOLS	
	Language of the Discipline
	Details
	Patterns
	Unanswered Questions
	Rules
	Ethics
	Trends
	Big Idea
COMPLEXITY THINKING TOOLS	
	Over Time
	Multiple Perspectives
	Across Disciplines

Tools to understand the content of the topic at a deeper level

Tools to facilitate a complex understanding of the topic.
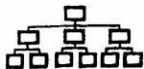
Steps to Teaching Depth & Complexity

1. **Define** the meaning

2. **Link** to prior knowledge

3. **Apply** to new learning

4. **Extend-** apply to real world

Introducing and Using the Icons

- Introduce yourself with the icons at the beginning of the year

- Have students apply them to themselves

  o Work in groups to identify patterns in their group (What commonalities do group members share? Great for team-building)

- Students apply them to a familiar object or event

- Students identify in video, text, song, etc.

- Post in a visible place in the room

Name_____#____

Depth and Complexity	
Language of the Discipline: 👄	
Details: 🌼	
Patterns:	
Trends:	
Unanswered Questions: ???	
Rules:	
Ethics: ◆	
Big Idea:	
Over Time:	
Points of View: 👓	
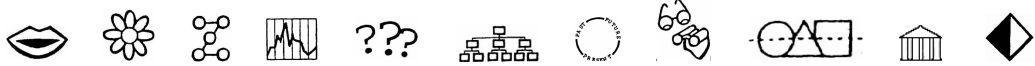
Thinking Tool	My Evidence
	_____ _____ _____ _____
	_____ _____ _____ _____
	_____ _____ _____ _____
	_____ _____ _____ _____

Story:

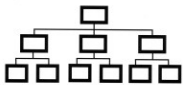|	List the details that define the problem
	Identify the pattern that caused the problem.
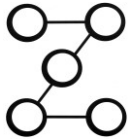
	What is the_____point of view about the problem?	How does the_____point of view influence the problem?

|	Describe the rules that influence the problem.
	What are the ethical issues surrounding the problem?
	What is still unclear about the story?

Text _____

1st Read

Work individually to answer the following questions/prompts:

2nd Read

Work with a partner or in groups to answer the following questions/prompts

What are the important details from this story?

What are the patterns in the story?

Use evidence to explain how the main character felt about _____

What is the lesson the author wants us to learn from this story?