

The Six Thinking Hats

Metacognitive skill targeted: Flexible thinking, looking at a problem in different ways

When to use it

You can use this tool when you need to talk about a problem, an idea, or a story in a group. It helps you see things in different ways and decide together what's best.

What you'll do

This activity helps you practise **looking at the same problem in six different ways**. You'll use coloured hats to help you remember the different ways of thinking.

What You Need *

- ☒ Papers with pictures of six coloured hats/ coloured hats
- ☒ Guidance questions for each hat
- ☒ A board, poster, or large paper with the problem or idea written on it

How to use it

1. Look at the problem or idea you want to talk about.
2. Put on (or pick up) a hat card; each colour means a different way of thinking.
3. Use the hat's questions to help you talk about the problem in that way.
4. Listen to everyone's ideas and take turns switching hats.
5. At the end, decide together what you've learned from each point of view.

About this Template

- **Orange Hat:** Facts and information (What do we know?)
- **Red Hat:** Feelings (How do we feel about this?)
- **Purple Hat:** Difficulties (What might go wrong?)
- **Yellow Hat:** Good things (What's great about this?)
- **Green Hat:** New ideas (What else could we try?)
- **Blue Hat:** Organising (What should we do next?)

When you pick a hat, answer the questions linked to that colour. Everyone in the group takes turns.

Tips for Reuse / Continuation

Try it with different topics or stories.

Next time, see if you can come up with extra questions for each hat.

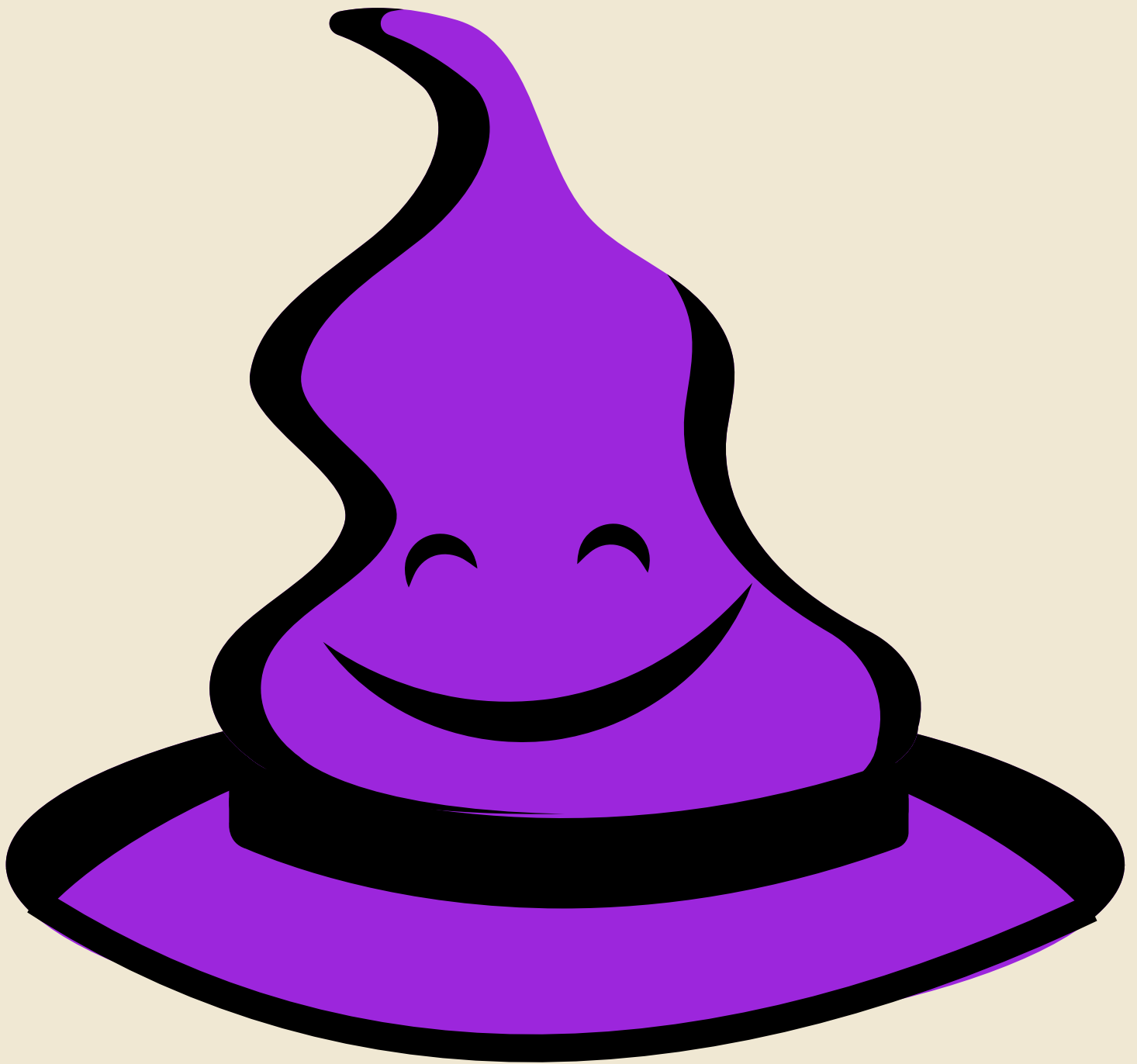
What do we know?



**How do we feel
about this?**



**What might go
wrong?**



**What's great about
this?**



**What else could we
try?**



**What should we do
next?**

