

Alyssa Landreneaux

education studies

Hexagonal Thinking: Making Connections through Conversation

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SFASU Teaching Showcase

Education Studies

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From Educators, For Educators



**Jennifer
Gonzalez**

Cult of Pedagogy
Podcast Ep. 154



Betsy Potash
Spark Creativity Blog



**Samantha L.
Bart-Addison**

Hexagonal Thinking
Literacy Today
Oct/Nov/Dec 2021



Casey Watts
Impact Coach and
Consultant

Hexagonal Thinking

**A strategy that
has it all!**



Creating Card Decks



- ❖ 10-20 cards
- ❖ Key ideas from course content
- ❖ People, places, events
- ❖ Ties across disciplines
- ❖ Ties to the modern world
- ❖ Physical or digital deck

**positive student
relationships**

teaching

tenure

research

syllabus

service

curriculum

AI technology

D2L/Brightspace

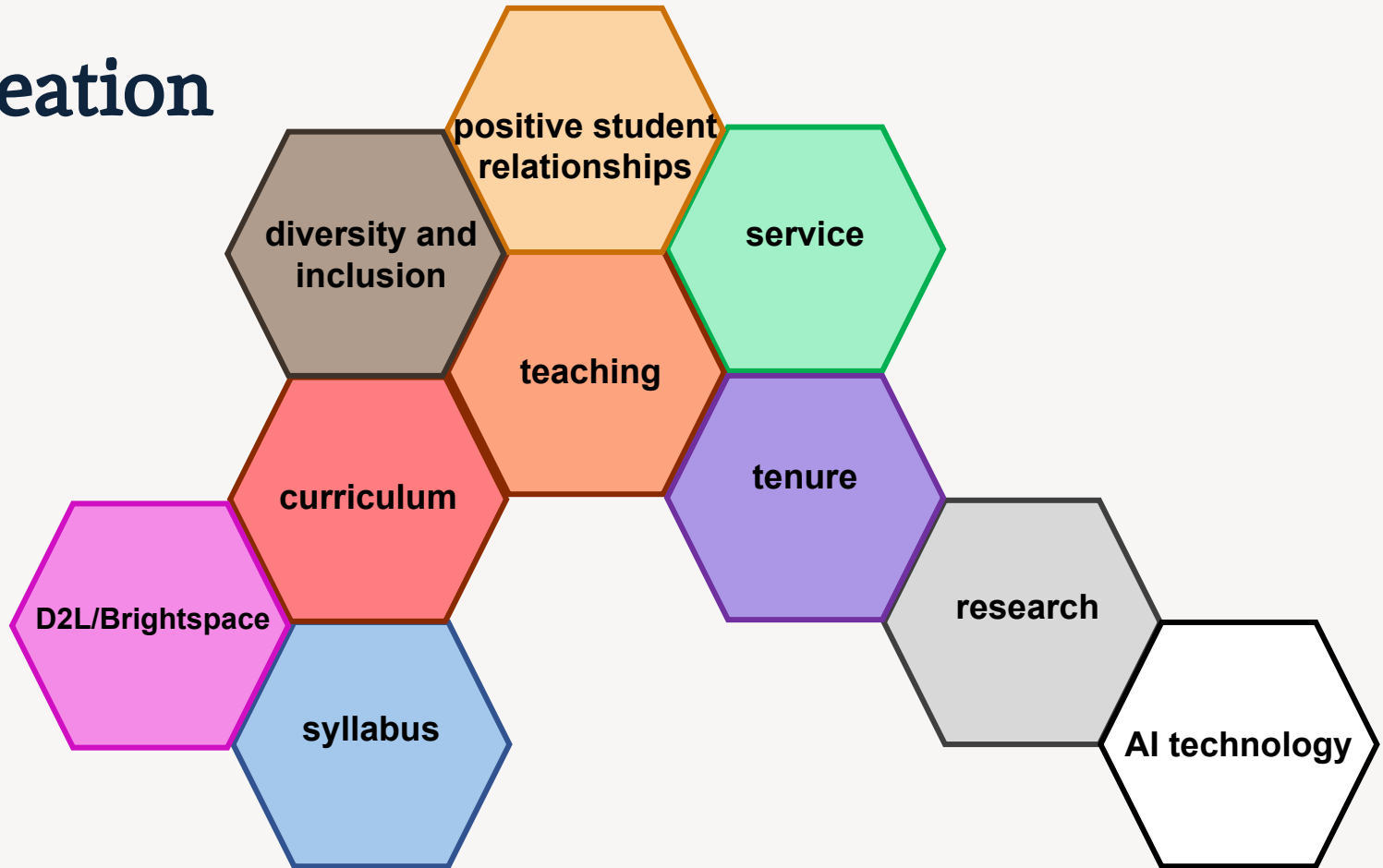
**diversity and
inclusion**

Hexagonal Thinking Procedure

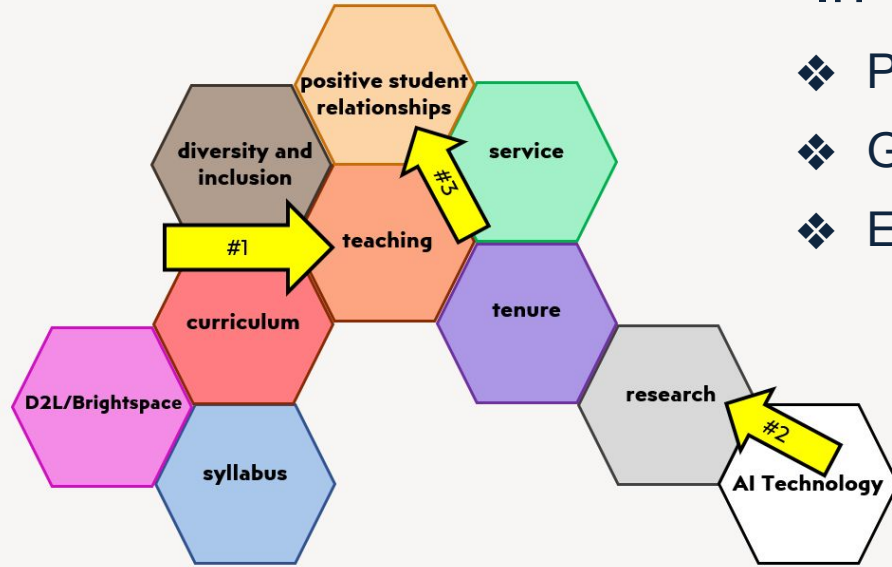
1. Form small groups.
2. Make all cards visible.
3. With their group, students will discuss possible connections that can be made between cards. Each card has the possibility to be related to 6 other cards.
4. Students will arrange and rearrange their webs until they believe to have the best web possible.
5. Students will justify their connections.



Web Creation



Justifying Connections

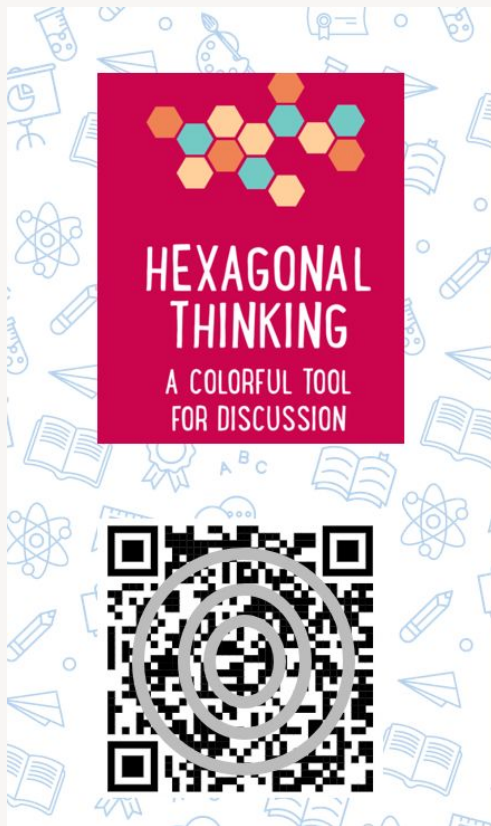


In Class

- ❖ Presentation
- ❖ Gallery Walk
- ❖ Essay

Online/Hybrid

- ❖ FlipGrid
- ❖ Padlet
- ❖ Podcast Episode
- ❖ Discussion Thread



Student-Centered Learning

Each hexagon can connect to up to six others. With your group, arrange and rearrange until you feel you have the strongest hexagon web in place that you can. Use the information in this week's module to clarify unknown terms.

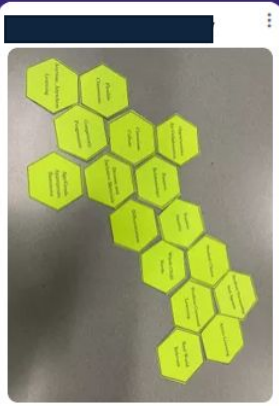
Once your web is complete, upload a photo of it to the Padlet. Then describe 3 major connections in a comment below your photo. Include your names!

Student-Centered Learning

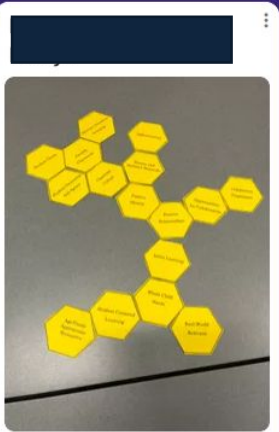
Once your web is complete, upload a photo of it to the Padlet. Then describe 3 major connections in a comment below your photo. Include your names!



- Anonymous 1mo**
[redacted]: Connection-Diverse and inclusive materials ->classroom culture: We think its important to have diversity represented within the classroom. Having students see themselves represented in the classroom and understanding other students background will aid in the classroom culture.
- Anonymous 1mo**
Flexible Classrooms and Anytime, Anywhere Learning connect because as students have the opportunity to have a choice in the setup or seating arrangement of the classroom it shows that learning can happen in any setting. - [redacted]
- Anonymous 1mo**
[redacted]



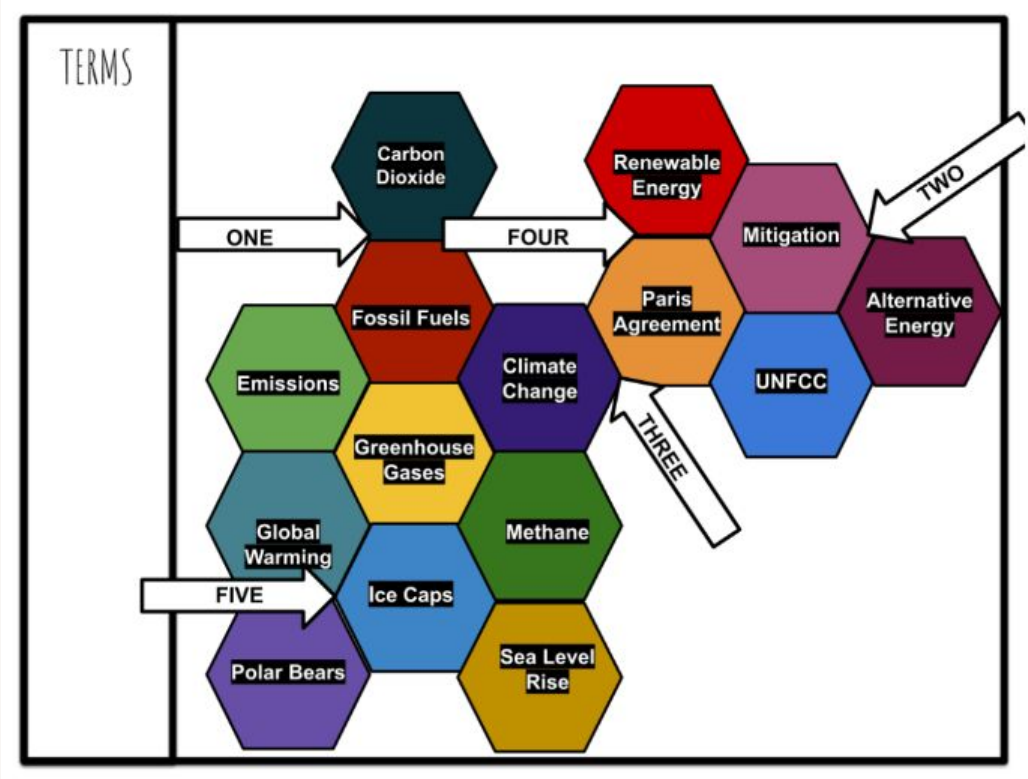
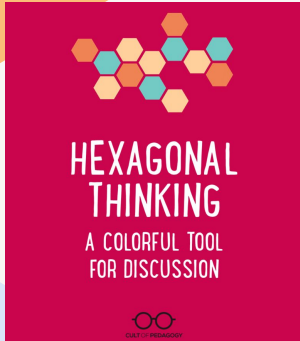
- Connection 1- student centered learning & active learning: if a classroom is not student centered, students will not be as active. Without interest in what students are learning they will not participate.
- Connection 2- whole child needs & positive identity: a child needs to have a positive identity of themselves, if they don't they will not be as confident and overall show growth.
- Connection 3- classroom culture & diverse and inclusive materials: to have a positive classroom culture, it is important for students to have diverse and inclusive materials.



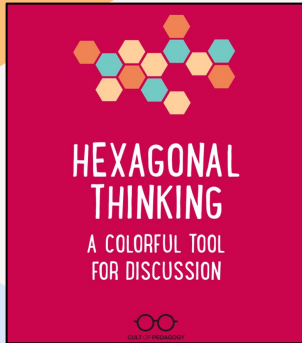
- 1. Positive relationships with self you have to have positive relationship with others
 - 2. Flexible classroom settings has a positive effect on classroom culture
 - 3. To educate the whole child's needs you have to provide real world relevance through social emotional needs
- Add comment**



- 1) Active Learning-Student choice: When students have a choice in what they learn, they are generally more engaged in the classroom.
- 2) Positive Relationships-Diverse and inclusive materials: When there are diverse and inclusive materials in the classroom the students are able to form positive relationships with others and themselves.
- 3) Differentiation-Opportunities for Collaboration: This allows for students to have their own differences and understand that many people have differing opinions, but it allows the students to collaborate and



Hexagonal Thinking: A Colorful Tool for Discussion. (2020, September 12). Cult of Pedagogy. <https://www.cultofpedagogy.com/hexagonal-thinking/>



Explain your Thinking Here

Connection #1: When you burn fossil fuels, carbon dioxide is released into the air. While the existence of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere is natural, and our forests can help mitigate its negative effects, the combination of burning through our fossil fuels so quickly at the same time that we are clearcutting huge amounts of forests on the earth has led us to global warming.

Connection #2: There are many strategies we could be taking to help mitigate the effects of global warming and climate change. Alternative energies provide one option, which is being explored by many companies but not on the level we need to stop climate change. To truly mitigate the effects of our fossil fuels, we need to pour more money into the possibility of alternative energy and prioritize it as a concept in a way that most countries just aren't doing yet.

Connection #3: The Paris Agreement seemed, for a while, to be a highly important step on the path towards stopping climate change. Many nations came together to set out goals for mitigation, and the international collaboration gave many people hope that something would change. However, the U.S. withdrew from its agreement soon after, lessening hopes that the U.S. would prioritize alternative energy and mitigation.

Connection #4: Large scale initiatives worldwide like the Paris Agreement have the potential to lead to prioritizing renewable energy sources and amped up funding for alternative energy companies. However, with the U.S. leaving the Paris Agreement, this new frontier in energy still isn't a high priority in this country.

Connection #5: The melting ice caps and stranded polar bears are one of the most easily photographable, definable outcomes of rising temperatures and overall climate change in recent years. While there are many other pieces of evidence of the way our earth is being affected, polar bears are the fuzzy mascots helping children, and others who might not otherwise dive into the science otherwise, sit up and take notice. If unchecked, global warming will affect farmore species than polar bears, and it already is.

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Other Ideas

- ❖ Incorporate blank cards.
- ❖ Allow students to create the deck.
- ❖ Utilize with a novel or film.
- ❖ Could be used as an assessment piece.





Thank you!

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