

THINKING MATS

For All Subjects



Big Idea Language of the Discipline

Thank you for purchasing this critical thinking resource! These "Thinking Mats" present open-ended and engaging opportunities related to 11 "Thinking Tools" (**Big Ideas, Rules, Trends, Patterns, Language of the Discipline, Ethics, Relationships Over Time, Details, Unanswered Questions, Across Disciplines, and Multiple Perspectives**) of critical thinking. They can be utilized with practically any subject and/or topic in a variety of learning settings (small group, pairs, whole group, independent, etc.). There are 11 double-sided "Thinking Mats"; one for each of the "Thinking Tools".

Front side of card: students will use 3 x 3 "post-its" to make connections to a particular topic and the icon of the card. The topic can be labeled with a small 1.5 x 2 "post-it."

Backside of card: provides a reference for the particular "Thinking Tool" and examples of how it applies to language arts, science, social studies, and math.

Included in this resource:

- 11 color "Thinking Mats", one for each of the eleven "Thinking Tools".
- 11 black-and-white "Thinking Mats", one for each of the eleven "Thinking Tools".
- 11 back-side references, one for each "Thinking Tool" (these should be copied on the reverse side of the corresponding "Thinking Mat")
- Tips and suggestions on how to use these "Thinking Mats" in your class.

Using these in your classroom:

- Printing: make sure that you have "Print to scale" turned OFF when printing these Thinking Mats; you do not want any scaling to distort the box sizes, which are designed to fit the exact size of square post-its. You can print the color versions on white cardstock, or the black-and-white versions on colored cardstock (a different color for each icon). You then can copy the corresponding reference tables to the backsides of the Thinking Mats. Laminate the Thinking Mats and you're ready to go! You can also use these as a traditional write-on graphic organizer if you prefer; just print on copy paper.
- Whole Group Lessons: Depending on your students' familiarity with the "Thinking Tools", begin introducing these Thinking Mats slowly with a lot of teacher modeling. Choose a Thinking Mat that has a particular connection to a lesson that you are teaching (in any subject) and model making connections with post-it notes. Just spending a few minutes to do this for a couple of lessons a day will quickly expose your students to the entirety of this critical thinking frame work, and soon they will be eagerly sharing their own connections with the class.
- Partner Work: Pairs (or triads) can choose an icon and make connections to a lesson that you just taught. They can then share with the class or another pair.
- Jigsaws: These Thinking Mats are perfect for jigsaws. Assign a group a specific "Thinking Tool". After the group formulates its responses, they can present to the class.
- Expert Groups: Have students form expert groups where they work on a specific "Thinking Tool". Once they have formed their responses, they can then meet in heterogeneous groups (each member is from a different expert group) to present their connections
- Independent Seat Work: Need a little "filler" or need to keep "fast finishers" busy? Hand them a Thinking Mat for a meaningful alternative to "busy work."

PLEASE email me if you have ANY questions or comments. I would love to hear from you!
info@teacherthrive.com

© Copyright 2013 M. Tallman. All rights reserved. Permission is granted to copy pages specifically designed for student or teacher use by the original purchaser or licensee. The reproduction of any other part of this product is strictly prohibited. Copying any part of this product and placing it on the Internet in any form (even a personal/classroom website) is strictly forbidden. Doing so makes it possible for an Internet search to make the document available on the Internet, free of charge, and is a violation of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA).

Unanswered Questions Multiple Perspectives Across Disciplines Relate Over Time Details Ethics Rules Trends Patterns

Helping teachers thrive in the classroom

Teacher THRIVE

Thank you for downloading this resource! There is nothing more rewarding to me than creating resources that make teachers' jobs easier.

Also, thank you for all that you do with our most precious resource—children! Your job is far from easy, so anything I can do to help you brings me great joy. Please feel free to email me anytime with questions, feedback, or comments.

Melissa Tallman
info@teacherthrive.com

CONNECT WITH TEACHER THRIVE ONLINE!

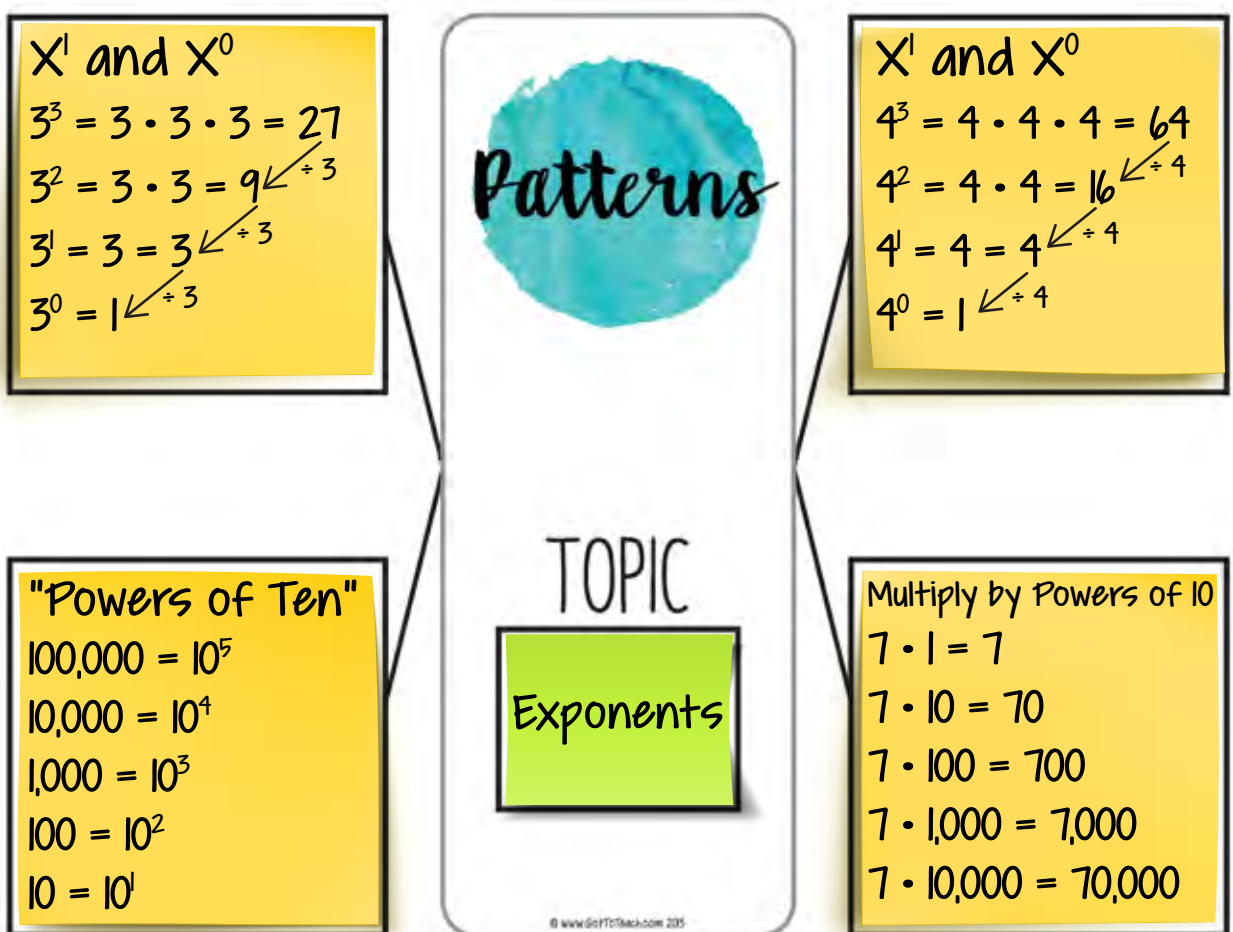
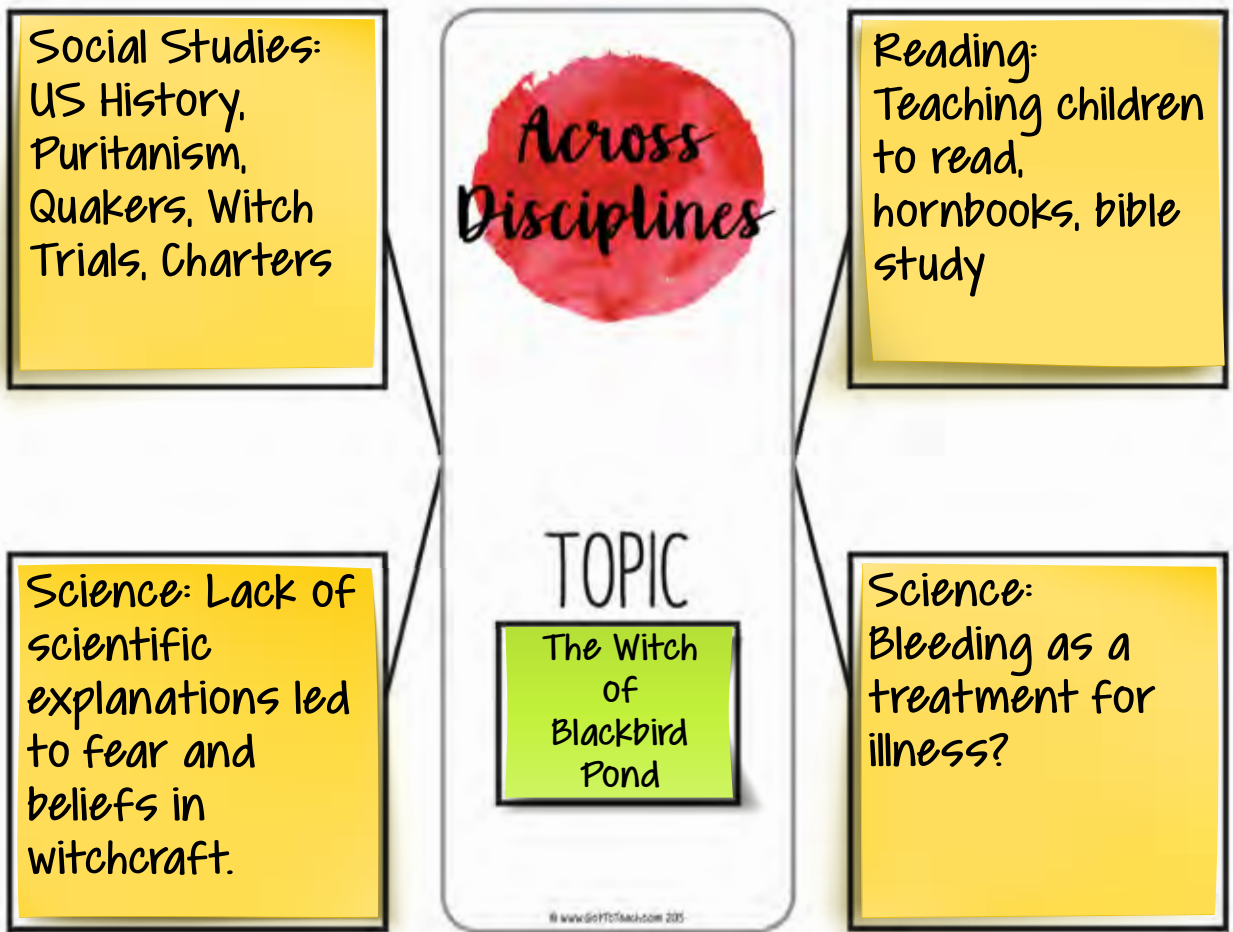


SHARING IS CARING Want to share my resources with your colleagues? Additional licenses are available at a discounted rate! Simply go to "My Purchases" and find the resource you would like to share. Then, click on the "BUY ADDITIONAL LICENSES" button.

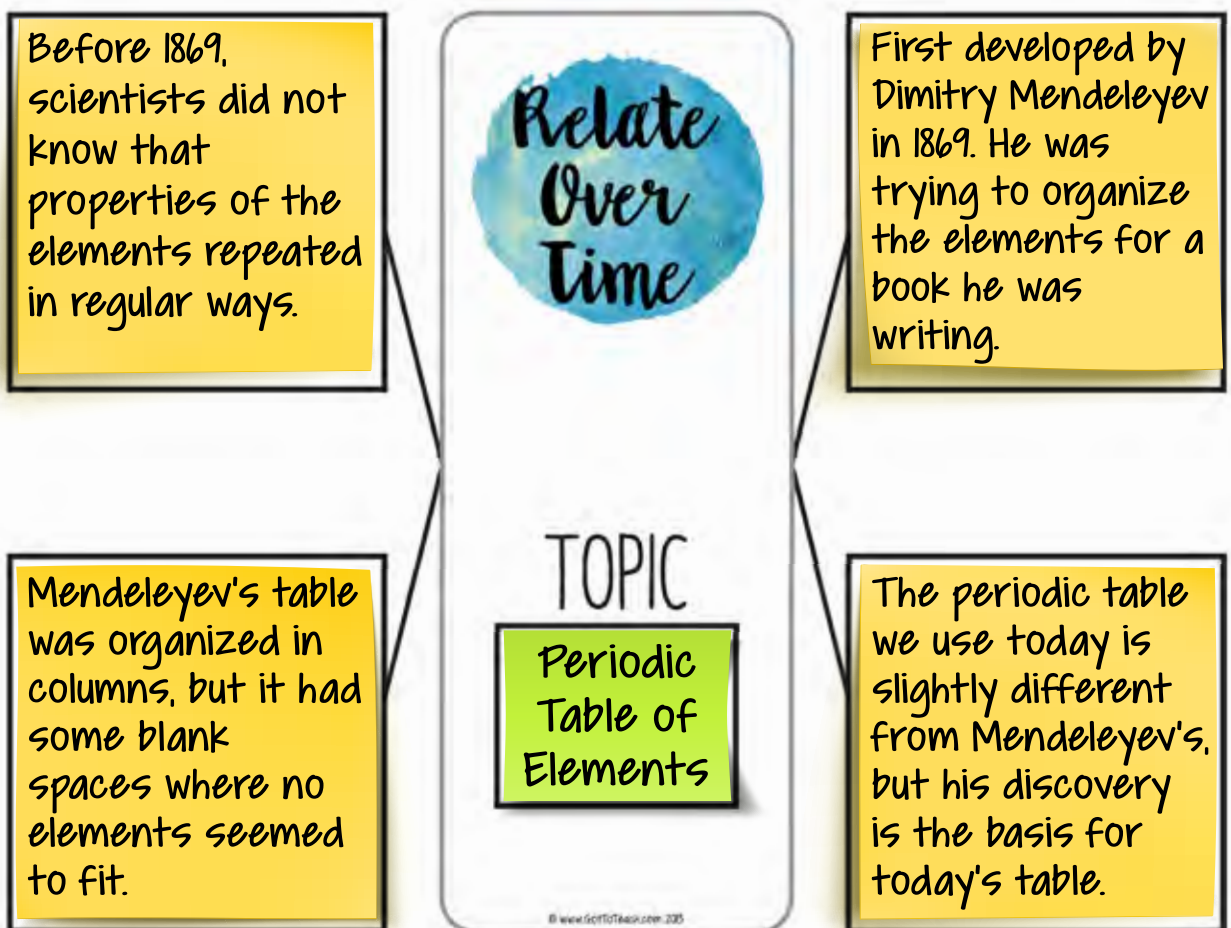
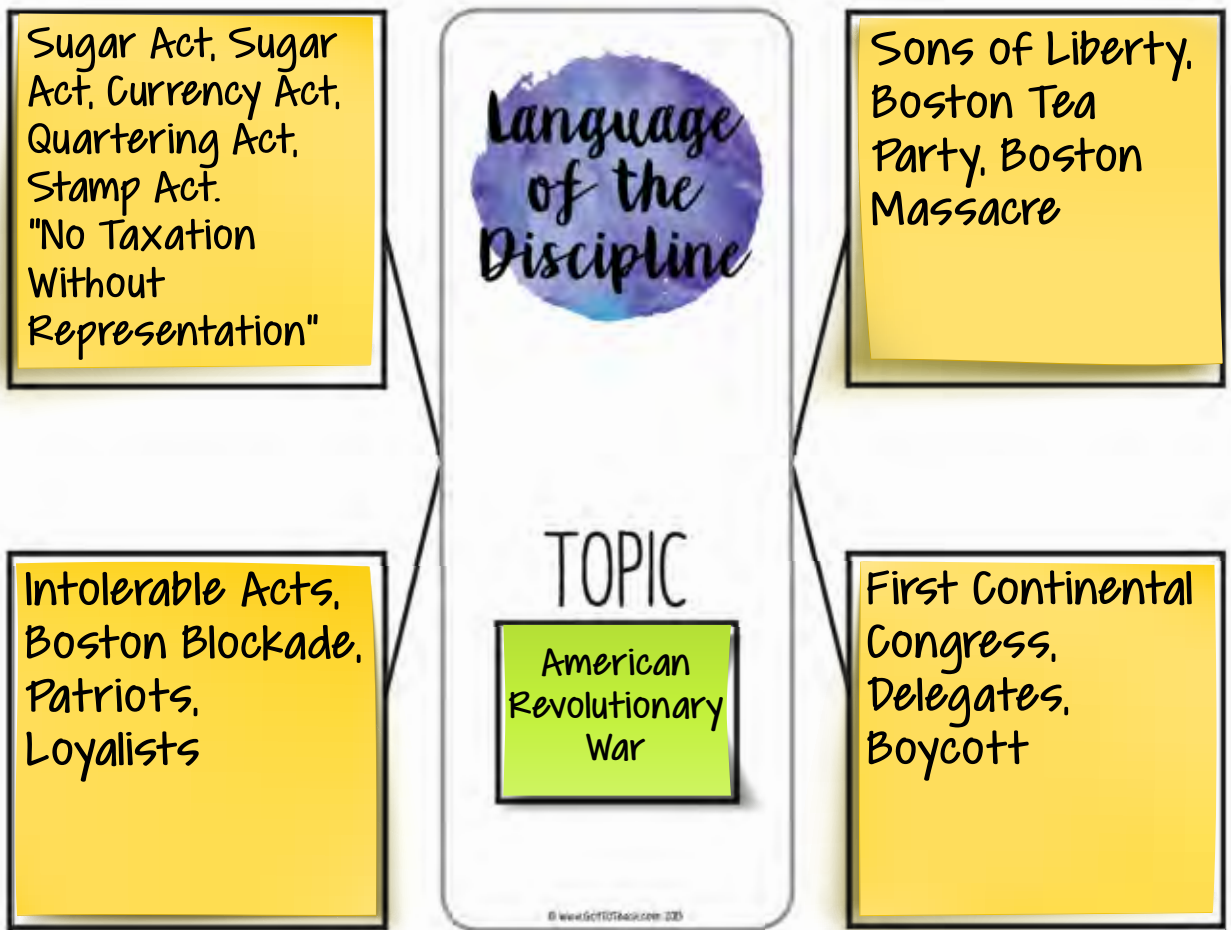
TERMS OF USE

© Copyright 2019 M. Tallman. All rights reserved. Permission is granted to copy pages specifically designed for student or teacher use by the original purchaser or licensee. **This is intended to be used by one teacher unless additional licenses have been purchased.** The reproduction of any part of this product is strictly prohibited. Copying any part of this product and placing it on the Internet in any form (even a personal/classroom website) is strictly forbidden. Doing so makes it possible for an Internet search to make the document available on the Internet, free of charge, and is a violation of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA).

EXAMPLES



EXAMPLES



FRONT



BACK

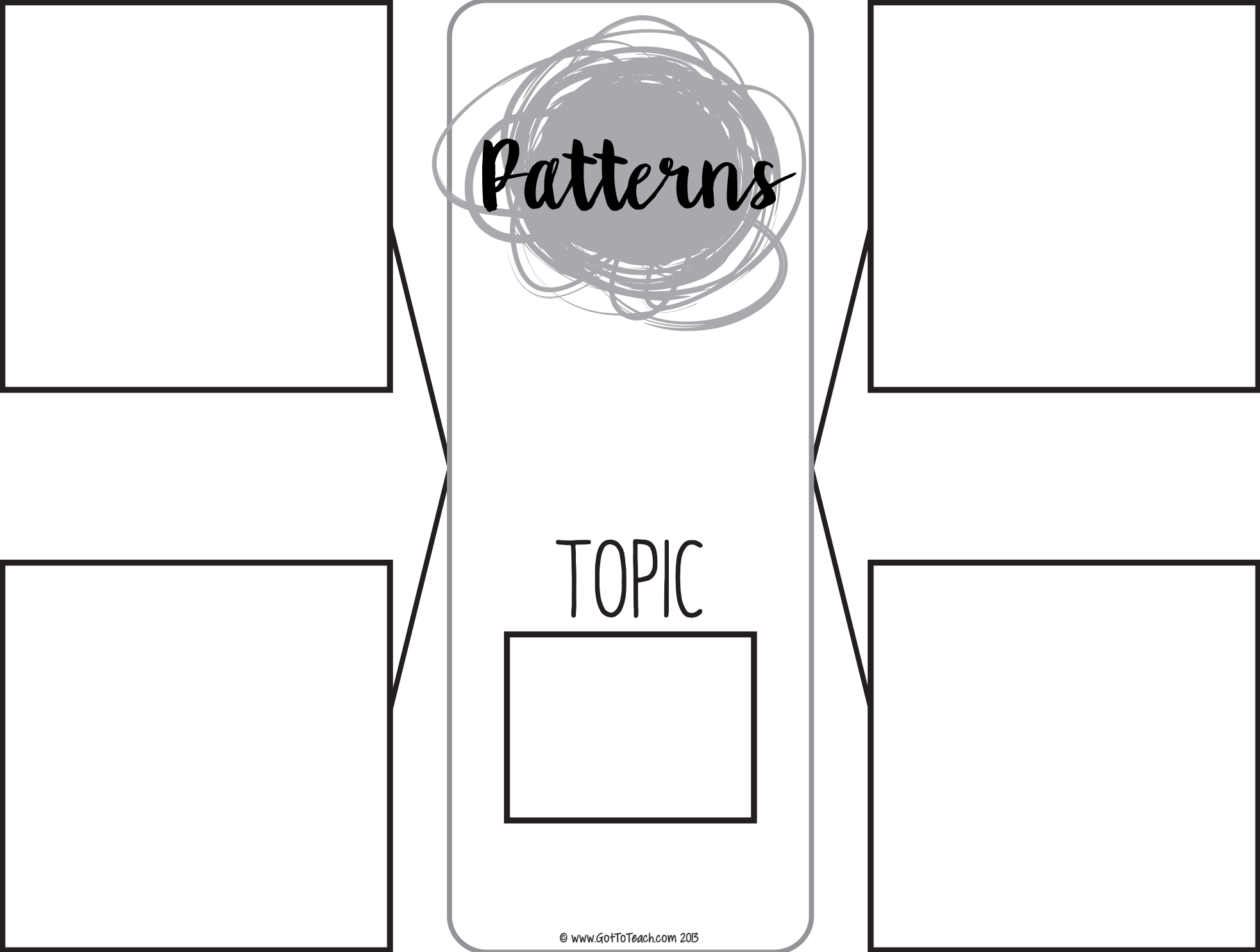
Possible connections to...			
Ethics			
~Language Arts~ • "right" vs. "wrong", "good" vs. "bad" • controversies, problems, conflicts • stereotypes, bias, prejudices • plot dilemmas • moral values • social mores		~Math~ • skewed or misleading statistics • probability • problem solving • interpreting solutions • applying solutions	
~Science~ • differing opinions of disciplinarians/experts • scientific accuracy • ethical issues (e.g. DNA-cloning, Copernicus-solar system). • negative or destructive uses of science • experiment or research bias • scientific dilemmas or challenges		~Social Studies~ • examples of biases, prejudices, stereotypes • evidence of propaganda • laws, rights, justice • race, ethnicity, religion • migration and/or immigration • controversial issues • conflict	



Patterns

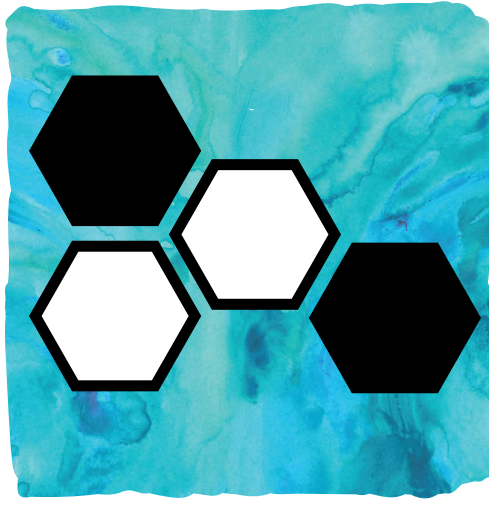
TOPIC





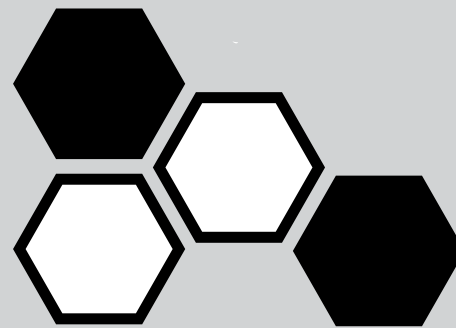
Patterns

TOPIC



PATTERNS

TOPIC



PATTERNS

TOPIC

A simple black-outlined rectangle intended for writing a topic.

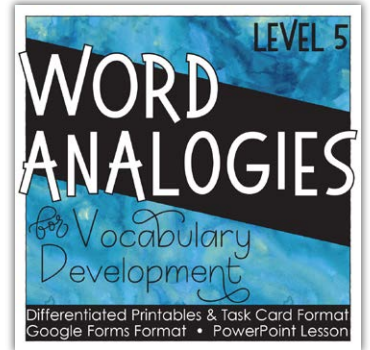
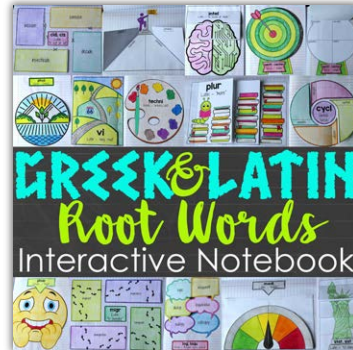
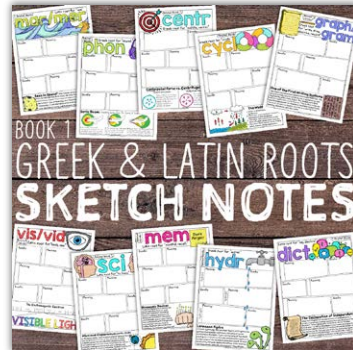
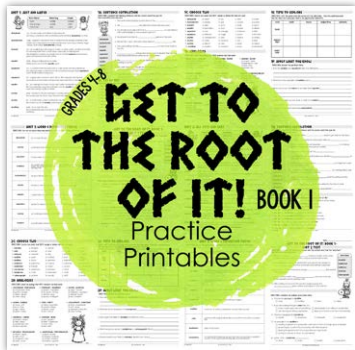


Helping teachers thrive, not just survive, in education

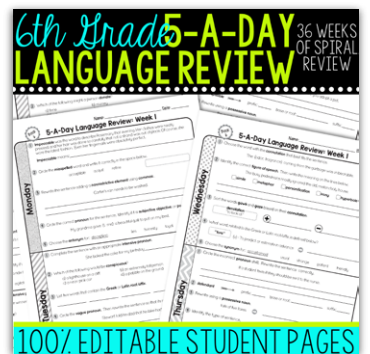
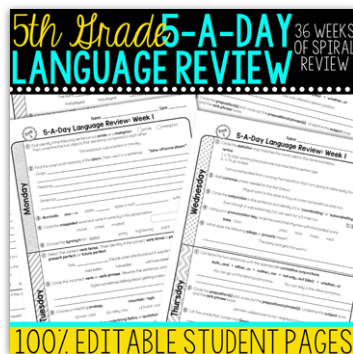
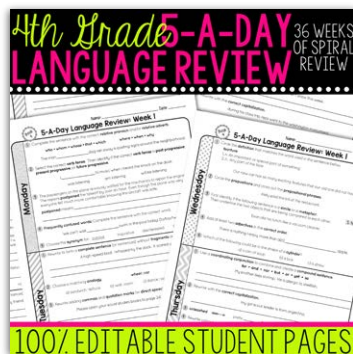
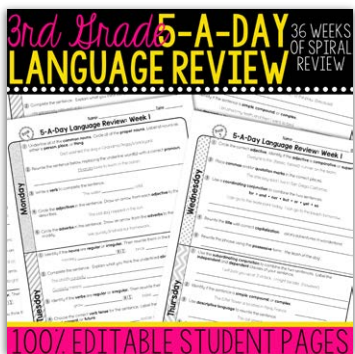


www.TeacherThrive.com

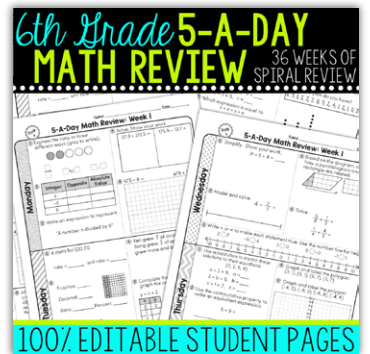
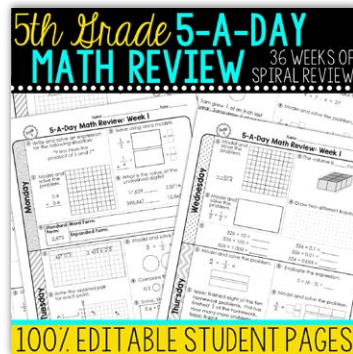
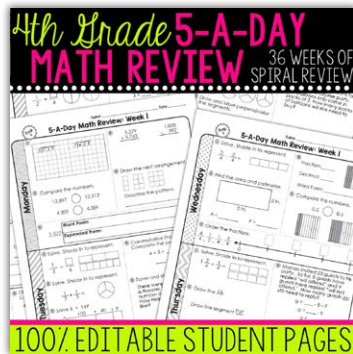
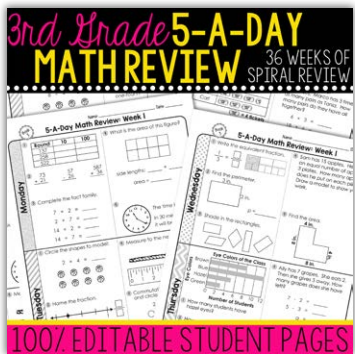
VOCABULARY RESOURCES



DAILY LANGUAGE REVIEWS (GRADES 3-8)



DAILY MATH REVIEWS (GRADES 3-6)



HANDS-ON MATH TILES

