

# Core Thinking Processes

- Using relevant criteria to categorise, order, compare, generalise
- Asking yourself questions about information
- Visually summarising key terms and their connections
- Recognising relevant patterns in information
- Identifying and distinguishing facts from opinions
- Identifying and distinguishing causes from effects
- Identifying and distinguishing definite and indefinite conclusions
- Identifying the main idea and assumptions made
- Analysing the design of a process or product
- Suggesting creative reversals, consequences, explanations
- Suggesting creative alternatives, comparisons
- Suggesting creative combinations, extreme cases, eliminations
- Suggesting creative solutions or improvements using random input
- Suggesting creative uses by listing attributes of an object
- Identifying/justifying bias in cartoons, reports, adverts
- Judging/distinguishing relevant and irrelevant properties
- Judging/distinguishing reliable and unreliable statements or sources
- Judging an issue objectively from two view points.

*As teachers, we need to do more than teach students content, we need to teach the thinking processes students need in order to understand it, or to connect it together in meaningful ways.*

From "Become a better thinker" by Dr John Langrehr