



SEND Supported  
Embracing difference

## Mind Mapping to support writing

### Creating your mind map

- Practise with familiar topics eg my family, my school, a film.
- Remember the key 'rules' of mind mapping eg writing on top of the branch to make it clearer, only writing one or two words, using symbols, pictures and abbreviations.
- Remember the mind map is for your use so if someone else looks at it and is not sure what a symbol means for example, that does not matter.
- There may be branches that you always want to include as reminders eg 'introduction', 'connecting words', 'punctuation'.
- Start with the topic and then try to think of the main sections / subheadings within that topic – each section will be a main branch.
- If you think of another main section as you go along, you can just add it in.
- Add the detail to those branches, making sure the ideas connect with the main branch (this means that you are organising your ideas into sections and will make it much easier when you do your writing).

### Using your mind map

- Choose which branch you are going to start with. Sometimes, you will have to do them in a certain order for your writing to make sense eg explaining a process. Sometimes it will not matter the order in which you use them eg describing a character/setting.
- Once you have chosen your branch, make sure you include everything from that branch in your writing before moving on to another branch.
- Each branch may represent a different paragraph or a section in your writing so will help you to organise your ideas.
- Tick off what you have included as you are going along to keep track and ensure you do not miss out any ideas.

