

**Mapping (or webbing):** *One tool; many uses! Mapping is an especially useful tool for any adult with LD. Not only is it useful in accessing prior knowledge for reading comprehension, it is an alternative way of taking notes in a lecture. Further, it is an organizational tool when preparing for writing or a research project. The following map was one actually done by a group of adult learners preparing to learn about AIDS.*

The teacher, Margaret Lindop, drew the map as they discussed what they already knew (prior knowledge). In some cases, they put forth “knowledge” that was inaccurate, but these suggestions were recorded. After the map was complete, the teacher asked, “Are there other things that you would like to find out? Are there things here on the map that you would like to check on?” Those things identified were color coded as possible research questions.

As well as being multisensory (speaking, listening, writing, using a graphic), this strategy is quite versatile in its uses. This same activity could be a solid lead-in to reading an article or story about AIDS, to writing an essay relating to AIDS or making a plan for a research project. It could also be revisited after reading an article with the intent of checking for accuracy of information, correcting the map, and using it as a summary note for the article.

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