



Kansas Effective Practices Instructional Toolkit

Implementing Research and Resources Into Action
Research Lesson 1: Daily Challenges

RANDOM PICTURE TECHNIQUE Using pictures to come up with new ideas/solutions	
STEP 1 <i>Get a Picture</i>	<p>The first thing you need for this technique is, fairly obviously, a random picture. You can get such an image from brainstorming software or you can select it at random yourself from a magazine, encyclopedia, picture book or a website.</p> <p>This picture is then used as a prompt to come up with new ideas and solutions.</p>
STEP 2 <i>Extract a concept to stimulate a solution</i>	<p>You should look at the picture, extract a concept or idea from it, and use this idea to stimulate a possible solution to your problem. Try to see anything in the picture that reminds you of your problem and how it might be solved.</p> <p>What activities are going on? What situations are being faced? Why are the people doing what they are doing? What principles are being used?</p> <p>With a picture in front of you, extract an idea from it, or imagine a similar theme/person/action happening within your own situation.</p>
STEP 3 <i>Using a new solution in your own situation</i>	<p>Next, think of how you can use that new situation/object/attitude in your own situation. It does not immediately have to be a positive solution but you may later be able to move from it to a good solution.</p>
THINGS TO CONSIDER	<p>What do you have to be careful of when using the Random Picture Technique?</p> <p>You must be careful of deciding that a specific picture is of no use and getting another instead. If you do this, then often you are just trying to choose a random picture THAT obviously fits into the problem you are just trying to solve and therefore you end up with a picture that is not random.</p> <p>Again, the skill is to work out HOW the picture can be made to fit.</p> <p>You also have to be careful of linking the picture with an idea you already know about. You have to train your mind not to do this and to take the picture at face value and not use the technique to come up with an old idea to show that the old idea is good.</p>