



Memory Map

The teacher should construct a Buddhist shrine using the information in the notes above. It should include a Buddha or different Buddhas, (pictures or statues - representing the Body), Buddhist texts (representing Speech) and a Stupa (picture or object - representing Mind).

It should include offerings – eg: flowers, incense, water in 7 Bowls, food of various sorts

The children should then conduct a Memory Mapping of a shrine that has been set up by the teacher.

Memory Maps develop pupils' ability to look at pictorial/ diagrammatic information, memorise part of it and reproduce it.

Pupils' powers of organisation, memory, communication and collaboration are developed.

They are useful for encouraging collaborative group work and promoting communication skills by focusing in detail on the shrine.

Memory Mapping Method

- ▶ Pupils work in groups of 3 or 4 – evenly sized groups if possible. Their task is to reproduce the shrine as accurately as possible.
- ▶ Each group sends one representative to look at the shrine, which is uncovered for only 10 seconds (or for a period of time appropriate for the pupils and for the complexity of the shrine).
- ▶ Pupils return to their groups and record what they can remember on a blank sheet of paper and talk to members of their team about what they have seen.
- ▶ The next person in the group takes a turn to look at the shrine for 10 seconds... and so forth, until the teacher is satisfied they have had enough time and all team members have taken a turn.
- ▶ The teacher may wish groups to compare their versions, noting the differences and adding anything they want to their own shrine etc.
- ▶ As a class, compare results and discuss the strategies for dealing with the task. These might be...
- ▶ The use of colour
- ▶ The use of symbols
- ▶ Some remember words/text more easily than they do images
- ▶ Pupil collaboration and discussion of strategies – eg dividing responsibility either spatially (right, left etc) or in other ways (by words, objects)
- ▶ The quality of pupil discussion whilst drawing to consolidate and give clues.