

Thinking Moves A – Z for Parents and Children

As a parent or carer, you will naturally be concerned about how much and how well your child is learning – especially if they are not able to attend school for a while. We hope that **Thinking Moves A -Z** can help you while your child is at home. The Moves are designed for collaborative learning, so you and your child can use them together. They are also uniquely well-focussing on learning how to think, rather than what to think, so you don't need any special teaching knowledge to use them.

The Thinking Moves are a powerful, but simple, scheme of **thinking about thinking**. They consist of 26 different thinking processes, made memorable because of the A – Z structure. They are easy to get into and fun to work with. You can start using the Moves by accessing the resources on <https://dialogueworks.co.uk/teacher-toolkit/>. These provide tips and activities for these 6 Moves.



These activities encourage children's thinking ability in everyday life as well as in their academic work. Becoming better at thinking **AHEAD**, for example, means being able to anticipate and plan better. Becoming better at thinking **BACK** means being able to think more reflectively and thereby learn better.

Showing your child how to **LISTEN/LOOK** better will help them become more observant, developing a valuable skill for life. Helping them **CONNECT** concepts better will make them more creative, while helping them **DIVIDE** (or distinguish) different concepts better will support their critical thinking. **ZOOM**ing-in on important details and **ZOOM**ing-out to see the big picture will enable better decisions throughout life.

We launched Thinking Moves last year and already teachers and schools in the UK, China, South Africa and Sweden are among those using the programme. We have developed a wide range of supporting resources including:

- **Activities** that you can do with your child and their friends
- **Icons** that they can use in drawing pictures to support their thinking
- **Signs** that they can use with each other and with you
- **Synonyms** to help build vocabulary

You can find a selection of these resources at <https://dialogueworks.co.uk/hometalk/>. If you want more, there are further free resources at <https://dialogueworks.co.uk/teacher-toolkit/>.

If you want to learn about the full range of 26 Moves, you'll find all you need in our user-friendly book, **Thinking Moves A – Z: Metacognition Made Simple**. The book, a poster and a set of playing cards are available on our website at <https://dialogueworks.co.uk/resources/>.