# Tips for using Graphic Map

## Learning Beyond the Classroom



**Intended for: Grades 3–12**

**Ages 8–18**

**Technical requirements: Flash 8***

## ReadWriteThink.org

Provides high-quality

resources for reading and

English language arts learning

**URL:  www.readwritethink.org/materials/graphicmap/**

The Graphic Map allows children and teens to chart the significant points related to a particular item or group of items, such as chapters in a book, amounts of money spent, events during a day, month, year, or life, or scenes in a play. For each point, the child or teen chooses a rank that shows how positive or negative the point is. This online tool creates a graphic representation of these ranked points that displays related images and descriptions.

## Here's What to Do:

Users begin by choosing the items to list on their graphic maps—book chapters, money, time, scenes from something they have read, or another topic altogether. Then, children choose how they want to rank those items. Finally, they can write their own descriptions and choose images to represent their entries. The amount of writing can vary by the age of the user. Graphic maps can be printed and shared with others. An example graphic map shows major events in a novel.

## More Ideas to Try:

- Invite children to choose significant events in their lives, rate them, graph them, and write about one or more.
- When getting together with family and friends, older children can interview others to gather stories and event information, and then share the information from their interviews using a graphic map.
- After reading or listening to books, ask children of all ages to chart the texts they have read, assigning a value to each.
- Ask older children to learn more about one or more of their favorite people. Create a graphic map about their lives.

* This tool uses the free Flash browser plug-in (version 8 or later), which can be downloaded from the ReadWriteThink.org Site Tools page: http://www.readwritethink.org/site_tools.html.

To view this tip sheet online, go to http://www.readwritethink.org/materials/graphicmap/graphicmap.pdf.

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