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Inspiration Reflection

I personally enjoyed doing this project; it was fun although it took me awhile for something so simple. I have never done this before so I had to familiarize myself with everything, next time it shouldn't take this long. I wish when I was in high school my teachers would have given me this kind of homework.

The sources that I used to get familiar with the concept maps were the web site to inspiration and the examples they had there for different subjects that was helpful. The other source was our book which also pointed out some approaches for doing the concept map. And also I used the GLE site to see if the subject I chose would be appropriate for high school students which I focused on. I liked the GLE site because it showed me in what kind of structure different grades should be taught. Finally for the information on my concept map I used my geology book "Essentials of Geology". From my topic I learned about the Earth's tectonic plates and how there's different types of plate tectonics. I would have never guessed that the ground we walk on moves in so many different ways and how those movements create the beautiful mountains that we get to enjoy and bring peace to our souls. Also those same movements form our volcanoes from where ultimately the land we walk on formed and the earthquakes that cause so much damage and loss of life. That's nature and there's nothing anyone could do about it. It's been going since this planet has had molten mantle and the plates would keep moving and forming new ground until all the radioactivity is used up and our plates cease to exist.

I would definitely use concepts maps in my classroom because I think that it would be very easy for the student to learn a concept because you have both visual and written explanation. Especially in science what I'm going to be teaching. Science is one of those subjects that relies on visual stimulation to explain something complex. And I think that's why students have such a hard time understanding science is because they are confronted with all these complicated words and nothing to show what it means. Science is the imagination to its fullest in my opinion. I mean somebody actually sat down and came up with the concept of the eleven or more dimensions that can exist. If that's not imagination I don't know what is.

I would use the concept maps for something that's hard to comprehend by just reading the material. For example I can use it to explain what all is involved in photosynthesis. I would explain it in class and I can have the students do it as an assignment or even they can do it for every chapter if it would help them understand it better plus I think that they would enjoy it. It's not going to be like writing a paper. In a way it's more hands on and you have to think what kind of chart you are going to use and how to put it together. I looked at the GLE but I didn't

pick the areas they had listed but I believe that my topic is appropriate for high school students and really I don't think it would be hard for middle school students neither. I would also use the concept map as for the students to fill in the blanks for example on a test.