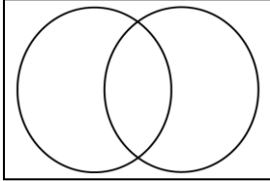
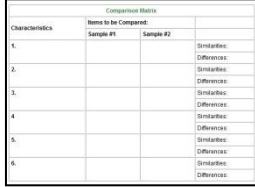
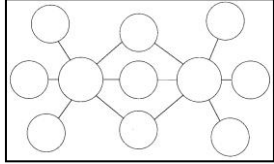
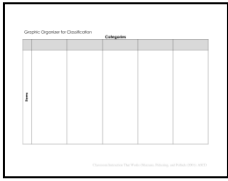
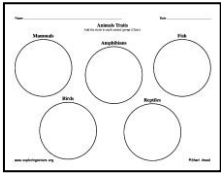
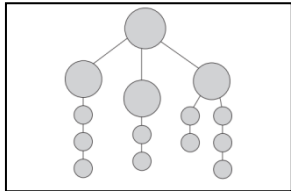
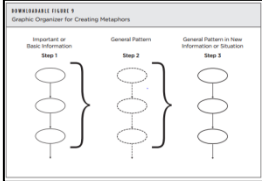
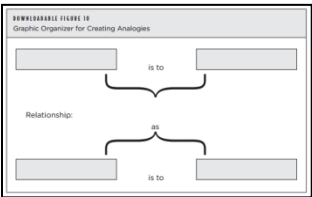


# Identifying Similarities and Differences

## 1. Select the appropriate strategy.

Use this Strategy	When you want STUDENTS to
Comparing	identify how items are similar and different
Classifying (teach <i>comparing</i> before <i>classifying</i> )	place items in categories and understand why items belong in those categories
Metaphors	focus on how items are similar on an abstract level
Analogies	understand abstract ideas and make connections between new knowledge and prior knowledge by using what they know about the relationship between a set of known items

## 2. Provide students with appropriate graphic organizers.

<b>Comparing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Venn diagrams</li> <li>comparison matrix</li> <li>double bubble</li> </ul>	  
<b>Classifying</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>chart</li> <li>circle diagram</li> </ul>	  
<b>Metaphors</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Metaphor pattern diagram</li> </ul>	
<b>Analogies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>pictorial form of the A:B::C:D format</li> </ul>	

Provide opportunities for students to develop their own graphic organizers to use for each of the approaches to identifying similarities and differences.

## 3. TEACH students the steps. MODEL and provide corrective FEEDBACK.

<b>Comparing</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I find the items I want to compare</li> <li>I choose the features to compare the items</li> <li>I tell how the items are the same or different</li> </ol>	<b>Classifying</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I find times to classify</li> <li>I choose categories into which to sort items</li> <li>I sort identified items</li> <li>I tell how they fit into categories</li> <li>If necessary, I reclassify the items</li> </ol>
<b>Metaphor</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I identify the important information</li> <li>I find a pattern in the information and describe it in a general way</li> <li>I find another example that uses the same pattern and show how it does</li> </ol>	<b>Analogy</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I identify how the two items in the first pair are related</li> <li>I state the relationship in a general way</li> <li>I identify another pair of items that share a similar relationship</li> </ol>