

Case Story Description: De Bono's six thinking hats

Short description of the challenge that the tool was used to tackle	The specific challenge that we thought use of Edward de Bono's six hats would help with was ensuring that: a) Group discussions stayed focused b) Discussions were directed towards solving one particular issue/problem c) Each member of the group contributed to the discussion d) Group discussions enabled the group to examine a reality/issue/concern/problem from a variety of different perspectives.
Title of the tool	De Bono's six thinking hats
How did the school work with the tool	<p>After learning how the system of the six thinking hats works, participants from five schools decided to use it to discuss the realities of being a school manager. Each participant chose a hat and looked at their reality from this particular viewpoint. The facilitator intervened only when the viewpoint was not respected. The following examples of the issues raised when working with each hat illustrate what was revealed by using this tool.</p> <p>White Hat (facts):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I will have to stay at school for long hours (full-time job). - I will not earn more. - I will be the main responsible person at school. <p>Green Hat (creativity):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I will try to make the school more inclusive by encouraging innovative ideas. - Rather than checking everything as the school manager, I will try to create A self-regulating organization. <p>Yellow Hat (benefits):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I can affect many children and teachers in a positive way. - I can implement innovative ideas at school. - I can improve myself and my institution. <p>Black Hat (cautions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Being a school manager is like a" bed of nails". You have too many responsibilities but not have much power/authority. Prosecutions might be strated against you. <p>Red Hat (feelings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are teachers whom I get on well and others with whom I don't get on well. Will I be able to be objective in all aspects? I am really concerned. <p>Blue Hat (process):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensured that Six thinking hats guidelines have been observed.



Promoting factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Participants liked the activity and found it very useful to stay focused during the discussions. They thought the activity was very simple and they found it very useful to look at a reality from many aspects.- They thought that the activity could provide in-depth analysis for solving problems, discussing an argument, or planning.- They thought that the activity could also be used in their classrooms.
Barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Lack of an examples / good case study reports to illustrate how the activity works in reality- Some participants had difficulty staying within in the borders of a specific hat, as they thought that some hats overlapped each other.
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