

thinkLets

A thinkLet (Briggs & Jan de Vreede, 2001) is an activity that is purposefully designed to help individuals within a group initiate and sustain a pattern of thinking that will help move the group towards a goal. The activities are designed to help groups of people engage in seven different types of thinking that support reasoning. The seven patterns of thinking that support reasoning are:

1. Diverge: generating more concepts
2. Converge: prioritizing which concepts are promising
3. Organize: establishing how different concepts are related
4. Elaborate: expressing a promising concept in more detail
5. Abstract: expressing a concept in less detail
6. Evaluate: considering the value of a concept in attaining a particular goal
7. Build Consensus: coming to agreement about how to proceed as a team

Selecting what type of thinkLet to use depends on the nature of the problem being solved by the team and where the team is located within a process of reasoning. We invite C-CoMP members to look through the [booklet of thinkLets](#) to see which ones may support their group's needs.

As you will notice, some of the implementation tips are outdated, but the principle and script of the thinkLet can still be applied with some modification. Feel free to reach out to the Collaboration Committee for ideas on how to modify the thinkLet for use in your group.

Citation:

Briggs, R. O., & de Vreede, G. J. (2001). ThinkLets: Building Blocks for Concerted Collaboration: GroupSystems.com.



C-CoMP Guiding Principles for Collaboration Supplement