COMPUTER-BASED STUDY STRATEGIES
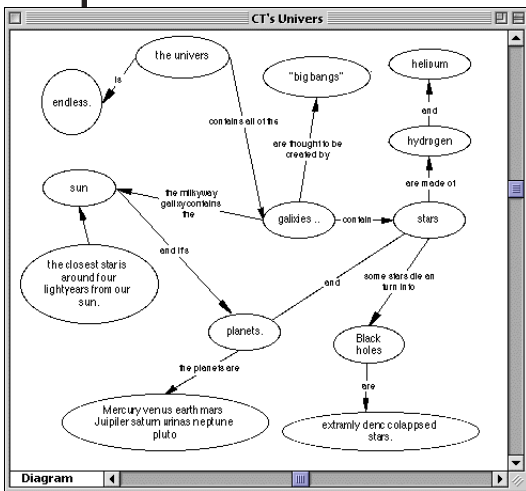
SYMBOL RICH MAPS

When to use it

- Your thinking is best represented in symbols or pictures.
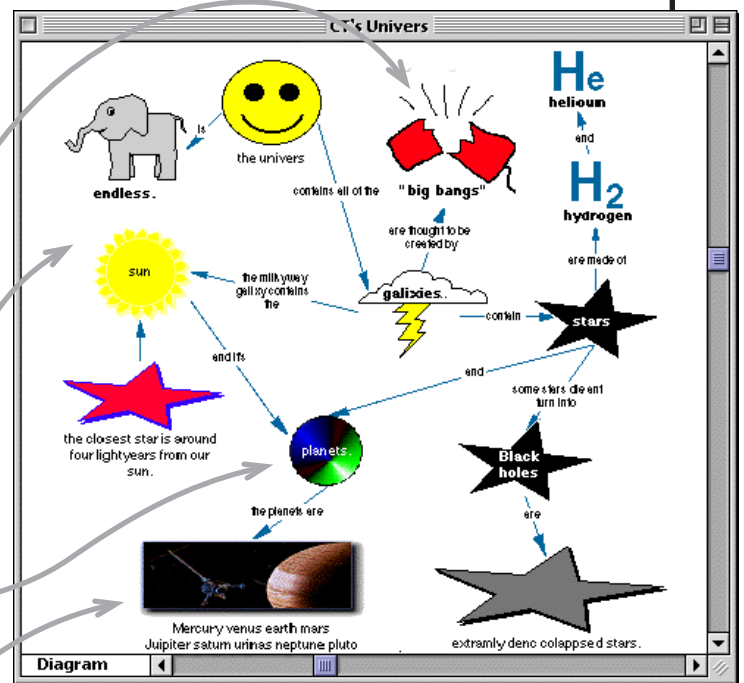- You need a visual reminder for your concepts.

How to do it

1. Build the map.

Use key words in generic symbol shapes to represent concepts. Be sure to include linking words showing the relationships between concepts.

2. Explore the symbol resources.

a) Use a scanner to digitize your own or other graphics.

b) Use a graphics program to create your own symbols.

c) Select symbols available with the concept mapping program.

d) Use clip-art or other electronic sources (download from the internet or other files).

Note: It is safest to avoid using copyrighted images. Never use them without legal permission in materials you might publish!

3. Personalize the symbols. Use your own graphics as much as possible; you will remember them better.

a) Copy the desired graphic to the computer's "clipboard".

b) Select the concept on the map to be customized.

c) Paste the graphic in place of the generic symbol shape.