

THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE

SOME TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES

WHY THE PICTURES

- WE ARE TRAINED TO LOOK FOR FAMILIAR PATTERNS,
- WE PERSIST IN SEEING THINGS IN FAMILIAR WAYS EVEN IF THEY ARE NOT THERE
- ONE OF THE HARDEST THINGS ABOUT INNOVATION.. IS TO CHANGE OUR WAY OF SEEING THINGS
- TO LOOK FOR NEW PATTERNS AND NEW WAYS OF DOING THINGS – HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED THIS?

LOOK AT THIS CHAP



When did you see the girl?

Now look again when do you see her?

WHAT DO YOU SEE



A COW

WHAT DO YOU SEE?



A spotty dog

WHAT DO YOU SEE?



The face

**No actually it is an
Arial view of the alps**

WHY THE PUZZLES?

- BECAUSE WE ACCEPT SELF IMPOSED RULES AND LIMITATIONS FAR TOO READILY
- INNOVATION REQUIRES THE FREEDOM TO TRY OUT NEW IDEAS
- INNOVATIVE THINKING REQUIRES US TO:
 - FORGET EASY ASSUMPTIONS
 - TAKE A WIDER LOOK AT THE ISSUES
 - ADOPT NEW PERSPECTIVES (REFRAME THE QUESTION)
 - CHALLENGE BARRIERS
 - SHARE IDEAS
 - LEARN AS WE GO
 - PERSIST IN LOOKING FOR NEW SOLUTIONS

RETHINKING YOUR SOLUTIONS

- CONNECT THE WORLDS WITHOUT TAKING YOUR PEN FROM THE PAPER
- WITH 4 STRAIGHT LINES
- WITH 3 STRAIGHT LINES
- WITH 2 STRAIGHT LINES
- WITH 1 STRAIGHT LINE
- AND AGAIN
- AND AGAIN

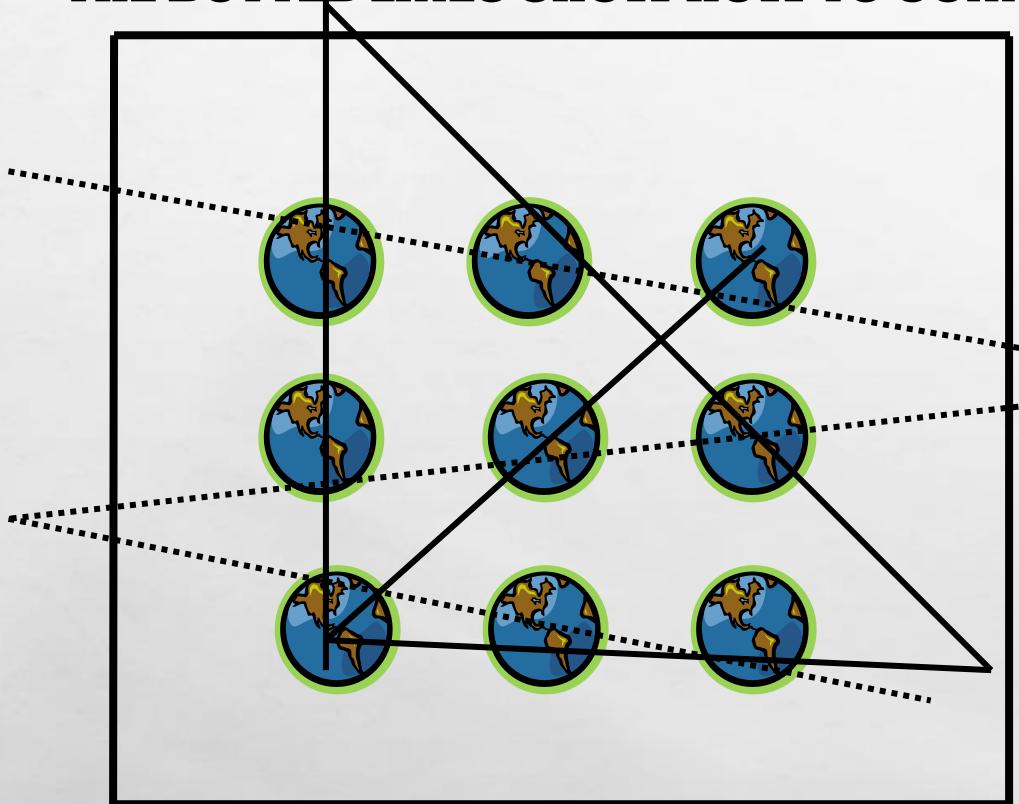


LESSONS/CLUES: THINK.....

- OUTSIDE THE BOX – QUESTION YOUR ASSUMPTIONS**
- PRACTICALLY- IMPOSSIBLE IN THEORY NOT IN REALITY**
- THINK AROUND THE PROBLEM**
- BEND A LITTLE**
- LOOK FOR REALLY BIG SOLUTIONS**
- THINK IN ANOTHER DIMENSION -**
- KEEP THINKING – THERE IS ALWAYS ANOTHER WAY**

SOME POSSIBLE ANSWERS

- THE SOLID LINES SHOW HOW TO CONNECT WITH FOUR LINES
- THE DOTTED LINES SHOW HOW TO CONNECT WITH THREE



To get to two lines wrap it into a tube

To get to one line use a very broad line

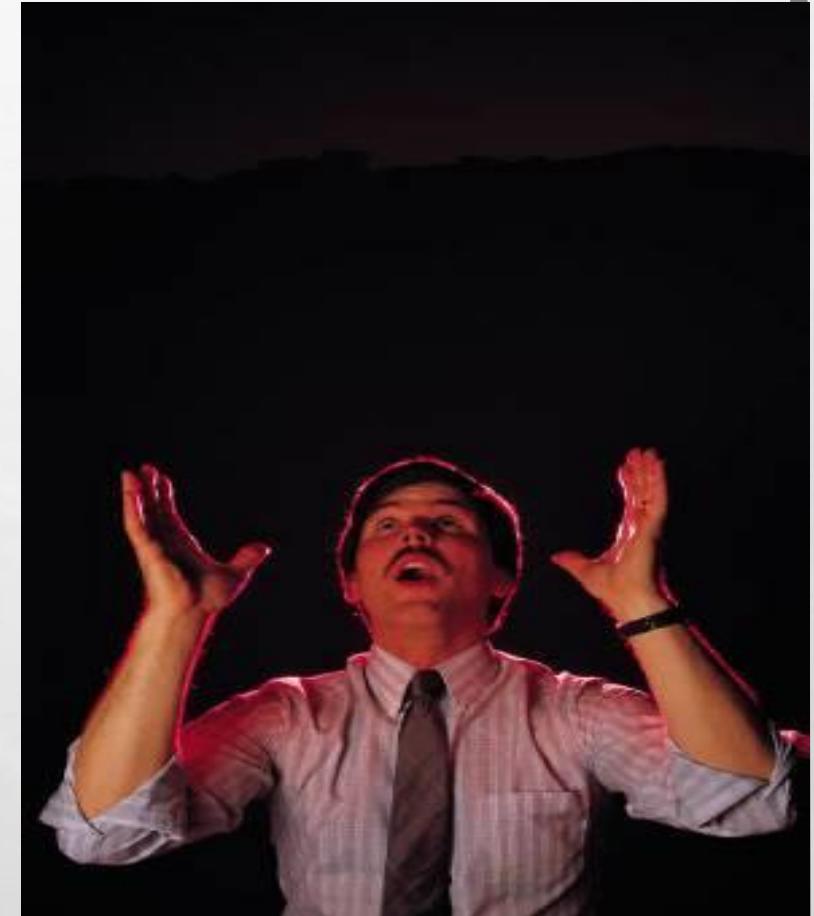
Or wrap it into a tube and draw a spiral

Or fold it up and stick a line through it

Or just show the edge of the paper

FUTURE THINKING TECHNIQUES

- **BRAINSTORMING**
 - BRAINSTORMING
 - SIX THINKING HATS
- **IDEA GENERATORS**
 - USING IMAGES
 - MIND MAPPING
- **PROBLEM SOLVING**
 - FISHBONE ANALYSIS
- **BLUE SKIES THINKING**



BRAINSTORMING

- THE THREE PRINCIPLES ARE
 - BE POSITIVE INVOLVE EVERYONE
 - BUILD ON ONE ANOTHER'S IDEAS
 - DON'T JUDGE IDEAS AS THEY ARE GENERATED
- THE THREE STEPS ARE
 - DEFINE THE ISSUE – WRITE ON THE FLIP CHART
 - GENERATE IDEAS - WRITE ON THE FLIP CHART
 - EVALUATE – ESTABLISH CRITERIA THEN APPLY



EDWARD DE BONO'S 6 HAT THINKING

- **SIX HATS REPRESENT DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES (AS BELOW)**
- **PARTICIPANTS ARE GIVEN A HAT AND MUST ADOPT THE PERSPECTIVE ALLOCATED TO THEIR HAT.**
- **DIFFERENT “HATS” LEAD DIFFERENT STAGES OF DISCUSSION**
- **ADDRESS THE PROBLEM IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:**
 - **WHITE – NEUTRAL, SETS OUT THE FACTS**
 - **GREEN – CREATIVE, GENERATES IDEAS**
 - **YELLOW – POSITIVE, SETS OUT BENEFITS**
 - **BLACK – JUDGEMENT, LISTS DRAWBACK**
 - **RED – EMOTION, GROUP FEELINGS ON OPTIONS**
 - **BLUE – CONTROL OF PROCESS, SUMMARIZE CONCLUSION**



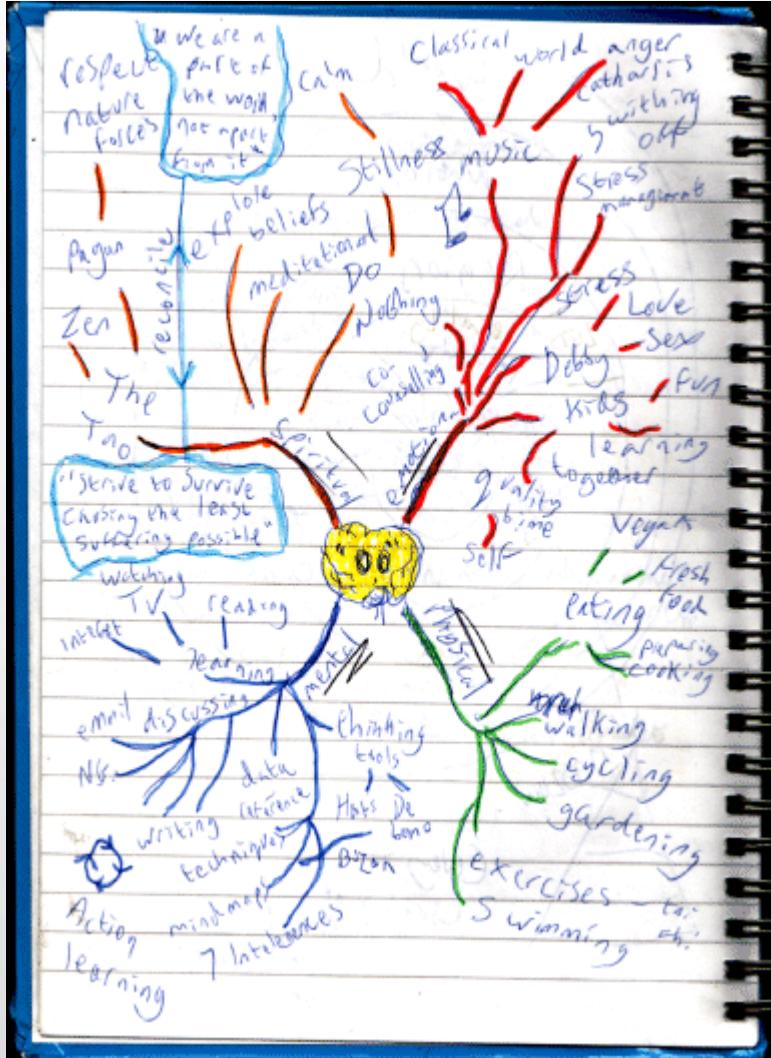
IMAGINEERING

- USE PICTURES (EITHER DRAWN OR CUT FROM MAGAZINES)
- START WITH VERY LITTLE TALKING TO PRODUCE A COLLAGE
- TO DESCRIBE
 - THE PROBLEM
 - WHAT THEY HOPE TO ACHIEVE
 - SOLUTIONS
- LATER THE GROUP DISCUSS WHY THEY CHOSE THE IMAGES
- THE IMAGES MAY MAKE NO SENSE EXCEPT TO THE TEAM WHO PRODUCED IT



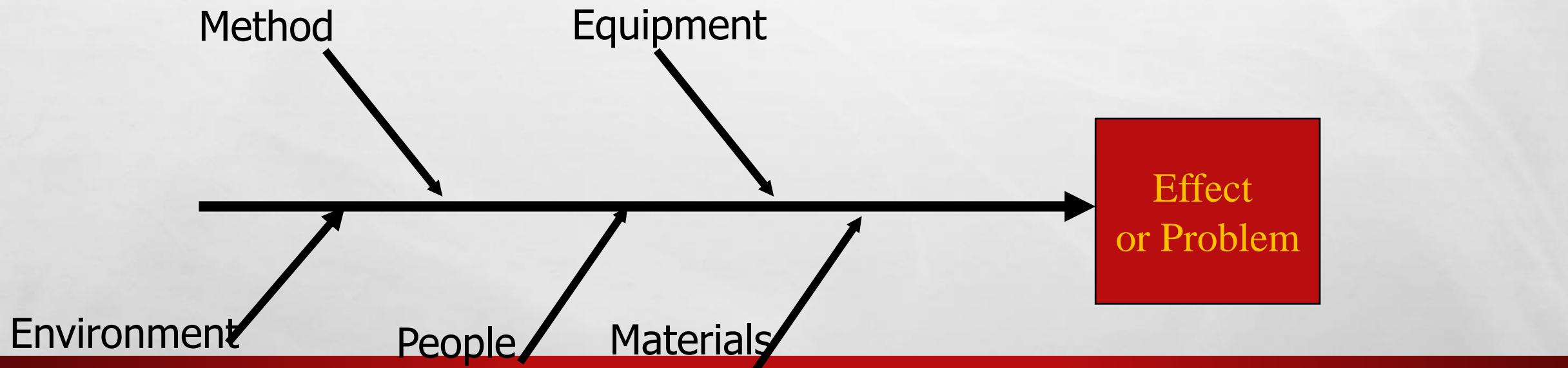
A MIND MAP

- **HELPS GENERATE IDEAS -**
 - **START WITH CENTRAL IMAGE OF ISSUE**
 - **SET OUT KEY WORDS ON DIFFERENT COLOURED BRANCHES**
 - **LINK TO IDEAS GENERATED BY KEY WORDS AND THEN TO OTHER IDEAS**
 - **GENERATE LINKS BETWEEN IDEAS ACROSS BRANCHES**
 - **USE COLOURS AND IMAGES**
 - **THERE ARE ALSO APPS YOU CAN USE FOR THIS**



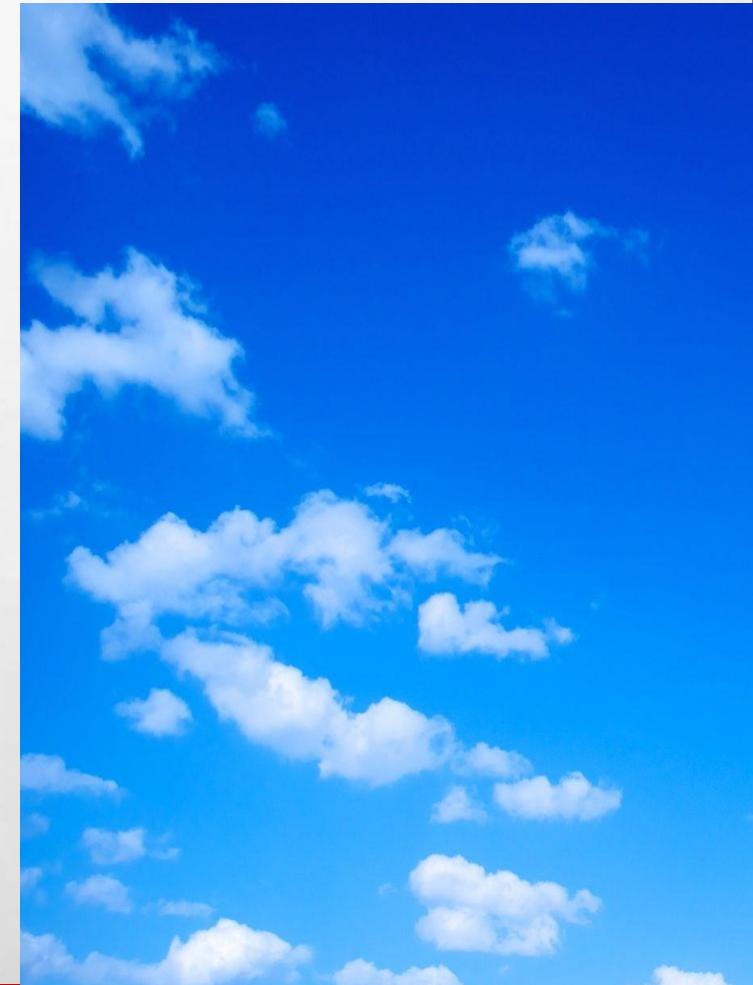
PROBLEM SOLVING USING FISHBONE ANALYSIS OF CAUSE AND EFFECT

- FIRST ESTABLISH THE EFFECT OR PROBLEM YOU WISH TO SOLVE
- THEN EXAMINE THE CAUSES UNDER RELEVANT HEADINGS
- SET OUT “FISHBONE” DIAGRAM DEVELOPED BY KAORU ISHIKAWA



BLUE SKIES THINKING

- **TAKE A RADICAL NEW LOOK AT AN OLD PROBLEM**
 - START FROM FIRST PRINCIPLES
 - REDEFINE THE ISSUE
 - FORGET EVERYTHING THAT HAS BEEN DONE
 - REFRAME THE QUESTION
 - SEARCH FOR A DIFFERENT SOLUTION
 - FOR THE MOMENT FORGET PRACTICAL CONSTRAINTS
 - BE BRAVE RETHINK YOUR FUTURE !
- **BEST OF LUCK**



FUTURES THINKING IS A TEAM SPORT

- IT THRIVES ON DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES AND IDEAS
- BRAINSTORMING, EDWARD DE BONO'S 6 HAT THINKING, IMAGINEERING, MIND MAPPING, FISHBONE ANALYSIS, AND BLUE SKYS THINKING SESSIONS HELP
- BUT ONLY ONCE YOU HAVE BUILT TRUST IN YOUR TEAM
- BEST OF LUCK IN YOUR FUTURE THINKING

