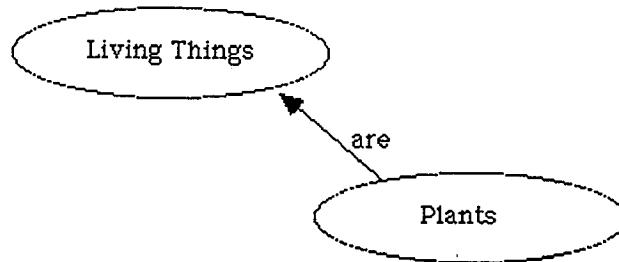
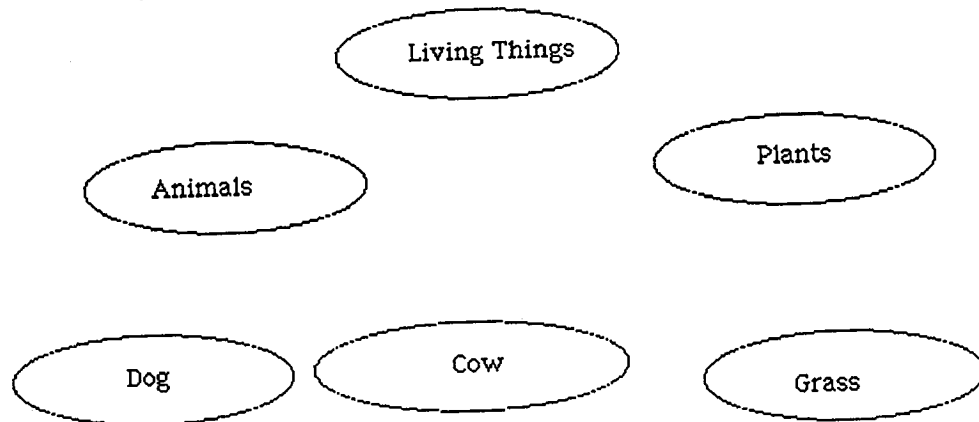


Steps to Constructing a Concept Map (Adapted from White and Gunstone, 1992)

- Step 1.** Write down the major terms or concepts you know about a selected topic. For example, if we are studying living things, some of the terms might include : animals, dogs, plants, cows, or grass (Figure 1).



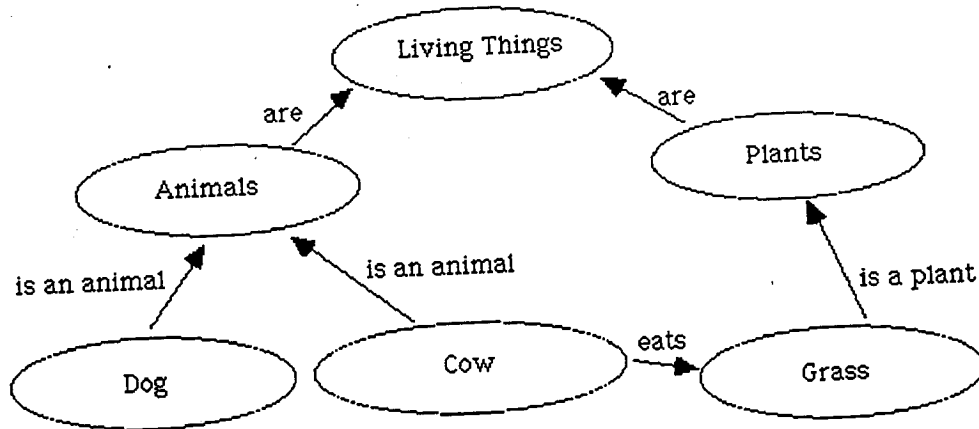
- Step 2.** Write each concept or term on a separate piece of paper or 3 x 5 card.
- Step 3.** Sort through the cards, putting terms you **DO NOT** understand to one side. Also put aside those that **ARE NOT** related to any other term. The cards left over are the ones you will use to construct the concept map.
- Step 4.** Arrange the cards so that related terms are close to each other (Figure 2).



- Step 5.** Stick the card to a piece of paper as soon as you are satisfied with the arrangement. Here is what your terms might look like if you used the ones mentioned above:

Step 6. Draw lines or arrows between the terms you think are related.

Step 7. Write on each line the type of relationship between the terms.
Here is what the terms above might look like after we draw the lines (Figure 3).



Step 8. If you put any cards aside in step 3, go back and see if some of them will fit into the concept map you have constructed. If they do, be sure to add the lines and relationships of the new items.

Step 9. **Summary:** The concept map drawn in Figure Three is very simple. Maps can become very complex and require a great deal of your time and attention, but they are useful in organizing, learning and demonstrating what we know about a particular topic.