

# Brain Burst

**Grade:** K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

## Uses:

Creative Expression and Communication

Check for Understanding / Self-Assessment and Reflection

## Materials:

**Brain Burst handout**, writing utensils of two different colors



## Description

Students write freely about everything they recall about a given topic.



## Preparation

Select a central theme, topic, or concept from your current unit of study.



## Implementation

Distribute a **Brain Burst handout** to each student. Instruct students to reflect individually on their knowledge related to the topic and to write down everything they remember in 2 minutes.

Then invite students to pair-share, adding key ideas from their peers in a new color on their handouts.

## Teaching Tips

- Model the brain burst technique to ensure students are familiar with it before using it as an exit ticket.
- To extend the activity, have students review their work and categorize their ideas and consider connecting the topic to an article from Britannica School or Britannica Library.
- For younger learners, provide simple writing prompts to activate their thinking before starting the brain burst exercise, or encourage them to draw instead of write.



## Supporting All Learners

**For students needing support:** Consider adding sentence frames or visuals connected to your current unit of study to the handout.

**For advanced learners:** Encourage students to add details and supporting evidence to their ideas and to explain how different ideas are connected.

**For multilingual learners:** Invite students to complete the task in their home languages alongside English.

**Note:** Provide accommodations and modifications based on your learners' needs to ensure full participation.