

QuickGuide to Kidspiration

Overview of Kidspiration

Kidspiration is the visual learning tool for K-5 students. It helps students create stories, organize and categorize information, understand concepts, and express and share their thoughts.

Picture view makes it easy for kids to see their ideas and information, taking advantage of the principles of visual learning. Writing view integrates with Picture view to help kids connect their ideas with words.



Picture View

The Picture View is similar to the Diagram View in Inspiration. However, it is even more visual and has sound. Note: Versions may appear slightly different.

• How to start a new picture

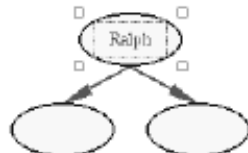
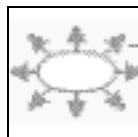


To start a new diagram, click the Picture button.

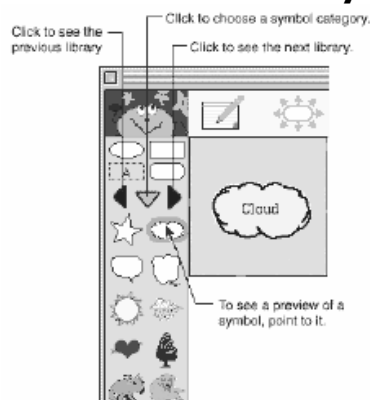
The first idea is in the center oval symbol. Type the big idea.

• How to add symbols to your diagram

Click on the main idea symbol. Then click on the Add Symbol button to add subtopics. Click into each symbol and type.



• How to use the Symbol Palette



Much as in Inspiration, the Symbol Palette has hundreds of images students can use to represent ideas.

Click through the libraries, find the desired image, and drag it to the diagram.

- **How to connect symbols using links**

Click on the symbol you want to connect. Then click on the Link button and drag to the image or symbol you want to link.



To link symbols in a diagram, click the Link symbol button.

- **How to listen to the ideas in your diagram**

To listen to the computer read the ideas, click on the Listen button. Then click on a symbol and the computer will read its contents.



To listen to the ideas in your diagram, click the Listen button.

- **How to record your own words or sounds**

To support emerging readers, Kidspiration allows students to record words or sounds and attach them to a symbol. Click on the symbol. Then go under Sound > Record. To begin recording, click Record, and speak into the microphone. When finished, click Stop. Then click Save and a small speaker appears next to the symbol. Click on the symbol to hear the recording.



- **How to clear part of your diagram**

Click on what you want to erase and either click on the Clear button or hit delete.



To clear a part of your diagram, click the Clear button.

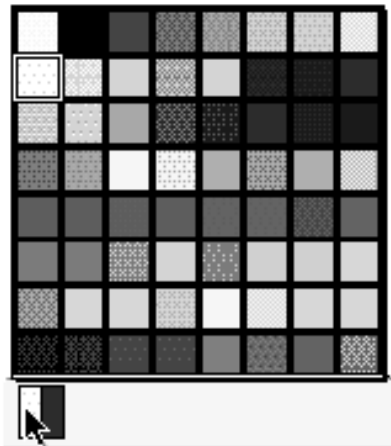
- **How to fix a mistake (undo)**

Note: This only applies to the most recent action.



To undo what you just did, click the Undo button.

● How to change the look of symbols using color



Click the color that you want to change on the Symbol Colors tool, and then click a new color.

Click on the symbol whose color you want to change. Then click on the color tool at the bottom right.

Note that the right hand color indicates line color and the left hand shows fill color.

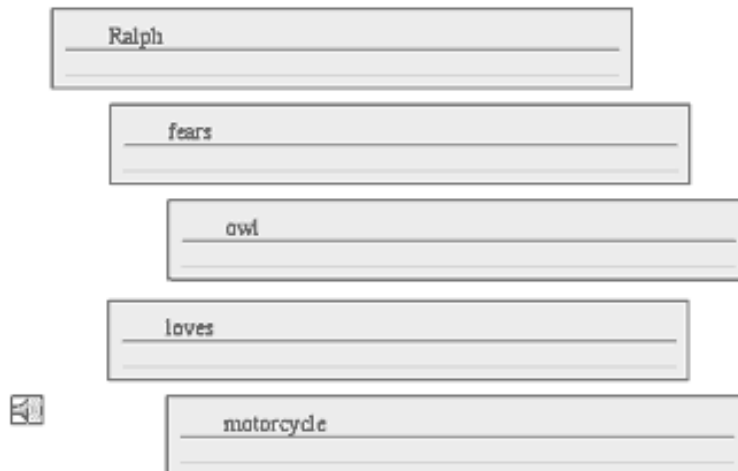
Change either by clicking on the tool and then selecting a new color from the palette that appears (shown at left).

Writing View

Just as with Inspiration, while you've been working in Picture View, Kidspiration has been building a general outline of your ideas. To switch to Writing View, click on the Writing View button.



To view your picture in Writing view, click the Go to Writing button.



● How to add an idea

Click on the topic below which you want to add an idea. Then click on Add Idea button.



To add a new idea to a writing project, click the Add Idea button.

● How to move an idea

To reorganize an idea, just click on it, hold down, drag to new location.

- **How to add details to an idea**

Click under the magental line and type. To listen to what you write, click on the Listen button.

- **How to return to Picture View**



To view a writing project in Picture view, click the Go to Pictures button.

SuperGrouper Category Tool

Categorizing and sorting are important skills for younger students. The SuperGrouper tool in Kidspiration makes these activities easy to create and fun to do.

- **How to add a SuperGrouper category**



To begin, start a new picture.

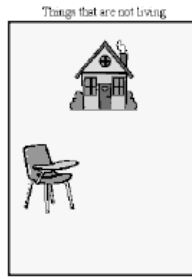
To add a SuperGrouper category, click on the SG button that looks like a jar of candy. Then select the shape you want. Then click away.

Repeat until you have as many categories as you want.

- **How to add a title to a SuperGrouper category**

To title each category, click on the category, then click inside the title box at the top (between the red stars) and type.

- **How to add and remove symbols and see in Writing View**



To add symbols, drag and drop them from the Symbol Palette to the SG categories. See example below. To remove them, click on symbol and then click the Clear button or delete. To see the SG categories in Writing View, click on the Go to Writing button.