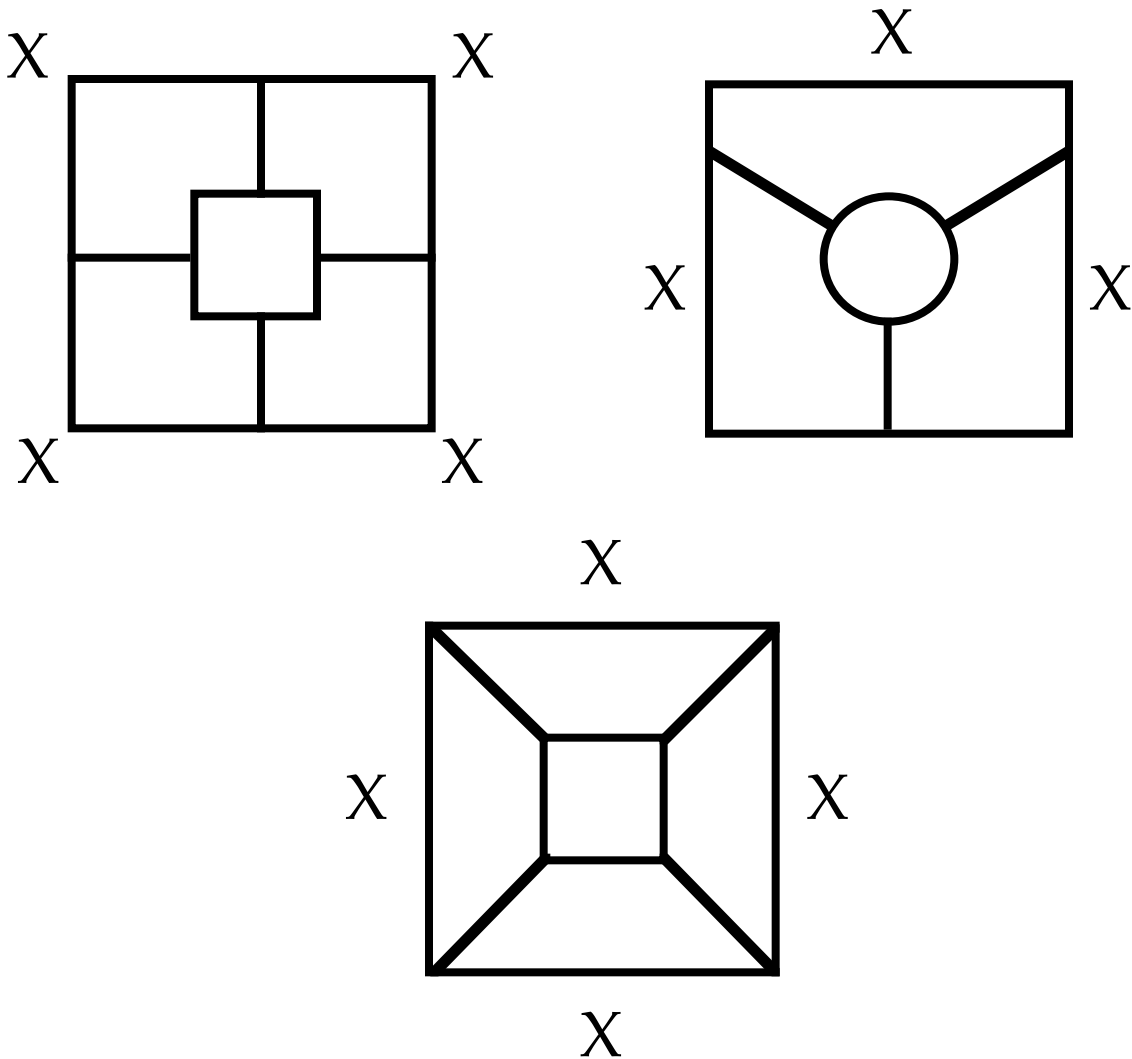


Place Mat Activity

Place Mat involves groups of students working both alone and together around a single piece of paper to simultaneously involve all members. The paper is divided up into pieces based on the number of members in the group with a central square or circle. Ideally, groups of two to four work best. Below are samples of how the paper may be divided according to the number of students.



(The 'X' denotes the seating position of the students in relation to the number of sections in the Place Mat.)

Materials:

- Piece of chart paper
- Pen or pencil for each student

(Note: Place Mat also works with regular 8-1/2 x 11 paper; however, the chart paper is more enjoyable as it provides students with a bit more room and it's easier to read what others have written.)

Bennett, Barrie., & Rolheiser, Carol. (2006) *Beyond Monet*. (p.172). Toronto: Bookation Inc.

Creation Story Place Mat

Each person writes (in their own space) what he or she thinks are characteristics/elements of creation stories. They then circle two or three ideas and star the most important idea to consider. They then take turns reading their list to the group and identify the most important ideas in the group. The next person writes their main key idea in the middle box. Repeat for each person. When finished, the group has the key ideas of the group, with each person knowing their voice was heard and respected.