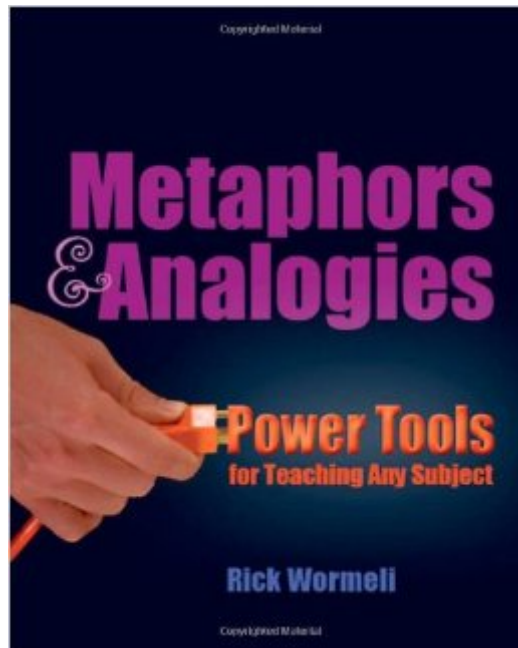


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# Metaphors & Analogies: Power Tools For Teaching Any Subject



## Synopsis

Metaphors and analogies are more than figurative language suitable only for English classes and standardized test questions. They are power tools that can electrify learning in every subject and at all grade levels. Metaphors show students how to make connections between the concrete and the abstract, prior knowledge and unfamiliar concepts, and language and image. To exploit these powers, however, teachers must learn how to use metaphors and analogies strategically and for specific purposes, helping students discover, create, and deconstruct effective comparisons. In this thoughtful and nuanced book, Rick Wormeli examines a wide range of powerful metaphors--from the rhetoric of political speeches to mathematical models to concrete spellings and body sculptures that symbolically portray abstractions. *Metaphors & Analogies* is filled with provocative illustrations of metaphors in action and practical tips about using metaphors to improve assessment, professional development, and symbolic sensing. Imagine the possibilities

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book helped me approach a subject I thought I would never be able to incorporate into my middle school math and science classroom. What Rick did was unbelievable because he cracked open the secrets of teaching metaphors...giving me bite size pieces that I could easily integrate into what I already do. As I read each chapter, I read about nuanced ways to go about using metaphors which deepen the understanding of my students and make them think more broadly. Honestly I

hadn't thought about most of what this book has to offer....and usually it's the other way around. I think buying books wastes my money because I don't get that much out of them. While it sounds very trite, I think I learned something new and applicable on almost every page I read.

In my corporate management and leadership consulting, training, and executive coaching practice, in the graduate-level leadership course I teach at NYU, and in my monthly blog column on "leadership, learning, and visual thinking," the use of metaphor and analogy -- both verbal and visual -- is always central to my approach.(And people always used to ask me, "What are you ever going to do with an undergraduate major in English Literature?")So while I am naturally oriented towards thinking and speaking in metaphors and analogies, this excellent book has helped me take my foundational knowledge and usage of the art and science of metaphor to exciting new heights!! I gained so many new insights and ideas from this book that I am excited to begin incorporating into my metaphorical "toolkit." And I am equally inspired to help my students, workshop participants, and coaching clients to do the same. While we all already use metaphors and analogies in our everyday language far more than we may even realize, this book will help us to do so with greater awareness and skill.One final note: While this book is seemingly targeted towards educators in a classroom teaching context, its excellent insights and examples are universal and will help anyone and everyone -- business professionals, public speakers, corporate trainers, teachers, and students -- to leverage the power of metaphor more effectively, so as to enhance their own thinking and learning, as well as to communicate their ideas with greater clarity and impact.

I love this book. Chapter 1 is called "Events Create Ripples and Equations are Balances: Metaphors in Every Subject" and right away I get several ideas for lesson plans. The author is very insightful on this topic. This book is geared toward teachers and education majors. It's clear and well organized, explaining how to choose the right metaphor, how to use them for teaching and assessment, the requirements of metaphor, and their limits. One appendix is a glossary, the other anecdotes from teachers and the metaphors they've found useful.I think this book is useful and inspirational. I only wish it had more examples.

**METAPHORS & ANALOGIES** encourages students to think more independently by using metaphors and analogies to foster growth in all areas of education. Teachers are encouraged to blend metaphor into discussions no matter what the topic, and receive 'power tools' for all grade levels showing how to help students bridge ideas between concrete and abstract methods of

thought. It's a fine survey any educator's library needs.

I read this book to find the answer 'how to create a metaphor.' I get the idea: you look at an abstract concept and its attributes, identify a physical object and its attribute, and then compare attributes to create a metaphor. So far so good! So what is the problem? I am struggling to 'pick or select' a physical object to 'start comparing' it with the abstract concept. I suppose my question for Mr Wormeli is...do I need to just "pick" any physical object randomly OR is there any "logical/sequential" method to select a physical object? I hope Mr. Wormeli answers my question or refers a specific page in the book where I can find the answer.

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