



# Inspiration 9 Honored With The National Parenting Center's 2010 Seal of Approval

## *Newest Version of Inspiration Software's Flagship Product Named to Prestigious List of Top Products for Children*

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The National Parenting Center (TNPC), one of the country's top evaluators of quality products for children, has bestowed its prestigious Seal of Approval on Inspiration® 9, the newest version of Inspiration® Software, Inc.'s visual learning software for learners grade six to adult.

Inspiration 9 is the ultimate thinking and learning tool to comprehend, create, communicate and achieve more.

TNPC's Seal of Approval program, created in 1990, identifies the finest products and services being marketed to the parent/child audience. From educational and entertainment products and equipment to travel destinations, the consumer-oriented testing process solicits evaluations from parents and their children. More than 1.5 million parents will visit the TNPC Web site this year to read product reviews that will guide the decisions about the products they select for their children.

"At Inspiration Software, our products are developed to put the power of visual learning in the hands of learners both in school and at home," said Mona Westhaver, president and co-founder. "This recognition for Inspiration 9 from one of the premier reviewers of products for children is a wonderful addition to the list of honors for the newest version of our flagship software."

Launched in January of this year, Inspiration 9 helps learners build strong critical-thinking, writing and organizational skills, as well as good communication skills to effectively share their knowledge and understanding. Used by millions of students and teachers around the world, the software is considered the gold standard of visual learning tools.

Inspiration is designed to offer an essential framework for thinking – helping students use 21st century skills to achieve more in all subject areas. Learners use Inspiration to build graphic organizers, including concept maps, webs and idea maps; to visualize and develop ideas; understand and retain concepts; plan and organize work; and communicate and present knowledge.

Among the new capabilities in Inspiration 9 is the Presentation Manager, used by students to create organized and compelling presentations to present and communicate their knowledge and work. The Presentation Manager automatically creates bulleted slides and graphics from a student's diagram, mind map or outline. Students use this as the starting point to build their oral presentation and handouts and then add slides, speaker notes, talking points, graphics, video and

sound to emphasize their points. Inspiration 9 ships with numerous ready-made, professional-quality themes to quickly develop a visually appealing presentation, or students can create their own themes to personalize their presentations. Once their presentation is complete, they can play it directly from Inspiration or from any Macintosh® or Windows® computer using the free Inspiration Presenter available on the installation CD and at <http://www.inspiration.com>.

Teachers are also finding innovative ways to integrate the new visual view, Map View, into instruction. Map View allows students to create and think in mind maps, another proven visual learning methodology that promotes better understanding of the relationships and connections among ideas, and helps students retain information. Mind maps capture information in a natural, free-flowing style. With Map View, students build visual models, adding ideas branching off a central topic with just one click, and reorganize ideas by simply grafting one branch to another. Graphic images, colors and fonts allow learners to embellish, differentiate and emphasize their ideas. Just like with idea maps, concept maps, graphic organizers and other diagrams created with Inspiration, the process of building a mind map is fluid and visual, complementing the natural way that students think and expand on ideas. As with other diagrams created with Inspiration, mind maps can be instantly transformed into outlines to support the writing process.

#### **About Inspiration Software, Inc.**

Recognized as the leader in visual thinking and learning, Inspiration Software, Inc.'s award-winning software tools, Inspiration, Kidspiration® and InspireData®, are based on proven visual learning methodologies that help students think, learn and achieve. With the powerful combination of visual learning and technology, students in grades K-12 learn to clarify thoughts, organize and analyze information, integrate new knowledge, and think critically. Founded more than 25 years ago by Donald Helfgott and Mona Westhaver, the company's visual learning software tools are used today by more than 25 million students and teachers worldwide.