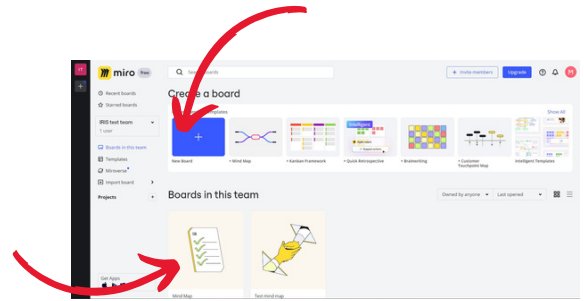


# Miro Mind Map Guide

A **mind map** is a tool for brainstorming ideas and finding connections. In CODES, we're using **Miro** ([www.miro.com](http://www.miro.com)) to create digital mind maps.

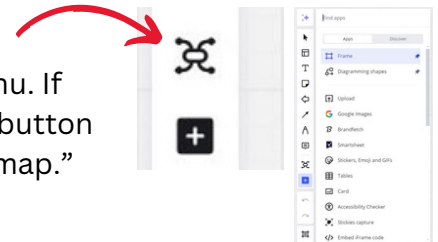
1. When you log in, you'll land at your **dashboard**. If you have an existing mind map, you'll find it under "Boards in this Team." If you don't have one yet, select "New Board" from the recommended templates.

**Note:** There is a mind map template, but it comes with some stuff already built in. The blank template is easier.

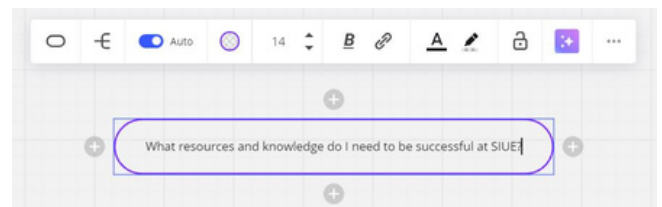


2. When you open your new board, it'll prompt you to select a template. Just click the X in the top right corner to get to your blank board.

3. To start your map, click on the mind map icon in the left-hand menu. If you don't see the icon (an oval with four little arrows), click on the + button at the bottom of the left-hand menu and scroll until you find "Mind map."



4. Click anywhere to create your first **node**. A node could be anything: a question, a topic you want to explore, a helpful resource, or whatever else helps you map out your research topic. For this example, we'll make our first node a question.



5. The + buttons show you where you can add new nodes. (You can go vertically or horizontally, but not both.) You can add multiple items per side, and Miro will automatically arrange them.



6. Now you can start adding things to any of your nodes. Just hover over a node to make the + appear.



7. In addition to adding nodes, you can use the left-hand menu to add other kinds of content - sticky notes, comments (where you can tag your team members), shapes, and more. In order to keep it from getting too cluttered, talk with your teammates at the beginning to decide what you want to use different content types for. For instance, maybe sticky notes are to link articles and other resources, and comments are to ask each other questions.

8. A few important notes:

- To delete something, click on it (or click and drag to select multiple things). In the menu that pops up, click on the three dots in the right corner and select "Delete" at the bottom.  
**Important:** If you delete a node, you also delete all the things that branch out from it!
- The Undo button is at the bottom of the left-hand menu. You can also use Ctrl+Z/Cmd+Z.
- In the free Miro plan, you can have up to three active boards at a time in your team. If you add more, your oldest one will become view-only.
- More questions? Email Dr. Smith at [margars@siue.edu](mailto:margars@siue.edu).