**Four-Box Synectics**

**Synectics** promotes fluid and creative thinking by “making what is familiar strange’ or comparing two things that would not normally be compared.

DIRECTIONS: Prepare a chart like the one below, covering the bottom section so that the group does not see the sentence for completion.

Four-Box Synectics

1. Create groups of 3 or 4 students. Each team will identify a recorder.
2. Next, ask for four items in an assigned category (e.g. animals, foods, grade-level topics.) Place one item in each box.
3. Reveal the sentence and allow groups three minutes to brainstorm completions –using each of the four items at least once – but going for as many completions as they can.
4. After three minutes, STOP. The next step is for each group to choose the two they like best to share with the whole class. Give them a minute or two, then share by table group.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is like a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**or**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is like a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**