

# Mind Map Inspector - Children

## Change mind map properties

To view the mind map inspector bar changes and inspector panel make sure you have a mind map selected, like the one below, then use the Mind Map buttons on the inspector bar or the Mind Map tab in the inspector shelf.



### Children

#### Colors

Select an item within the mind map then you can copy that selected figure’s colorings to all of its children. This means the rest of the child's style, like the shape borders and font size, will all stay the same but the border color, fill color, and font color will all be replaced with the colors of its parent. This is a wonderfully quick way to make an entire branch of nodes all have the same color.

You can mark a child item so that it will automatically update its colors if its parent changes at any time. So, unlike the manual color copying above, this will happen automatically if the parent changes.

Alternatively, if you have a parent selected, you can click a checkbox to make it so children of the selected parent automatically inherit the colors of their parent. Basically the same effect as #2 above but instead of marking a specific child you can instantly mark all children, and future children that you add to that parent. Uncheck this option to disable this functionality. You can also perform this action via the right-click context menu on a node.

#### Spread Color Palette

Curio can instantly spread a color palette across all main branches, so that each branch has its own color. Curio includes several palettes of colors to make it fun to experiment with various palettes. See more notes below regarding branch coloring.

You can also use the actions menu to import and manage color palette files such as Adobe Swatch Exchange (.ase) swatch files from [Adobe Color CC](#) or [ColourLovers](#).

While Adobe Color requires a free Adobe account, once you’ve created the account you can use their site to create, manage, and download color swatches.

You’ll need to register with ColourLovers, as well, if you’d like to downloaded created color palettes from their site.

The color swatches popup also supports a Curio Color Swatch (.curioColorSwatch) file with a carriage-return delimited list of hex color values (like #aa22ff) that you can create if you’d like.

### Branch

A branch is the current node and all of its children, grandchildren, etc.

#### Branch Boundary

You can enable a boundary region to be drawn around the selected mind map parent and around its children. A boundary is a wonderful way to highlight a particular branch or sub-branch of your mind map. The color of the boundary is automatically determined based on the color of the parent figure itself.

Note that boundaries can contain other boundaries if you wish.

#### Apply Default Style to Selected Branch

Re-apply the default style information to the selected figure and to all of its children with just a single click. Useful if a branch has a mix of styles and formatting.

#### A Note about Branch Coloring

You can create mind map styles that include branch coloring!

If you apply branch colors to the top branches (the main branches under the central topic) of your mind map using the mind map inspector's automatic child coloring controls, for example perhaps you spread a color palette, then that branch information will now be stored as a part of the collection's style.

After creating new mind map styles which include branch colors, you can then apply those styles to your existing mind maps or to new mind maps and the top branches will be colored appropriately.

When branch coloring is part of the style, the order of the branch coloring is maintained as you insert or delete top branches. So if the branches should be red, green, blue, and orange — in that order — then those colors will be enforced as you modify the number and ordering of branches under the central topic.