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Week 1

Lecture 1 Notes

CROW Experiment

Crows sitting on a tree would make noise when all persons in a tent would exit, however they could only remember up to three things, or three people in a tent.

If there were four people in a tent, the crows would make noise after the third person left, because their CROW limit was 3 and could not remember that a fourth person was in the tent.

CROW

The maximum amount of things your mind can remember at once

If you were to attempt to memorize a set of chores, your crow would be the number of chores you could remember to do before needing to check a list

CONCEPT

A term that describes a group of things that share similar characteristics. Concepts are a more efficient way of storing information, and can help overcome your crow limit. First level concepts come from real things and direct observation.

If you were trying to remember the most important city in each US state, you could group each important city into a concept like a capital. Instead of trying to remember all 50 capitals, you could just remember that the most important city in a state is the capital.

Hierarchy

A tree or web of existing concepts that progressively gets broader in order to store a wider spread of information. Because of the wider array of information a hierarchy has to store with each level, the concepts will become broader to account for the larger differences between things.

The top of a hierarchy could consist of one concept - fruit. Fruit is a concept built off of more specific, individual things - bananas, oranges, apples. These more specific concepts could also be built off of even more specific individual things, like the different types of apples or bananas.

For example:

