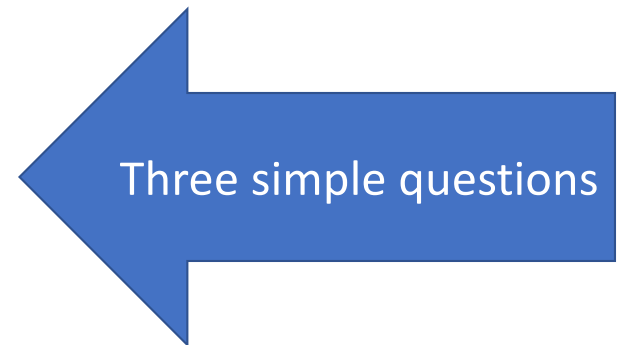
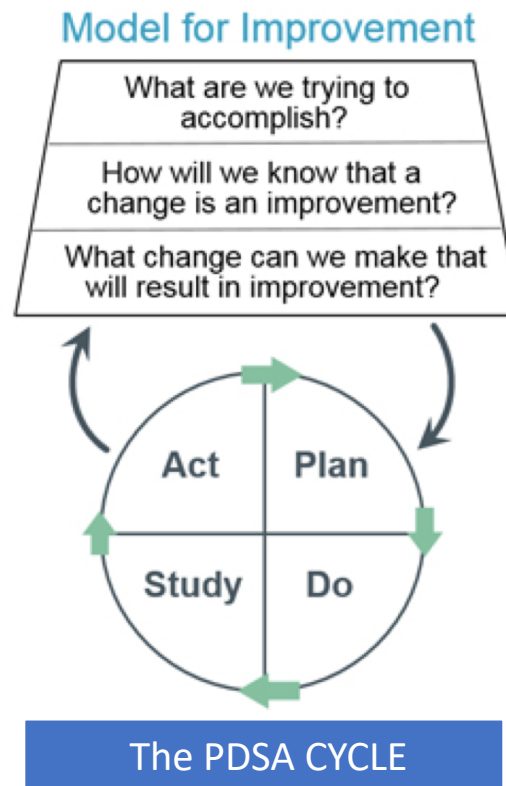


Introducing the PLAN-DO-STUDY-ACT (PDSA) Approach

Scientific Method meets Action Learning meets Lean Method

- Team based
- Real work setting
- Focused on a test of change (the “do” is for real!)



Establishing Measures:

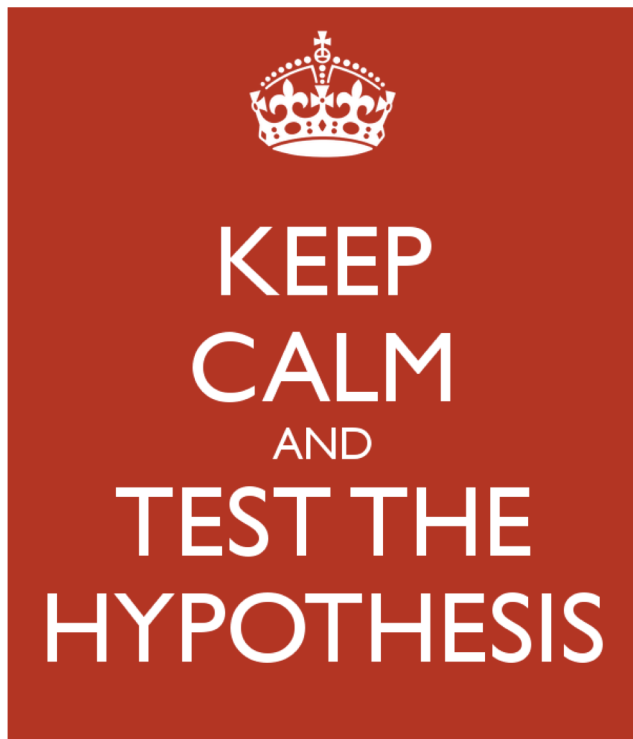
How will we now that a change is an improvement?

- Key pivot here: PDSA uses quantitative measures to DETERMINE if a specific change results in an improvement.
- Data is not used descriptively. It is collected in close-to-real time to assess impact in the small test of change.



Selecting Changes:

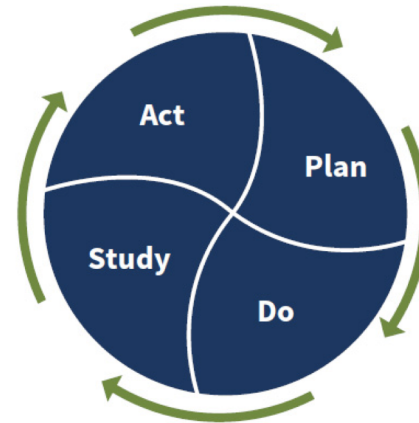
What change can we make that will result in improvement?



- This is the hypothesis: “If we do X, Y will happen. Let’s test that!”
- Ideas for test of change can come from those close to the work or those who have made change

Testing Changes: Implementing the PDSA Cycle

- The Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) tests a change in a real setting—organizational or community
- Steps are:
 - Plan it
 - Try it
 - Observe the results
 - Act on what's learned
- Acting on what's learned: usually there's a series of PDSA Cycles involved in refining the needed change. Once that's achieved, the team can implement the change at a bigger scale (a whole unit, an entire pilot population), still using the PDSA frame.
- Once that level of change implementation is successful, the change can be spread more broadly.



PDSA Worksheet

- **BACKGROUND:** What led you to start this project? Is this cycle a continuation of another cycle? Why is this topic relevant? Include any baseline data that has already been collected. Include relevant information from literature.

PLAN

Aim/Objective Statement for this cycle: What do you hope to learn? What are you trying to improve (aim), by how much (goal) and by when (timeframe)?

Specific questions to address in this cycle:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Predictions/Hypotheses (What do you think will happen?)

Plan for change/test/intervention

- Who (target population):
- What (change/test):
- When (dates of test):
- Where (location):
- How (description of plan):

Measures (What will you measure in order to meet your aims? How will know that a change is an improvement? Will you use outcome or process measures?)

Plan for data collection

- Who (will collect):
- What (measures):
- When (time period):
- Where (location):
- How (method):

DO: Carry out the change/test. Collect data.

Note when completed, observations, problems encountered, and special circumstances. Include names and details.

STUDY: Summarize and Analyze data (quantitative and qualitative).
Include charts, graphs.

ACT: Document/summarize what was learned. Did you meet your aims and goals? Did you answer the questions you wanted to address? List major conclusions from this cycle.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Define next steps. Are you confident that you should expand size/scope of test or implement? What changes are needed for the next cycle?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.