You can practice scientific thinking everywhere every day

Use the five questions in any team effort

Every time you do or think something, you’re more likely to do it again. The pattern of these questions is easy to learn, and each time you think through them and apply them it can strengthen the scientific pattern of the Improvement Kata in your brain’s wiring.

The Five Questions

1. What is the Target Condition?
2. What is the Actual Condition now?
   
   (Turn Card Over)-------------------

3. What Obstacles do you think are preventing you from reaching the target condition? Which *one* are you addressing now?
4. What is your Next Step? (Next experiment) What do you expect?
5. How quickly can we go and see what we Have Learned from taking that step?

*You’ll often work on the same obstacle with several experiments*
The Five Questions

1. What is the **Target Condition**?
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*You'll often work on the same obstacle with several experiments*

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Reflect on the Last Step Taken

Because you don't actually know what the result of a step will be!

*Have the learner state the **obstacle** being worked on*

1. What did you plan as your **Last Step**?
2. What did you **Expect**?
3. What **Actually Happened**?
4. What did you **Learn**?

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Return to question 3
The next two pages are a printer / copier template for the five-question card.

For instructions refer to the *Toyota Kata Practice Guide*. It’s available on Amazon.com.

As with any Starter Kata, begin by practicing this Starter Kata exactly as shown, until its pattern becomes somewhat automatic and habitual for you. Simply read the card out loud as it is written.

When you have learned through practice to understand the "why" behind this Starter Kata routine, then you can build on it to develop your own style, as long as the core pattern remains intact.
The Five Questions

1) What is the **Target Condition**?
2) What is the **Actual Condition** now?
   *(Turn Card Over)*
3) What **Obstacles** do you think are preventing you from reaching the target condition?
   Which *one* are you addressing now?
4) What is your **Next Step**?
   *(Next experiment)* What do you expect?
5) How quickly can we go and see what we **Have Learned** from taking that step?

*You’ll often work on the same obstacle with several experiments*
Reflect on the Last Step Taken
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1) What did you plan as your Last Step?
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3) What **Actually Happened**?
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*Return to question 3*

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1) What did you plan as your Last Step?
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*Return to question 3*
Best wishes for practicing how to scientifically achieve goals!