

PRODUCTIVE COLLABORATION TECHNIQUE *QUESTION BURSTING*

This exercise seeks to solve a company-wide problem with input from all members of the team. This technique involves getting comfortable with asking more questions rather than jumping to the answers. It opens the door to the collaborative process and builds trust among the team.

Identify a business challenge, create a team of 3-4 people that could help brainstorm solutions, and schedule four, weekly meetings with the agenda below:

Meeting 1:

Brainstorm and collect as many questions about the challenge as possible

Review and select the questions that hint to new solutions to consider

Ask Why: why is this question seem important, why did you give it importance compared to other questions, why does the question seem to hint to a solution, why why why

Wrap up with a list of questions to focus on in Meeting 2

Meeting 2:

Revisit the challenge and why you want to solve it

Re-review the questions and brainstorm to create more

Narrow the list of questions to 3-5 that seem meaningful and interesting

Discuss the questions and start identifying solutions to the challenge

Keep a list of new questions that arise

Wrap up with a list of meaningful questions, a list of possible solutions, and a few questions about the solutions that still need to be answered in Meeting 3

Meeting 3:

Revisit the challenge and why you want to solve it

Answer the questions and refine the list of solutions to the challenge

Assign the champion/coordinator of each solution

Assign a start and end date to each solution

Finish with a list of meaningful questions, possible solutions, and questions about the solutions that still need to be answered

Meeting 4:

Revisit the challenge and why you want to solve it

Answer the questions and finalize the solutions

Assign someone to be the implementer of each solution (reports to champion)

Schedule a meeting with the champion and implements to explain the project, details and timeline