

Mr Potato Head PDSA Collaboration

Mr Potato Head PDSA collaboration exercises



Why use this exercise?

- To teach rapid cycle PDSA testing
- To emphasise the importance of prediction and measurement
- To show the ease of rapid cycle testing and measurement for learning
- To demonstrate the value of collaborative learning

Target Audience

Frontline caregivers, managers, and leaders of organisations. The exercise can be adapted to all levels of people involved in improvement. It is very useful to those engaged in testing or facilitating testing.

Type of Exercise

Experiential exercise involving participation of all team members. Can be facilitated with small to large groups.

Key Concepts:

- Rapid, small scale PDSA testing builds profound knowledge quickly.
- Planning a test, including prediction and measurement increases learning.
- Planning and measurement are easy to do efficiently and routinely.
- Collaboration aids knowledge building and speeds learning for improvement.
- Testing creates knowledge faster than discussion and planning

Materials

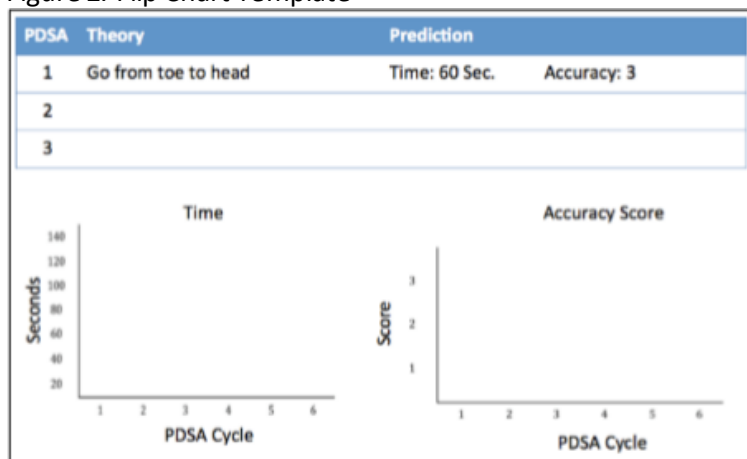
For this game, you will need:

- A room with round tables of 6-8 participants.
- A Mr. Potato Head for each table. Each Potato Head should be stored in the same way (see Figure 1). Important note: Mr. Potato Head comes in many versions. It's important to have a full size version and the same version should be used across participants.
- Flip chart paper visible to all participants displaying the accuracy score operational definition:
 - 3 – All pieces on Sam & positioned correctly
 - 2 – All pieces on Sam, but one or more is out of place
 - 1 – One or more pieces are not on Sam.
- Flip chart paper (adhesive or with masking tape) with a pre-drawn table for PDSA documentation and two run charts (see Figure 2) at each table.
- Markers for each table for documenting on flip chart paper.
- A time piece able to capture minutes and seconds at each table.

Figure 1. Mr Potatoe Head Version Example Storage



Figure 2. Flip Chart Template



Preparation

To prepare for the session:

- Familiarise yourself with the sessions structure and content. o Read through the game instructions and key teaching points in their entirety. o Practice the game itself. o Practice presenting the key teaching points. o Sketch out the timing and key points for reference.

Prepare the room:

- Preferably rounds distributed in the space so there is room for the facilitator and participants to move but also be close to other tables.
- Place one pre-drawn flip chart sheet at each table, on the wall or an easel. It should be close enough for the team to be able to document freely and see easily and also should be visible to the facilitator and other participants.
- Place a marker or two at each table. o Mr. Potato Heads should be held out of sight by the facilitator or support staff
- Identify and recruit a senior leader to simulate baseline performance at the start of the exercise. It should be someone who has not seen the exercise (important), the participants perceive as a senior leader (e.g., CMO, CEO), and who has a good sense of humour. Senior leader time commitment is 10 minutes.

Facilitating the Mr. Potato Head Exercise

Welcome and Introduction To begin the exercise, welcome participants and thank them for their participation. Ask each table to select four (4) team members to fill the roles of: master clinician, documenter, time measurer, and accuracy score inspector.

Learning Objectives

Tell participants that by the end of the session they will:

- Understand rapid cycle PDSA testing.
- Understand how theory and prediction aid learning.
- See how to collect real-time measurement.
- Appreciate the opportunity of collaborative learning.