Facilitator's Guide to generating Blue Sky Thinking

Resource For Managers & Team Leaders

VoicePrint

Before you use this PDF, you can read about why this framework works and where Blue Sky thinking can be particularly effective in our original blog post by <u>Clicking Here</u>.

You can print if it helps you, or just use it to remind yourself of what type of structure you can use to encourage genuine blue sky thinking. We've included examples and a blank version too so you can plan your own phases.

Phase	Voice	Sounds Like
1. Explore	Inquire	What assumptions and preconceptions are we using?' 'What would be entirely new and different to the way we do things at the moment?' 'Who might have a very different view of the things we take for granted?' What do they have to say on the subject?'
2. Explore some more, deeper and further	Probe Diagnose	'What happens if you reject that assumption?' 'What happens if you reverse that logic?' 'What might flow from that alternative starting point?' 'How might these different points be connected?'
3. Produce a variety of provisional possibilities	Articulate	'One way of representing this is…' 'What this might signify is…' 'We could describe this as…'
3. Produce a variety of provisional possibilities	Critique	The potential benefits of this idea are…,while the potential drawbacks are…' 'What's attractive about this suggestion is…, whereas what's worrying about it is…' 'Let's discuss what criteria we could use to assess this idea.'

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