

# TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR IMMUNITY TO CHANGE SESSION



## **Part 1: See your immune system**

IMMUNITY TO CHANGE MAP TEMPLATE ..... page 2  
IMMUNITY MAP QUESTIONS AND CRITERIA..... page 3  
EXAMPLE ITC MAP ..... page 4



## **Part 2: Overturn your immune system**

DESIGN A TEST OF YOUR BIG ASSUMPTION TEMPLATE .....page 5  
DIRECTION, DESIGN A TEST OF YOUR BIG ASSUMPTION .....page 6  
EXAMPLE, TEST DESIGN ..... page 7



## **Part 3: Post-Workshop, continue to overturn your immune system**

LEARNING FROM A TEST OF YOUR BIG ASSUMPTION TEMPLATE ..... page 8  
DIRECTIONS, LEARNING FROM A TEST OF YOUR BIG ASSUMPTION .... page 9  
EXAMPLE ..... page 10

*Pls do not distribute these materials; for your use only*

# IMMUNITY TO CHANGE MAP

**1. COMMITMENT**  
(IMPROVEMENT GOAL)

**2. DOING/NOT DOING (VS #1)**

**3. COMPETING COMMITMENTS**

**4. BIG ASSUMPTIONS**



© Minds at Work

# IMMUNITY MAP QUESTIONS AND CRITERIA

## 1. COMMITMENT (IMPROVEMENT GOAL)

What's the One Big Thing you want to get better at that would make the biggest difference to your effectiveness or leadership?

*Why important?* If you could make progress on this goal, what would be different/better?

### Criteria

- ✓ Is of high interest & importance to you
- ✓ It implicates you
- ✓ It's stated affirmatively
- ✓ Is not an outcome

## 2. DOING/NOT DOING (VS #1)

What are you doing and not doing that **work against your goal**?

### Criteria

- ✓ They are behaviors, not emotions or ways of being
- ✓ They get in the way of your Improvement Goal
- ✓ They are not explanations why you do these things, or what you should do instead!

## 3. COMPETING COMMITMENTS

Imagine doing the **opposite** of each of your Column 2 behaviors. What fears or worries come up?

**TIP: Really picture yourself in the situation.**

Drawing on the idea that you may have a commitment to keep yourself from feeling that worry or fear, reword your worry into a "commitment statement." **This will be a self-protective goal.**

### Criteria

- ✓ Preserves the danger in the Worry Box
- ✓ Is not noble
- ✓ Shows why Col 2 behaviors make good sense
- ✓ Is in tension with Col 1
- ✓ Shows your Immune System and feels powerful

## 4. BIG ASSUMPTIONS

What assumptions are you making that show how your Col. 3 entries make good sense? Or complete this: "If (opposite of col. 3), then ...?"

### Criteria

- ✓ Can connect back to col. 3 fears and take them deeper
- ✓ Often *feels* true (even if you know it's wrong)
- ✓ Displays a limited world (either-or thinking)

© Minds at Work

## EXAMPLE ITC MAP

1. COMMITMENT (IMPROVEMENT GOAL)	2. DOING/NOT DOING (VS #1)	3. COMPETING COMMITMENTS	4. BIG ASSUMPTIONS
<p>To not avoid conflict =&gt; To give more timely and specific feedback to my team members</p> <p>Why important? My team isn't as effective as it could be. I'm sure they could do better if I could get better at giving them more direct feedback</p>	<p>I don't state my opinion firmly-- I sugar-coat my words &amp; dance around the message</p> <p>I make indirect comments and hope the person gets my message</p> <p>I avoid the difficult conversation and talk about other topics</p>	<p><u>Worries/ Fears:</u> I'll offend the person; I won't be liked; I'll damage my reputation; I'll upset the person; I'll hurt our relationship</p> <p>To not offending people</p> <p>To not being disliked</p> <p>To not losing my reputation as the nice guy</p> <p>To not upsetting people</p> <p>To not hurt my relationships</p>	<p>I will be disliked if I am direct with people</p> <p>If I'm disliked, people won't want to work with me</p> <p>Being nice is why people like me and enjoy working for and with me</p> <p>Being nice keeps me safe and peaceful and protects my relationships</p> <p>There are no costs to my being nice</p>

# DESIGN A TEST OF YOUR BIG ASSUMPTION

THE BIG ASSUMPTION I AM TESTING	WHAT I WILL DO	DATA I WILL COLLECT	IN ORDER TO LEARN THIS ABOUT MY BIG ASSUMPTION

# DIRECTIONS TO DESIGN A TEST OF YOUR BIG ASSUMPTION

THE BIG ASSUMPTION I AM TESTING	WHAT I WILL DO	DATA I WILL COLLECT	IN ORDER TO LEARN THIS ABOUT MY BIG ASSUMPTION
<p><b>Choose from your ITC map one of your Big Assumptions and enter it here.</b></p> <p>The Big Assumption you choose needs to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One you are <i>genuinely open to exploring</i></li> <li>• <i>Testable:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>it can be safely tested</i></li> <li>– <i>It is a single assumption (it does not have multiple parts to it; see next slide for an example)</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Write down what you are going to do. Be safe, small, and specific!</b></p> <p>What could you find out that would let you know if/when your Big Assumption is not 100% accurate?</p> <p>What could you do to see if you can uncover or generate that information? Safe actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Read something that <i>counters your Big Assumption</i></li> <li>- Interview someone whose behavior <i>counters your Big Assumption</i></li> <li>- Conduct a thought experiment on a time you did something that <i>countered your Big Assumption... and nothing terrible happened</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Write down what you'll be paying attention to (during and possibly after your experiment) that will help you learn.</b></p> <p>Some of your data may be external (what happens in real time when you conduct your experiment)</p> <p>Some of it will be internal (the feelings and thoughts that take place within you)</p> <p>Is there anyone else who can share their response or observations?</p>	<p><b>Write down what you think you might learn about your Big Assumption.</b></p> <p>Are you looking to learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• with whom or in what situations your Big Assumption is not accurate?</li> <li>• how you may have agency in generating disconfirming data?</li> <li>• if it's possible to experience an upside if it turns out your Big Assumption is inaccurate?</li> </ul>

© Minds at Work

## DESIGN A TEST OF YOUR BIG ASSUMPTION

THE BIG ASSUMPTION I AM TESTING	WHAT I WILL DO	DATA I WILL COLLECT	IN ORDER TO LEARN THIS ABOUT MY BIG ASSUMPTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Being nice keeps me safe and peaceful and protects my relationships</li><li>• There are no costs to my being nice</li></ul>	<p>I'm due to meet individually with each member of my leadership team next week. I'll plan for them like I usually do. And then I'll watch myself "being nice". I will ask the person what s/he is taking away from our meeting.</p> <p>I'll write down everything what they say so I don't forget.</p>	<p>How do I feel when I'm nice? When I sugar coat? How do I feel about myself?</p> <p>What does the person walk away with?</p>	<p>Does being nice bring me a feeling of peace and safety?</p> <p>Does it work as well as I think it does?</p>

# LEARNING FROM A TEST OF YOUR BIG ASSUMPTION

THE BIG ASSUMPTION I TESTED IS ...	WHAT I DID	HERE IS WHAT HAPPENED (THE DATA I COLLECTED)	THIS IS WHAT IT TELLS ME ABOUT MY BIG ASSUMPTION

# DIRECTIONS: LEARNING FROM A TEST OF YOUR BIG ASSUMPTION

THE BIG ASSUMPTION I TESTED IS ...	WHAT I DID	HERE IS WHAT HAPPENED (THE DATA I COLLECTED)	THIS IS WHAT IT TELLS ME ABOUT MY BIG ASSUMPTION
<p><b>Enter the Big Assumption you tested here.</b></p>	<p><b>Write down what you did and/ or said.</b></p> <p>This may be different from what you had planned to do/say.</p>	<p><b>Enter:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What others did and/or said</li> <li>• Anything else that happened</li> <li>• What you were thinking or feeling during and after your experiment</li> </ul> <p>Try to just observe and describe the data rather than interpreting or evaluating what happened. (Practice staying low on the Ladder of Inference).</p>	<p><b>What did you learn about the accuracy of your BA based on that data?</b></p> <p>How does what you observed during your experiment line up with your Assumption?</p> <p>Do the data you collected bear out what your Big Assumption predicted or says is always true?</p> <p>What got your attention?</p>

# LEARNING FROM A TEST OF YOUR BIG ASSUMPTION

THE BIG ASSUMPTION I TESTED IS ...	WHAT I DID	HERE IS WHAT HAPPENED (THE DATA I COLLECTED)	THIS IS WHAT IT TELLS ME ABOUT MY BIG ASSUMPTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being nice keeps me safe and peaceful and protects my relationships</li> <li>• There are no costs to my being nice</li> </ul>	<p>I met individually with each member of my leadership team and then watched myself “being nice”. I only asked Sunji what she was taking away from our conversation.</p> <p>I wrote down everything I noticed right away.</p>	<p>Outside: I only asked one person what she was taking away from our conversation. She said “This deliverable has a tighter timeline than I realized. I’m concerned that with everything else on my plate, I won’t get it done on time.” That wasn’t my message. And then we had to spend more time discussing her concern.</p> <p>Inside: When I sugar coated: I felt tense and worried that I was showing I was hiding something I felt crappy about myself, like I was weak. I felt relief that the conversation was over and nothing bad happened, but also felt bad that nothing productive happened. Felt like it was a waste of time. I felt worst of all after the conversation with Sunji bc I knew for sure she didn’t get it.</p> <p>I realized those bad feelings hung over into my next meeting.</p>	<p>Being nice has costs to me and to the other person. In a certain way, being nice protects me in the moment but I pay a price even then for being indirect. And I paid a price even later in the day. On top of it, I see that I actually caused Sunji to worry about something that was beside my point. I see that if I was more direct with her, she could be more effective dealing with what’s on her plate.</p>