



POWERSHOT COMPANION

Digging Deeper to Find Root Cause

Using the Guides to Ask Questions at the Root of Improvement

This document supports the presentation and video PowerShot:

Digging Deeper to Find Root Cause

available on PDE's PA Data

PowerShot webpage at

[pa.gov/education >](https://pa.gov/education)

Who might use this Powershot?

The intended audience is LEA/District Leaders, School Leaders, K-12 Content Leaders, Teacher Leaders, and Teachers.

Why use this Powershot?

This Powershot introduces the user to using the Digging Deeper Guides as a resource to assist and inform the root cause discovery and identification process.

How might you use this PA Data Powershot in your work?

There are many reasons and opportunities to make use of this PA Data Powershot: Digging Deeper Guides and Root Cause

For example:

- View and discuss in LEA/district administrative meeting to establish and/or reinforce the importance of the root cause step in the data cycle and how the Digging Deeper Guides can inform that process at all schools.
- Introduce to teachers at faculty meeting to illustrate how the Digging Deeper Guide questions can frame the exploration, discovery and identification of root cause.
- Use in Induction program when introducing root cause identification.
- Use to kick-off data team meetings to illustrate with a scenario how the Digging Deeper Guides can be useful in the root cause process.

What are possible follow-up action steps?

- Data teams view and discuss this Powershot as they begin their own root cause identification based on their data.
- Use as a professional learning opportunity to practice finding relevant variables based on different achievement and growth scenarios. Do this with school leaders who then can do with their staff as a turn-around professional activity.
- Discuss with all school principals/leaders their specific process for root cause identification and support in the creation or refinement of existing root cause processes.

Links to Resources

You may access the resources referenced in the PA Data Powershot with the links provided below:

- [Digging Deeper Resources webpage](#) with access to five (5) Digging Deeper Guides:
 - » ELA and Keystone Literature
 - » Math and Keystone Algebra
 - » Science and Keystone Biology
 - » Students with a History of Higher Achievement
 - » Students with a History of Lower Achievement
- [Digging Deeper Resource Guide \(PDF\)](#)
- [The Digging Deeper Powershot Series](#)
Videos that introduce the structure of the Digging Deeper Guides and their potential to support root cause discussions:
 - » 1: An Orientation to the Digging Deeper Guides
 - » 2: Finding Root Causes: A Focus on Variables Within Our Control
 - » 3: Digging Deeper to Find Root Cause

