

MODULE 4: ACTION

Putting Learning into Action: Designing Your Study

Lesson 19: Conducting Research Part 2

Guiding Questions

- What have you learned from conducting your research?

With the materials and tools you have prepared, you can focus less on the process and more on the learning aspect of your action research. For now, do as much as you can to be actively engaged in learning. A researcher's main duty is to be observant, objective, and active in gaining knowledge. Focus on what your action research implementation, and data are telling you. What are you learning from your observations and the new learning that comes up throughout this process? What information is relevant to your research question, or providing you with new insight? What are you discovering that is new or unexpected? What is something you did not expect to find, or new information that has changed your perception about a certain aspect of your study?

As part of the action research process, you want to be active in collecting data, observing, noting observations, etc. along the way. Keep a notebook and pen with you at all times as a reminder to write down your observations or points you want to go back and reflect on later. Notice changes, patterns, behavior, specifically focusing on gathering data to provide more insight into your research question. Also be mindful of how your own subjectivity or biases might be playing a role in your interpretation of observations or data collected. Remain objective and focused on what you actually see rather than what you want to see. Continue to follow your procedure, staying organized and keeping notes as you prepare for your next phase: organizing and analyzing data.

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