International Ask a Question Day
Become an Outstanding Question Asker

The goal of International Ask a Question Day is for people to benefit from asking more and better questions. Everyone asks questions; few people use them powerfully or as successfully as they could. Read over the Top 12 Reasons to Ask Questions and try to imagine being successful in any of these areas without asking questions of yourself or others!

Top 12 Reasons to Ask Questions

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<th>Gather information</th>
<th>Build and maintain relationships</th>
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<td>Learn and teach</td>
<td>Reflect and build awareness</td>
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<td>Think clearly, critically, strategically</td>
<td>Solve problems and make decisions</td>
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<td>Challenge assumptions</td>
<td>Set and accomplish goals</td>
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<td>Clarify and confirm listening</td>
<td>Negotiate and resolve conflicts</td>
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<td>Catalyze productive conversation</td>
<td>Create and innovate new possibilities</td>
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It takes awareness and practice to become an outstanding question asker. Below are 5 ideas that can help you build that skill.

- Every day pick one category from the Top 12 Reasons to Ask Questions.
  - Ask someone a question related to that category
  - Ask yourself a question related to that category
  - Keep a journal of what you notice and learn.

- Before you ask someone else a question, ask yourself, “What do I want my question to accomplish?”

- In a journal, ask yourself and then answer:
  - What is the best and worst thing that happened today?
  - What can I learn from each?
  - Write down what you discover from asking yourself those questions.

- Build your “curiosity muscle” by asking yourself and others about assumptions that may be present in either personal or professional situations.

- Remember that “a question can be an invitation, a request, or a missile.” Ask yourself, “What impact do I want my questions to have?”

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