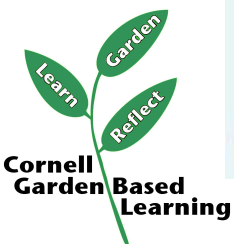


Handout: Habits of a Systems Thinker

<p>Seeks to understand the big picture</p>	<p>Observes how elements within systems change over time, generating patterns and trends</p>	<p>Recognizes that a system's structure generates its behavior</p>
<p>Identifies the circular nature of complex cause and effect relationships</p>	<p>Makes meaningful connections within and between systems</p>	<p>Changes perspectives to increase understanding</p>
<p>Surfaces and tests assumptions</p>	<p>Habits of a Systems Thinker</p>	<p>Considers an issue fully and resists the urge to come to a quick conclusion</p>
<p>Considers how mental models affect current reality and the future</p>	<p>Uses understanding of system structure to identify possible leverage actions</p>	<p>Considers short-term, long-term and unintended consequences of actions</p>
<p>Pays attention to accumulations and their rates of change</p>	<p>Recognizes the impact of time delays when exploring cause and effect relationships</p>	<p>Checks results and changes actions if needed: "successive approximation"</p>



Habits of a Systems Thinker from Second Edition ©2014 Systems Thinking in Schools, watersfoundation.org

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

Diversity and Inclusion are a part of Cornell University's heritage. We are a recognized employer and educator valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.