

Seeks to understand the big picture



Observes how elements within systems change over time, generating patterns and trends



Recognizes that a system's structure generates its behavior



Identifies the circular nature of complex cause and effect relationships



Habits of a Systems Thinker



Changes perspectives to increase understanding



Surfaces and tests assumptions



Considers an issue fully and resists the urge to come to a quick conclusion



Considers how mental models affect current reality and the future



Uses understanding of system structure to identify possible leverage actions



Considers both short and long-term consequences of actions



Finds where unintended consequences emerge



Recognizes the impact of time delays when exploring cause and effect relationships



Checks results and changes actions if needed: "successive approximation"

