Root Cause Analysis

1. **Define the problem**

What?	Low ELA scores
Where?	ABC Elementary
When?	2017
To what extent?	5% of 3rd graders are proficient in ELA
How do I know?	In comparison to the State ELA score of 50%

   <u>Problem statement:</u> In 2017 ABC school had 5% of 6th – 8th grade students proficient in ELA in comparison to the state average of 50%.

2. **Collect the data – what factors allow this problem to occur?**

   Observe
   Brainstorm
   Process map
   ISAT and any other data

3. **Identify possible causes**

   5 whys
   Stop when you reach a system deficiency that is actionable

4. **Identify root cause**

5. **Design and implement changes to eliminate the root cause**

   Create a plan for how to fix the problem. This will help identify how they can spend budget. Begin to implement changes.

6. **Measure the success of the changes**

Problem: One of the monuments in Washington D.C. is deteriorating.

Why #1 – Why is the monument deteriorating?

- Because harsh chemicals are frequently used to clean the monument.

Why #2 – Why are harsh chemicals needed?

- To clean off the large number of bird droppings on the monument.

Why #3 – Why are there a large number of bird droppings on the monument?

- Because the large population of spiders in and around the monument are a food source to the local birds

Why #4 – Why is there a large population of spiders in and around the monument?

- Because vast swarms of insects, on which the spiders feed, are drawn to the monument at dusk.

Why #5 – Why are swarms of insects drawn to the monument at dusk?

- Because the lighting of the monument in the evening attracts the local insects.

Solution: Change how the monument is illuminated in the evening to prevent attraction of swarming insects.