

Cause and Effect Tool: Fishbone Diagram

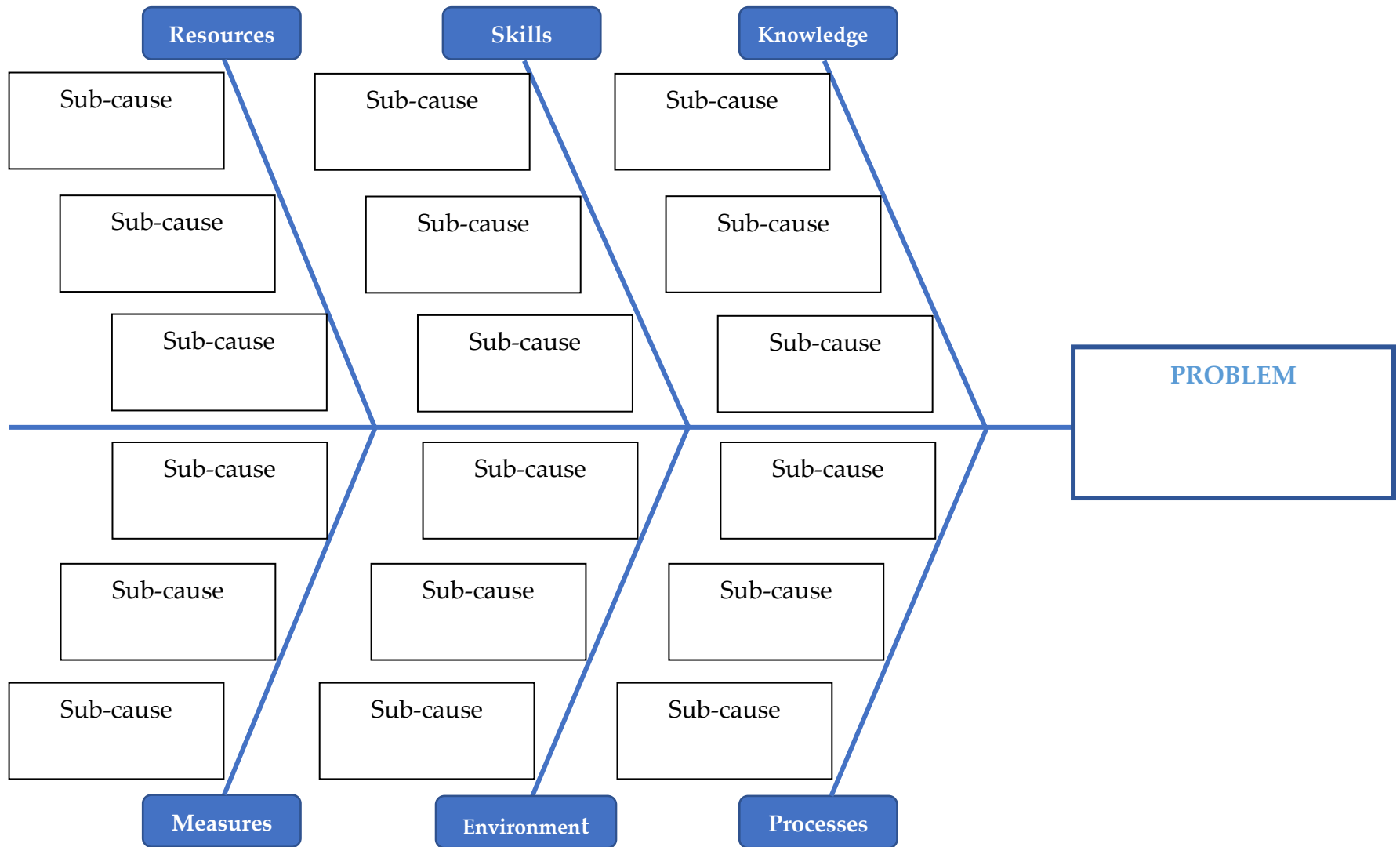
Purpose: To explore and examine the possible causes of a problem of practice.

Directions:

1. Write the Problem of Practice on the right-hand side of the page.
2. Decide on the categories of causes for the problem of practice. You may use the suggested causes, but keep in mind the categories used can vary depending on the problem. Be sure the categories you choose fit the problem.
3. Label the categories you have chosen in the blue boxes.
4. Brainstorm and collect a list of causes for each category you have chosen.
5. List the cause on each fishbone. If a cause has a secondary cause, draw a branch bone to show relationships among the causes.
6. Develop the causes by asking, "Why?" until you have reached a level of detail that is specific enough to be able to test a change and measure its effects.

Adapted from CCSSO and IHI Cause and Effect Tools

Fishbone Diagram



Fishbone Diagram- Example

