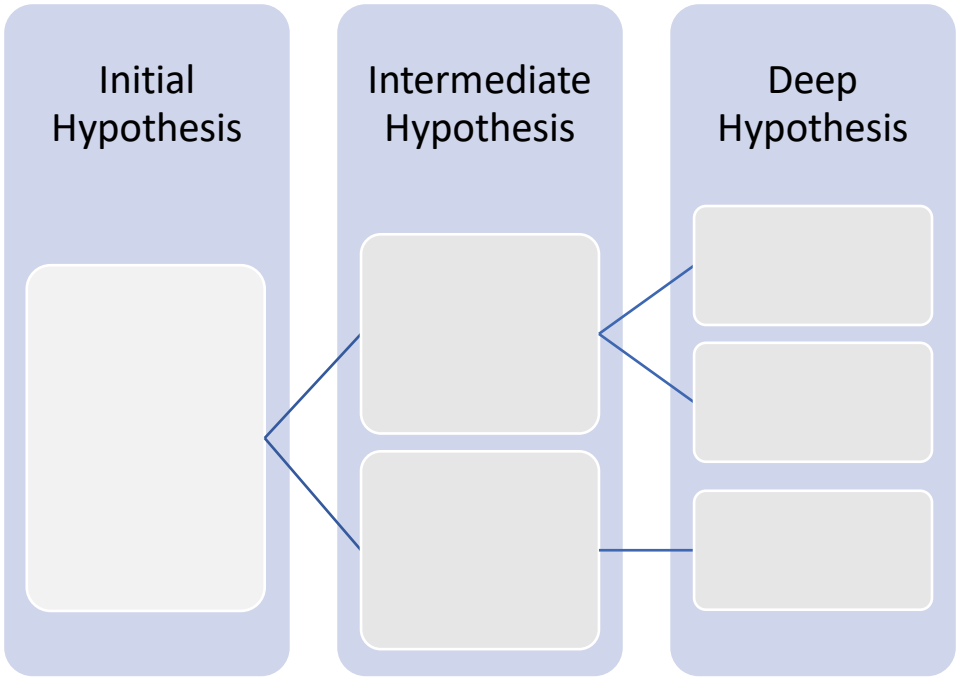
Using this handout, think about how you might identify a hypothesis for the example of slippage described below. Use the graphic organizers to guide your thinking and record your five "whys."

Explaining Slippage – An Example

Illustrate that you are looking at the data

- To understand the slippage that occurred in this reporting year, the team undertook a grade-by-grade review of grades 9–12 statewide dropout data.
- In comparing the data from the previous school year (SY) (SY 2015–2016) to this reporting year (SY 2016–2017), the team found modest improvements in grades 10–12. However, there was an increase in the dropout rate in grade 9 from 2.4% to 3.1% that may explain the slippage.

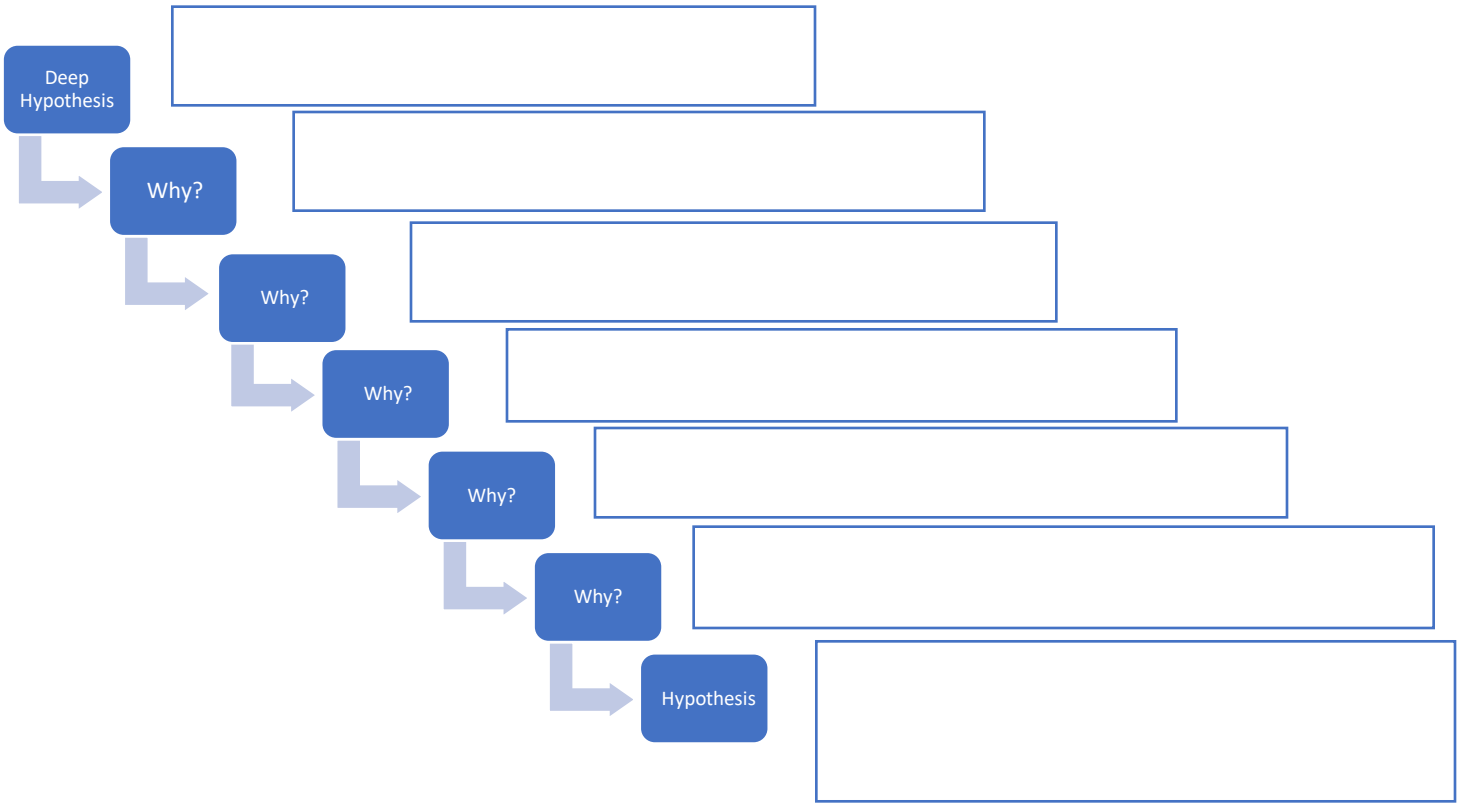
Recognize what is – What do you learn about what is going on with the data? What are your initial, intermediate, and deep hypotheses about the reason for the slippage?



What are your deep hypotheses for the slippage that you see in 9th grade?

1.
2.
3.

Five "Whys" for Slippage



Reflection on Root Cause Analysis	
What data would you need to test this hypothesis?	
What data do you currently have that could support this hypothesis?	
Would that data be adequate to either refute or support the hypothesis?	
What data would be missing?	
How might you use data to visualize the slippage?	