

Curiosity

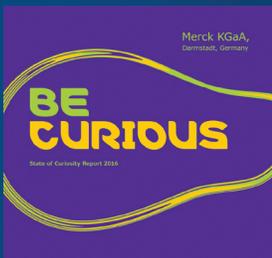
DOES YOUR BUSINESS NEED TO NURTURE THIS TRAIT TO SUCCEED?

Leadership these days appears to be less about possessing all of the answers from the get-go and more about being willing to explore new ideas and fresh concepts to tackle the unforeseen . . . the world has grown too interconnected and complex to rely any longer on “conventional wisdom” or familiarity with the status quo.

Entrepreneur.com, “Why You Should Hire for Curiosity,” <https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/286473>

84% of workers believe it is the curious person who is most likely to bring an idea to life at work.

Source: Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, *State of Curiosity Report 2016*



The *State of Curiosity Report 2016* is based on information gathered from more than 3,000 respondents in the United States, Germany, and China.

The Merck research addressed FOUR DIMENSIONS OF CURIOSITY:

Inquisitiveness refers to how a person reacts in response to feeling curious and includes exploratory behavior like freely asking questions and thinking and acting beyond one's own job requirements.

Creativity in problem solving can be thought of as a desire or willingness to challenge the status quo and an ability to identify new approaches to problem solving.

Openness to other ideas can be defined as preferring a variety of experiences, being attentive to the world, and open to new ideas, whether they come from oneself or from others.

Distress tolerance allows a person to take risks, to persevere and to approach the new and unfamiliar without fear. No matter how inquisitive, creative, and open a person might be, they may find it difficult-to-impossible to ever express their curiosity without a significant tolerance for distress.

How difficult is it to put curiosity into practice?

It requires a clear set of objectives, an eye focused unflinchingly on the horizon, the future. It requires knowing what the goal is and being able to communicate that goal to everyone involved. Fostering curiosity requires letting go of the need to control, despite external pressure to meet short-term goals. It requires being prepared to take risks, to accept failure as not just a possibility, but a fact, even a stepping stone.

Download the full *State of Curiosity Report*: <https://www.emdgroup.com/en/company/curiosity.html>