

A vibrant outdoor street market scene in China. In the foreground, a food stall is filled with various items, including skewers of meat and vegetables, and a large pot of bubbling oil. A woman in a black t-shirt and light blue pants is leaning over the stall, looking at the food. In the background, other people are visible, some sitting at tables and others standing. The market is covered by large red umbrellas, and the overall atmosphere is lively and bustling.

Experiential Learning Exercise on the Streets of China

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There is generally a risk – return tradeoff.



What is your objective?

Risk Analysis is big business.

- Risk assessment
- Risk characterization
- Risk mitigation
- Risk communication
- Risk management



Risk assessment is the determination of quantitative or qualitative estimates of risk related to a concrete situation and a recognized threat.

Methods of Risk Assessment



Qualitative

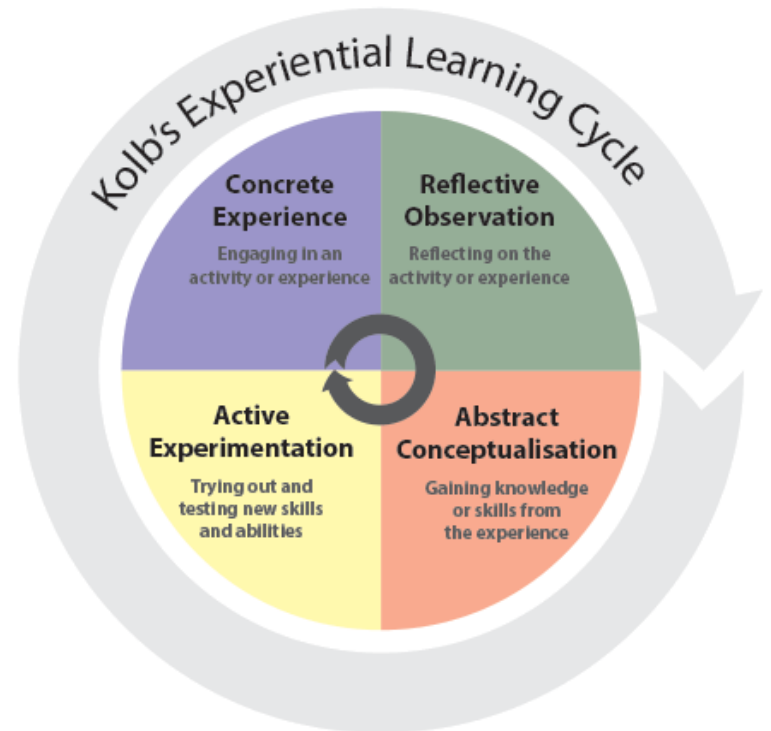
- Non-numeric values
- Likelihood and impact with values based on expertise and experience



Quantitative

- Numeric values
- Likelihood and impact with values based on history and otherwise.

An experiential learning exercise was designed that, following Kolb's pedagogical process components, includes concrete, personal experiences; reflective observation; abstract conceptualization; and active experimentation.



FOOD SAFETY EXERCISE (teams of three)

1. Read article.
2. Do a quick review of provided introductory material on food safety law in the United States.
3. Each team member spends twenty minutes observing each of two different street vendors (move off campus, at least one vendor must be cooking)



FOOD SAFETY EXERCISE



4. For each observation indicate the following:

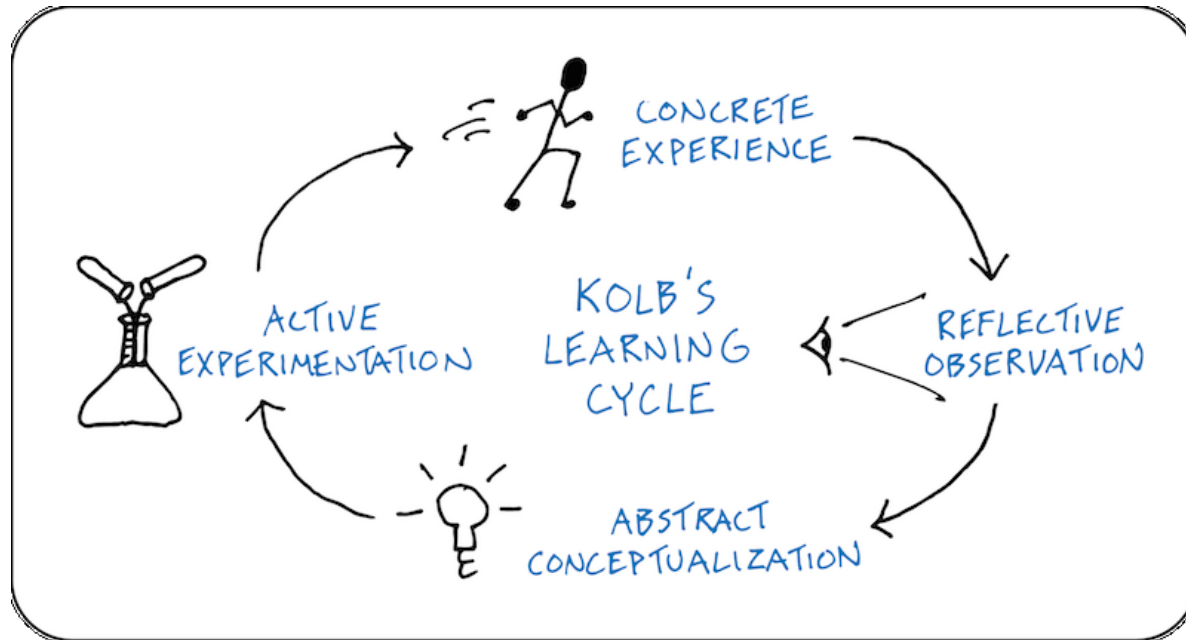
- (1) What product(s) do the vendors sell?**
- (2) How is the product prepared?**
- (3) What sources of potential food contamination do you identify?**
- (4) How might the vendor mitigate these food safety risks?**
- (5) Rate the food vendor in terms of food safety management.**
- (6) What risk mitigation practices are possible? Which are viable? Which do you recommend?**

Reflection

Individually, answer the following questions about the exercise as a learning experience.

- 1. What were your thoughts, feelings and perceptions as you were observing the street food vendors? In other words, what were you thinking and how did you feel?**
- 2. What were your key reflections (things you thought back on), and in what ways did you consider the issue of food safety as you discussed it within your group and prepared your report and presentation? After the observation, how did you think about what you observed?**
- 3. What are your conclusions about street food and food safety and what did you learn from the experience?**
- 4. What guidelines or behavioral plans would you incorporate if you were faced with monitoring food safety within the street food category?**

What were your thoughts, feelings and perceptions as you were observing the street food vendors?



Food is not clean, food is unhealthy, but food is very good.

Street vendors do not take food safety precautions, but are poor.

Careful observation brings to light problems not considered before.

Awareness causes changes in behavior

What were your key reflections? How did you think about what you observed? What are your conclusions about street food and food safety and what did you learn from the experience?

Street food is part of the Chinese culture;
demand drives market.

Street vendors are driven by circumstance.

- Therefore, education would not be effective; need rules and incentives.

Government is not appropriately regulating situation.

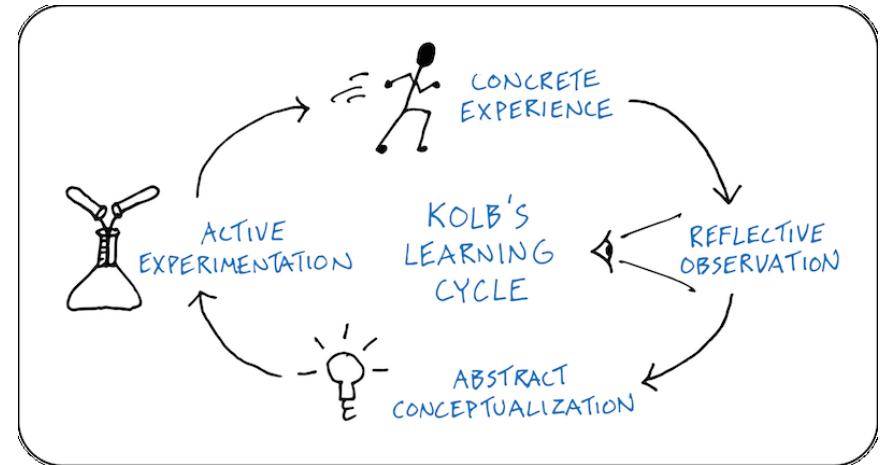
Need to base solution on facts.

Observation is important prior to consumption, rule-development, education.

Government should focus on common issues.

Everyone should be involved in identifying and implementing a solution.

Not every situation has a perfect solution



There are plenty of food safety risks apart from the cooking process

Hard to differentiate between hygiene issue and food safety issue.

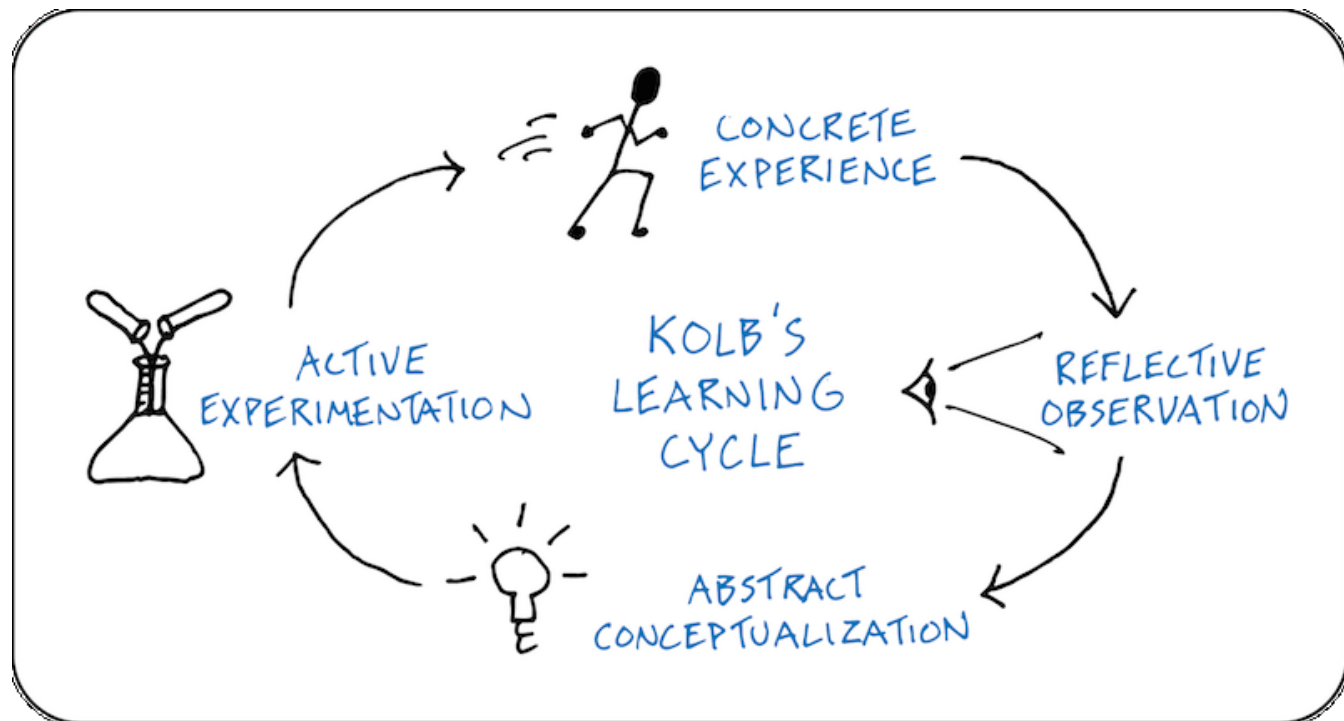
What guidelines or behavioral plans would you incorporate if you were faced with monitoring food safety within the street food category?

Components of the process should be clearly articulated (expectations)

Consumers can be part of the process and should be encouraged as such.

There are solutions that “fit” such as licensing, random inspections, consolidating street food activities to allow for ease of monitoring and infrastructure.

There may be no solution.





What are your thoughts?