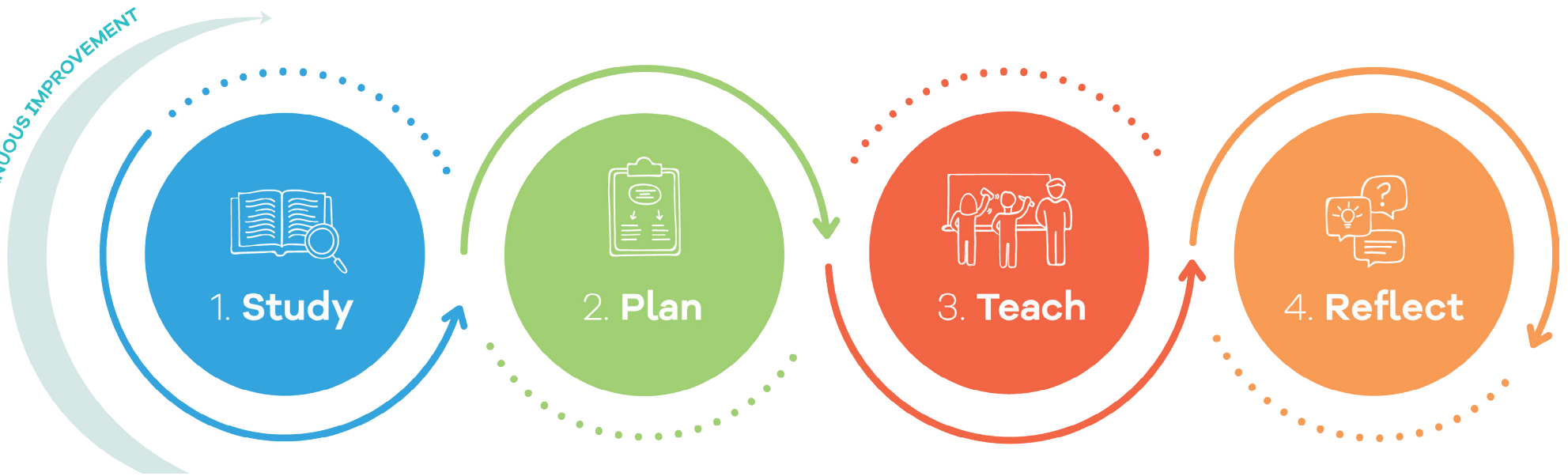


CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT



A group of teachers begins a journey based on curiosity and collaboration. They consider their long-term goals for students, choose a specific area of instruction to improve, and then look beyond their own classrooms and experience to study what other teachers and researchers know about what works.

Based on their study, the team analyzes one unit of their curriculum, using it as a window on their long-term goals for students. They co-plan in depth one lesson within the unit, trying to improve on standard operating procedure. This is how teachers' hypotheses about improving instruction come into contact with the real world.

As one teacher brings to life the team's lesson in the classroom, the other team members carefully observe individual students, taking notes and photos that help them understand the lesson from students' viewpoints. This is a thrilling moment for every team—seeing how their ideas play out in the real world of the classroom.

Soon after the lesson, teachers meet for a post-lesson discussion. They share data from individual students, building a picture of student learning. As teachers share their observations, they become more attuned to student thinking. Instincts sharpen, an appetite for inquiry grows, and teachers reconnect with their passion for learning.