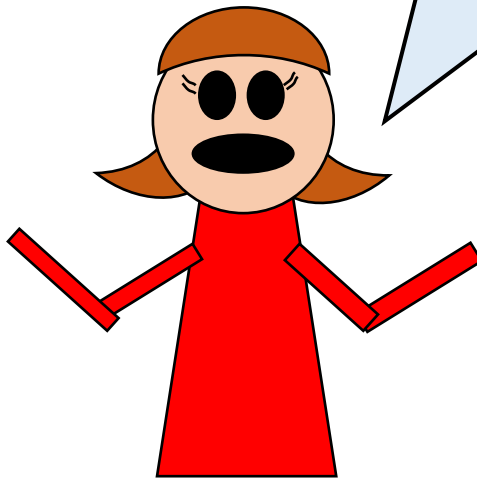
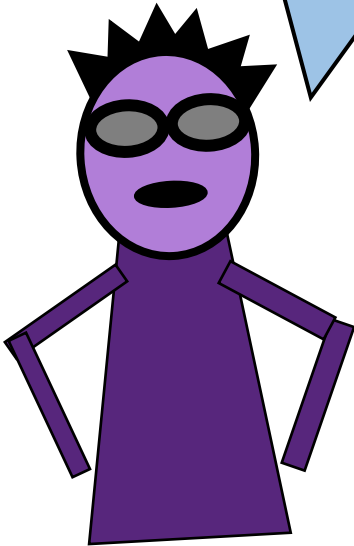


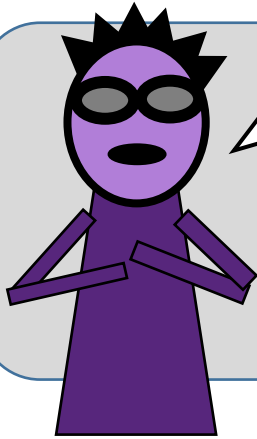
Janet & Morgan Bake A Cake

*Starring
Janet & Morgan*

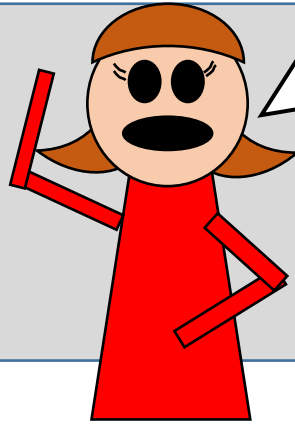


By Dan Ward

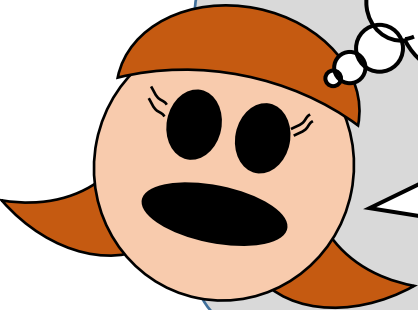
LOCATION: Innovation HQ's Kitchen



Janet & I just read a post about [how to be helpful](#).

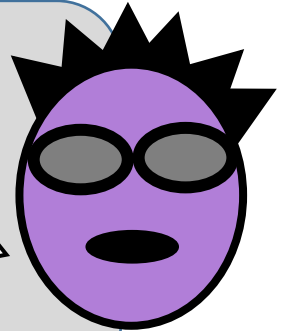


So we thought we'd put it into practice... in the kitchen!



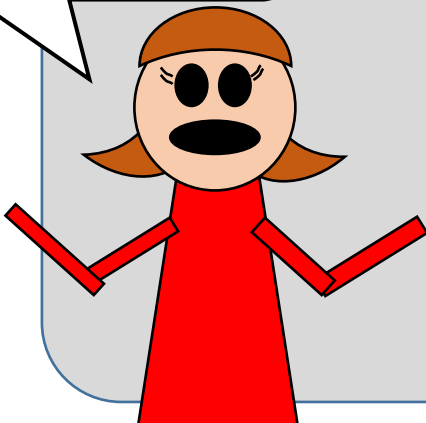
Mmm... cake.

Janet wants some cake, but before she starts baking, she asks...

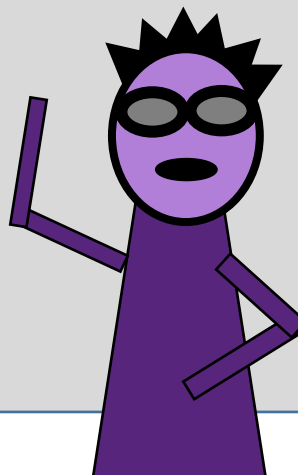


Cake photo by [April Pethybridge](#) on [Unsplash](#)

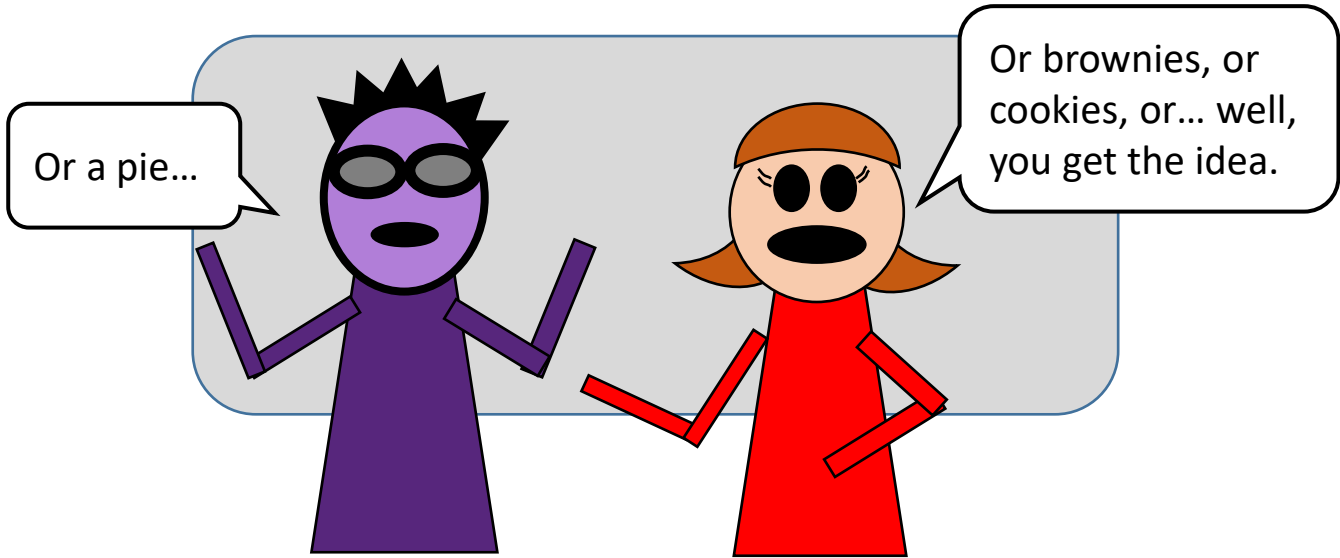
Does anyone have plans for dessert tonight?



Because maybe someone is **already** making a cake...

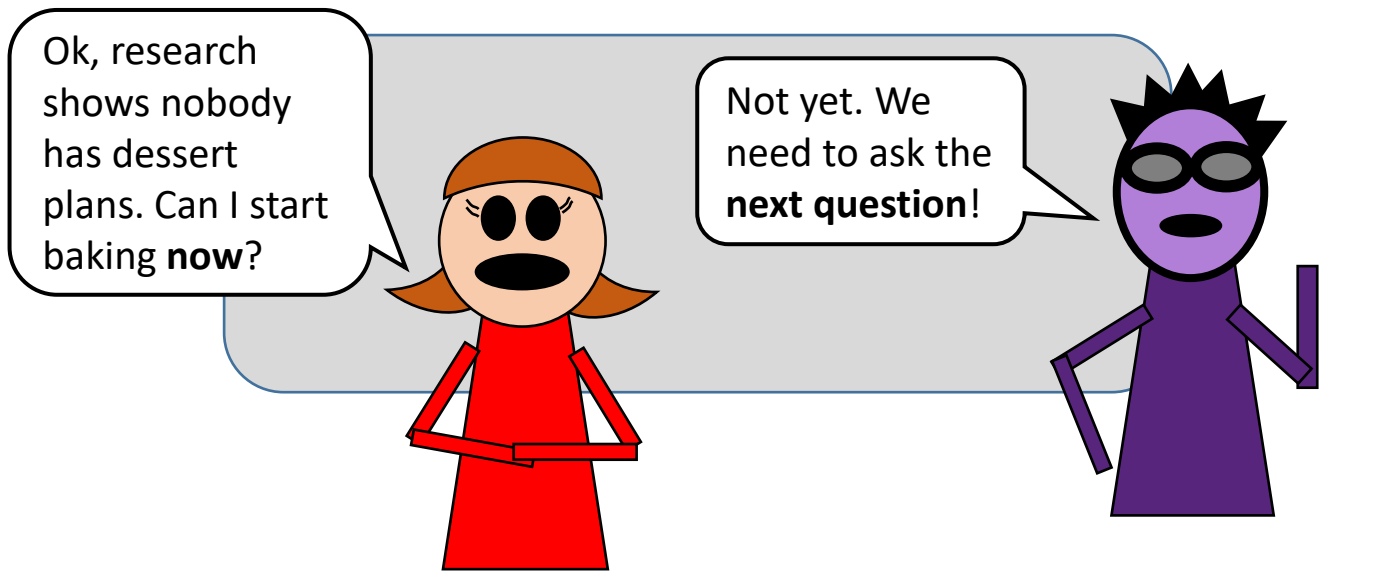


Step 1: "Before launching a new effort, *take some time to educate yourself* about what activities are already under way."



Or a pie...

Or brownies, or cookies, or... well, you get the idea.



Ok, research shows nobody has dessert plans. Can I start baking **now**?

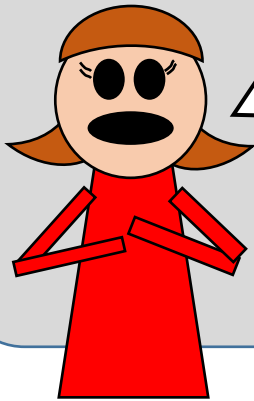
Not yet. We need to ask the **next question!**



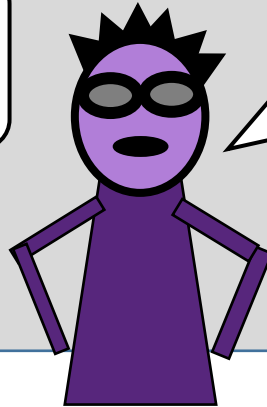
Right, what **kind** of cake should I make?

Close, but how about asking whether it would be **helpful** if you made a cake?

Step 2: "...check with the people around you to see if they also think it would be helpful."

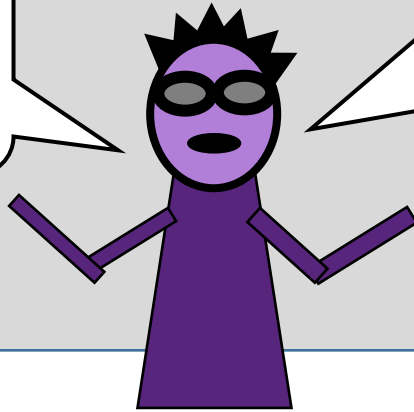


Um, it's cake.
How could it
not be helpful?



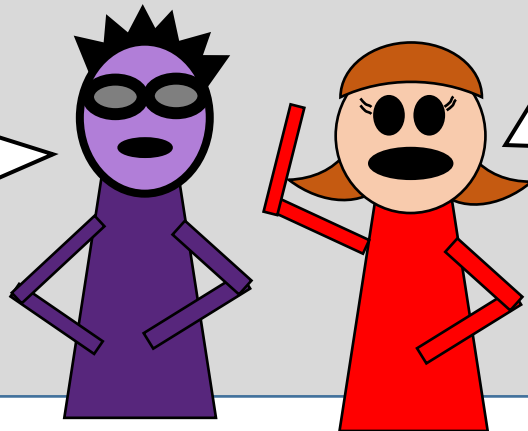
There could
be **plenty** of
reasons!

Maybe I made a
cake **yesterday**
and there's still a
bunch left!

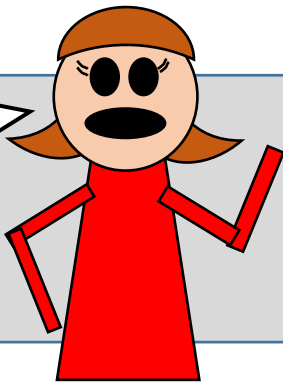


Or maybe I'm in a boxing
match tomorrow and have
to make weight, so it'd
better if you baked the
cake **after** the match
(especially if I win!).

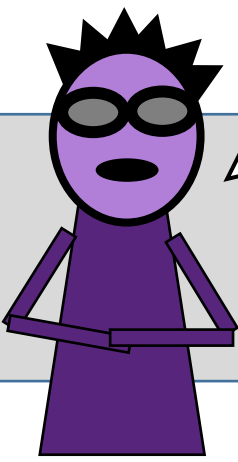
Or maybe I've got
dietary limits, so
a cake would be
great but **only** if
it's gluten free or
vegan or kosher...



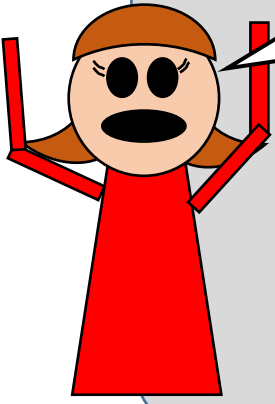
Maybe someone
is going to use
the oven for
dinner, so baking
now would get
in the way. I
could buy a pre-
made cake
instead!




Hoo boy,
good thing I
asked!



Yes! Alright, let's
suppose we
agree a cake
would be lovely.

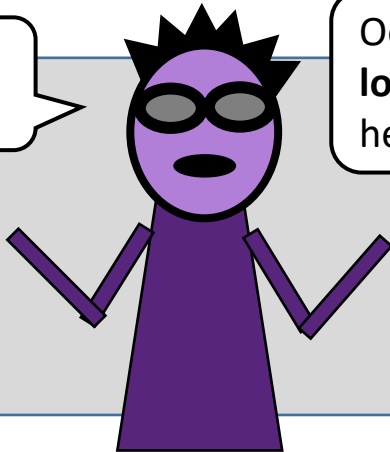


NOW can I
start baking?

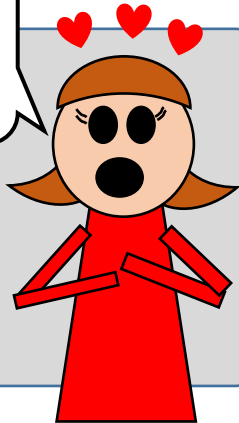


Well, there's
another question
we should ask.

Does anyone
want to **help**?

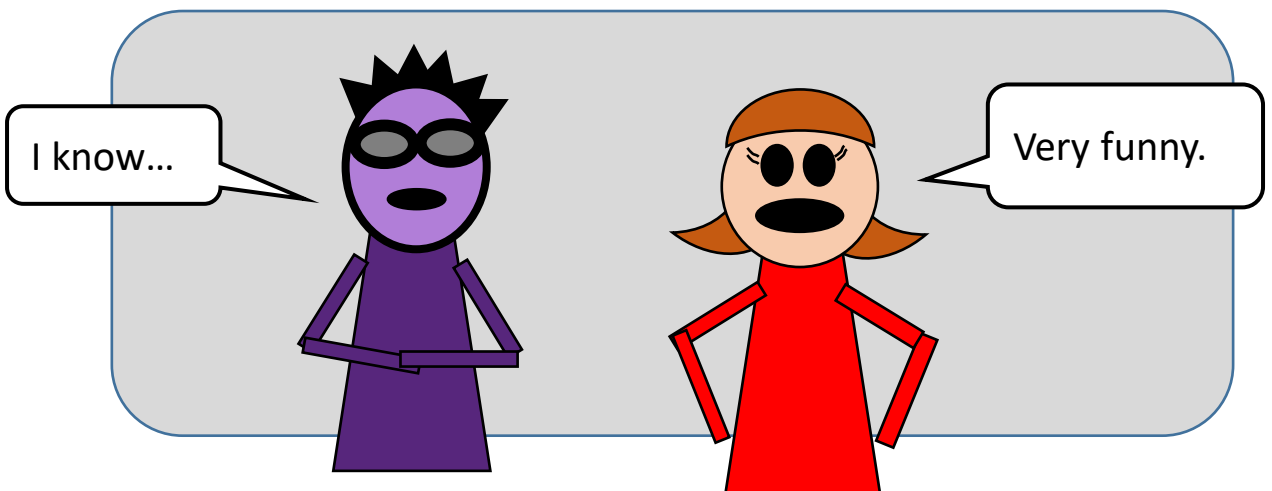
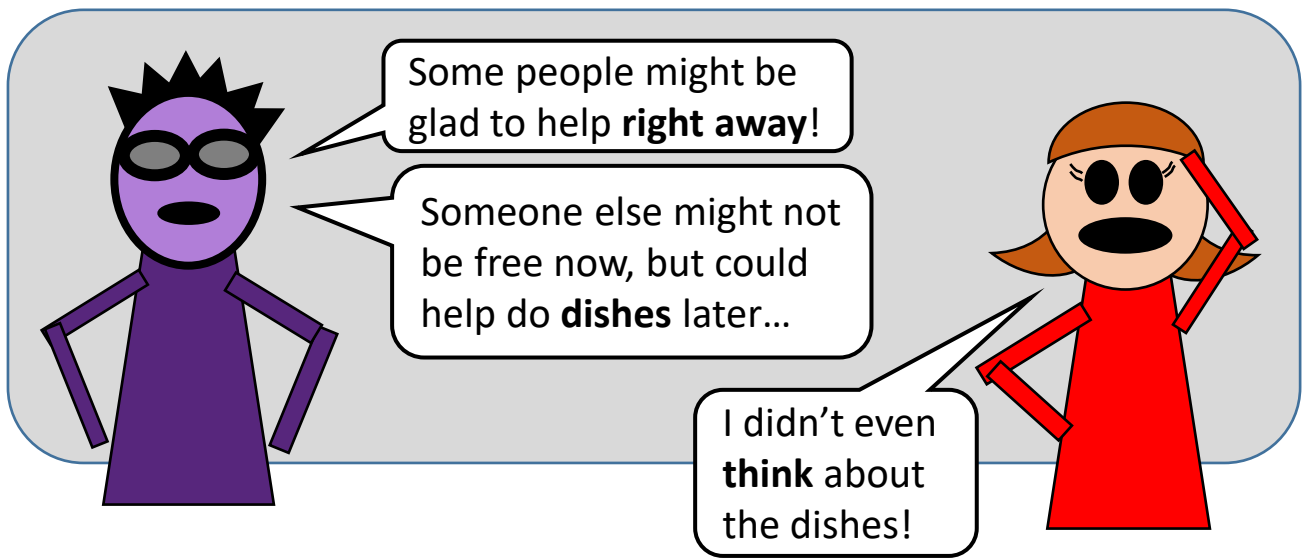


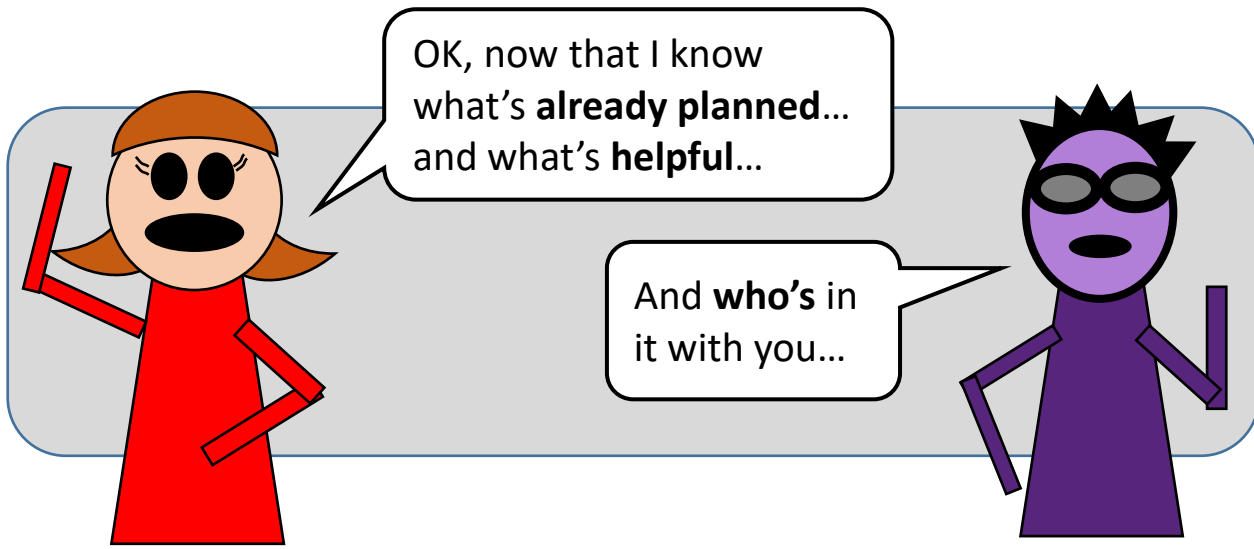
Answers
may vary!



Ooooh, I
love having
help!!

Step 3: "see whether anyone wants to do it with you."





OK, now that I know what's **already planned...** and what's **helpful...**

And **who's** in it with you...

It's time to **bake!**

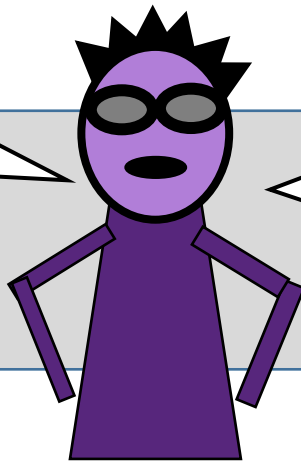
Yup! But we're **not done** with questions just yet.

Seriously, so many **questions!**

The next two are related & build on each other.

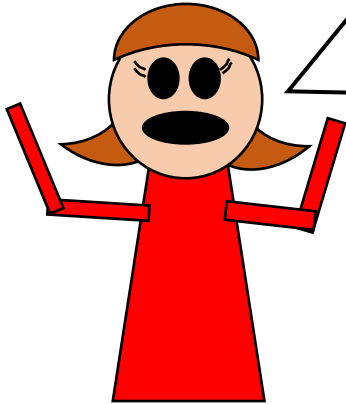
What did we **learn** so far?
What might we do **next?**

You don't have to wait until the end to ask the question about **learning**.

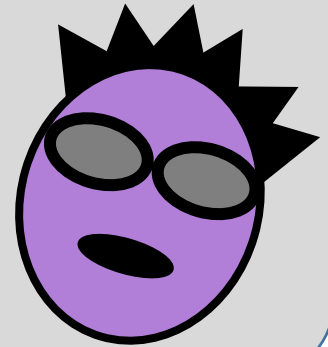


In fact, it's a good question to ask at **each step** along the way!

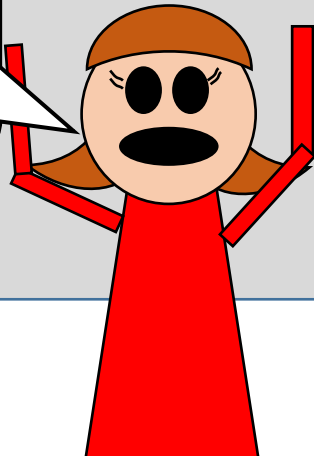
I learned you're a gluten-free boxer who is good at decorating cakes and **volunteered** to wash the dishes!



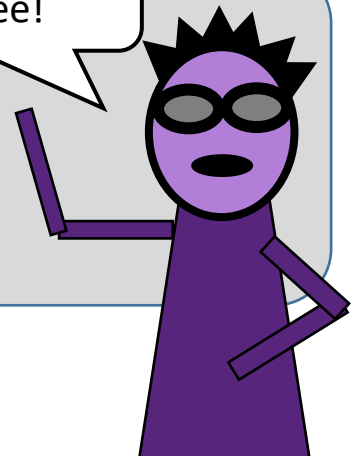
I did **not** actually volunteer to do the dishes...



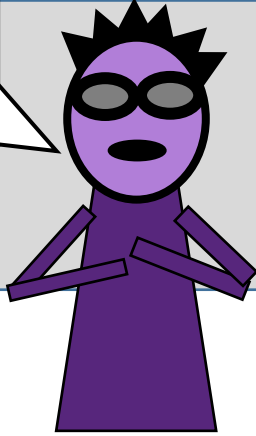
And maybe next time we can make **macarons!**



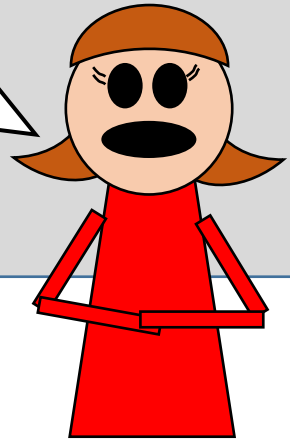
They are delicious... and gluten free!



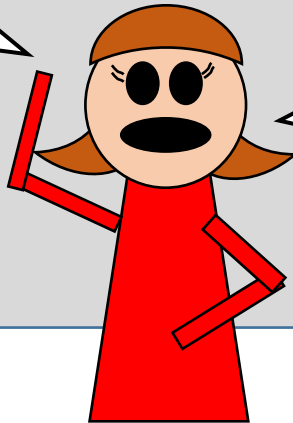
If you want to learn more about these **five questions**...



And how they can help you be **more helpful**...

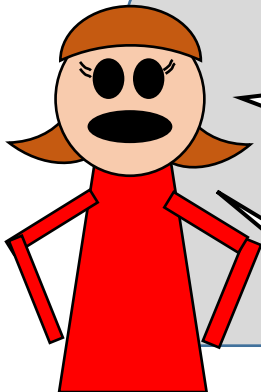


Click on over to [this post](#) on our blog to read the whole thing!



Feel free to leave a comment, and of course please **share** the link with your friends.

Speaking of sharing with your friends, how's that cake coming along, Janet?



It's not as hard as I thought it would be. In fact, this recipe is a piece of... cake.

Ah, I crack myself up!

