

Getting Hands-on with Public Engagement



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Today's Session

- **Setting the Scene**
- **The Three Stages of Engagement**
- **Design Considerations**
- **Considerations in Detail**

Setting the Scene



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Setting the Scene



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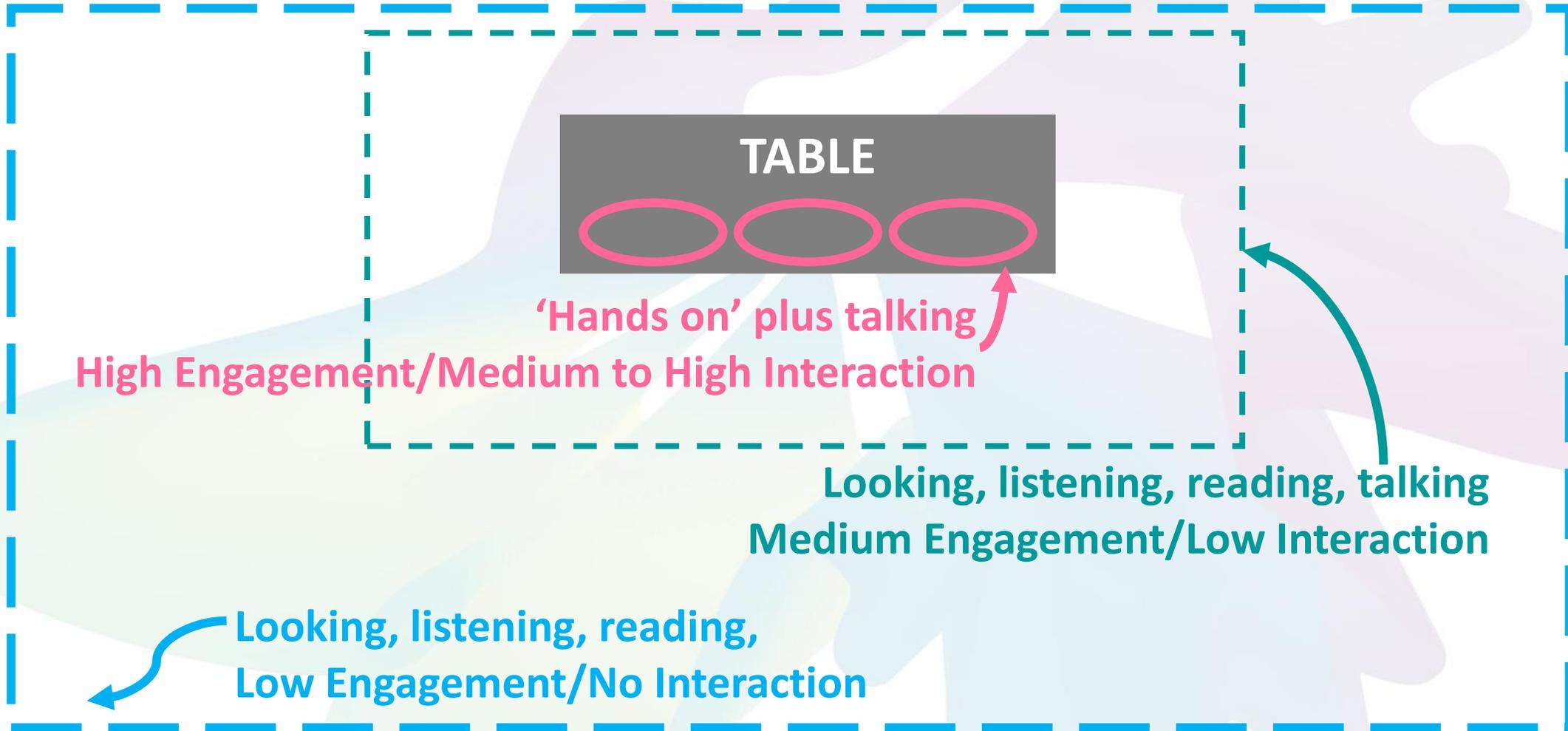
Setting the Scene

Hands-on Public Engagement Activity:

- Stall/table/physical space for engagement
- Some kind(s) of action/physical element
- No set times or duration of engagement and/or interaction



Three Stages of (Stall) Engagement



KEEP IT SIMPLE!

Visuals ● Challenge

Real Examples ● Mock Examples

Matching Up ● Put in Order

Demonstration ● Make your own



Making Kit

Items

Permanent Markers

Paint Markers

Building Blocks

Paper

Card

Printer

Laminates

White Board & Pens

Elastic Bands

Wooden Dowels

Ink Stamps

Paperclips

Foam Board

Food Bags

Envelopes

Glue

Blu-tac

Tape

Post-its

Plastic Pots

Food

Toiletries

Suppliers

Hobbycraft

Ryman

B&Q

Amazon

Supermarkets

Cass Art

The Range



Design Constraints

TASK

Using the building blocks, make a structure that demonstrates the significance of the different

design constraints – what's going to stop you doing exactly what you want?

(building up from the base, the most significant aspects form the foundations)

Each group will need: Building blocks & base

Design Constraints



Base from which to build up your activity

Design Considerations

TASK

Using the building blocks, make a structure that demonstrates the significance of the different

design considerations – what are the most important things to consider in your design?

(building up from the base, the most significant aspects form the foundations)

Each group will need: Building blocks & base

Design Considerations

Staff

Funding

Equipment

H&S

Accessibility

Space

Topic

Audience

Base from which to build up your activity

Design Considerations

Staff

Funding

Space

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Topic

Audience

Accessibility

Base from which to build up your activity



Things to Consider:

- What is the piece of knowledge you want them to take away from your engagement?
- The piece of knowledge may be a fact or it may be a skill, a challenge, an idea

Things to Consider:

- Expected age(s) of audience
- Assumed prior knowledge of audience
- Accessibility requirements (coming up)
- Multiple participant management

Things to Consider:

- Inclusivity – have you got something for everyone?
Address all the senses if possible
- **It doesn't have to be exactly the same engagement for everyone, but everyone should be able to have an engagement**
- For ideas watch the video on the WIE Skills Festival:

warwick.ac.uk/wie/training/ug-students/skillsfestival-ug/practicalskills/creatingaccessibleactivities/

Things to Consider:

- How much money do you have to do this!
- What does the funding need to cover? Activity only, travel, food, exhibition space?
- One off funding or extra for consumables?



Organising Your Team

	Table Activity 1	Table Activity 2	Table Activity 3
10:00-11:00	Laura	Josh	Kate
11:00-12:00	Laura	Josh	Kate
12:00-13:00	Laura	Josh	Kate
13:00-14:00	Laura	Josh	Kate
14:00-15:00	Laura	Josh	Kate
15:00-16:00	Laura	Josh	Kate

Organising Your Team

Things to Consider:

- Delivering the activity/activities
- Encouraging participants in
- Replenishing supplies
- Emergency situations
- Food, drink and toilet breaks!!



Organising Your Team

	Table Activity 1	Table Activity 2	Break/Front of Table
10:00-11:00	Laura	Josh	Kate
11:00-12:00	Kate	Laura	Josh
12:00-13:00	Josh	Kate	Laura
13:00-14:00	Laura	Josh	Kate
14:00-15:00	Kate	Laura	Josh
15:00-16:00	Josh	Kate	Laura

Allocating Space

Things to Consider:

- Allocate space for 'stations' – specific places for people to engage in a certain way or with a particular activity
- Ensure enough room for comfortable participation
- Best view point for each item
- Suitable solutions to protect activities/items and participants where required

Allocating Space & Staff

TASK

How would you arrange a public engagement stand with the option of two different hands-on activities, one demonstration and a poster explanation (with added QR code to access a related audio file)?

You have four team members.

Each group will need:

A4 Stand Plan, Envelope of Pieces, Glue



Things to Consider:

- Is it essential?
- Is it reliable?
- Cost of equipment (to purchase, rent and/or insure)
- Can you move it safely?
- Do you need permission?
- Setup/take down time and skills
- What happens if it doesn't work?

Health and Safety



Things to Consider:

- Think about health and safety from the point of view of a curious two year old ... what trouble could they get into at your stall and how do you make sure it doesn't happen?
- Official H&S process
- Risk assessment(s)

It doesn't have to be:

Complicated, perfect or expensive

It does have to be:

Suitable, safe and accessible