Value and feasibility of the brainstormed ideas for Cruyff Foundation

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Background

Promoting outdoor activity for children ages 6-12 has many benefits, including improved physical health, enhanced social skills, increased creativity, and reduced stress and anxiety.

Introduction

During the Dutch Design Charette, we got the assignment to innovate upon the existing coatings of Schoolplein14, by developing a 15th coating with possible technical solutions. As a group, a couple of ideas were thought out, but how feasible are they and how much impact will these ideas have on the children that play on Schoolplein14? That is what will be researched in this document. All made ideas are being evaluated with sources on feasibility and impact.

Idea 1: Musical Lights

The first idea we came up with is Musical Lights. This is a game that can be played on a sporting field-like coating, but it requires a projector or lights to project the lights and a way to play music. The participants will hear music and this music will eventually stop and a couple of randomly placed lights will be projected within the field. The goal is for a participant to get to one of the lights as quickly as possible, because every time the lights go on, there is one less light than the number of participants. This goes on until there is one winner.

Pros:

1. the equipment and materials for this activity are easily accessible and do not require a great deal of accompaniment by teachers or staff.

2. there are essentially no safety issues.

3. the activity is sustainable in the long term.

Cons:

- The current coatings made by the Johan Cruyff Foundation are very simplistic and they only require the ground or the wall to be painted and the kids can play (Cruyff Foundation, n.d.). Building speakers and a light installation/projector for every school could cost a lot of money.
- This idea requires some sort of device, with which you can start and end the games, which could be prone to stealing, since these Schoolplein14 schoolyards are open 24/7.
- Music tastes could cause rivalries and music shaming.

Benefits-MUSICAL LIGHTS

Music ignites all areas of child development and skills for school readiness, including intellectual, social-emotional, motor, language, and overall literacy. It helps the body and the mind work together.

Cognitive development: Music and light games can enhance cognitive development, including memory, attention, and processing speed. The combination of music and lights can stimulate the brain and improve cognitive function.

Sensory integration: Music and light games can also promote sensory integration, which is the ability to process and integrate sensory information from different sources. The combination of auditory and visual stimuli can help children develop this skill.

Physical development: Music and light games can promote physical development, such as coordination and gross motor skills. Dancing to music with flashing lights, for example, can help children develop these skills.

Emotional regulation: Music and light games can also help children learn emotional regulation by providing a creative outlet for self-expression. Dancing to music with flashing lights can help children express their emotions in a positive way, which can reduce stress and anxiety.

Social skills: Music and light games can also help children develop social skills, such as cooperation and communication. Dancing and playing music together can foster a sense of community and improve interpersonal relationships.

Fun and enjoyment: Above all, music and light games can be a fun and enjoyable way for children to engage in play and creative expression. The combination of music and lights can create an exciting and immersive experience for children.

Idea 2: Running track with sensors and avatars

This idea focusses on a smaller scale. The running track is already a thing in the current coatings, but to improve this by seeing yourself in an avatar form running in slow-motion and seeing your speed. You can see your avatars on a screen inside the school building.

Pros:

- Easy to make
- Low cost and equipment needed
- Avatars make sure that kids will not be insecure about their running
- Avatars make kids be who they want to be
- Showing speed can make a sort of top 10 people to beat

Cons:

- Not very innovating
- Kids can make fun of others of their way of running, even if avatars are a thing
- Make a catalogue of avatars with which children can play
- Could become very competitive if a top 10 is added

Idea 3: Multipurpose Lights

The same as musical lights, but now with different games, like all stand in light X or throw an object to light X.

Pros:

- Multiple sports for one coating
- Fun and engaging by using music as a universal language
- Innovating
- Could make children interact more with each other due to competitiveness

Cons:

- Big and expensive
- A lot of equipment needed
- Prone to vandalism and theft
- Could become too competitive

References

- Cruyff Foundation. (n.d.). *Coatings - Cruyff Foundation*. cruyff-foundation.org.

  Retrieved May 10, 2023, from https://www.cruyff-foundation.org/en/coatings/