

what we are (E)xcited about

**A discussion
about workshop
ideas that span
the physical and
digital world**

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- Brings in different backgrounds
- Meets people where they are
- Gets you started fast
- Humor and delight
- Liberating to bridge these two
- Shifts traditional understanding (tool vs read only / gets away from the “finger”)
- Programming used more liberally
- Nice when screen affects the real world (cause and effect)
- Good for understanding the iteration process (when it's not mimicry)
- Allows you to explore from a place of comfort
- Multiple entry points are possible

what's (W)orrisome



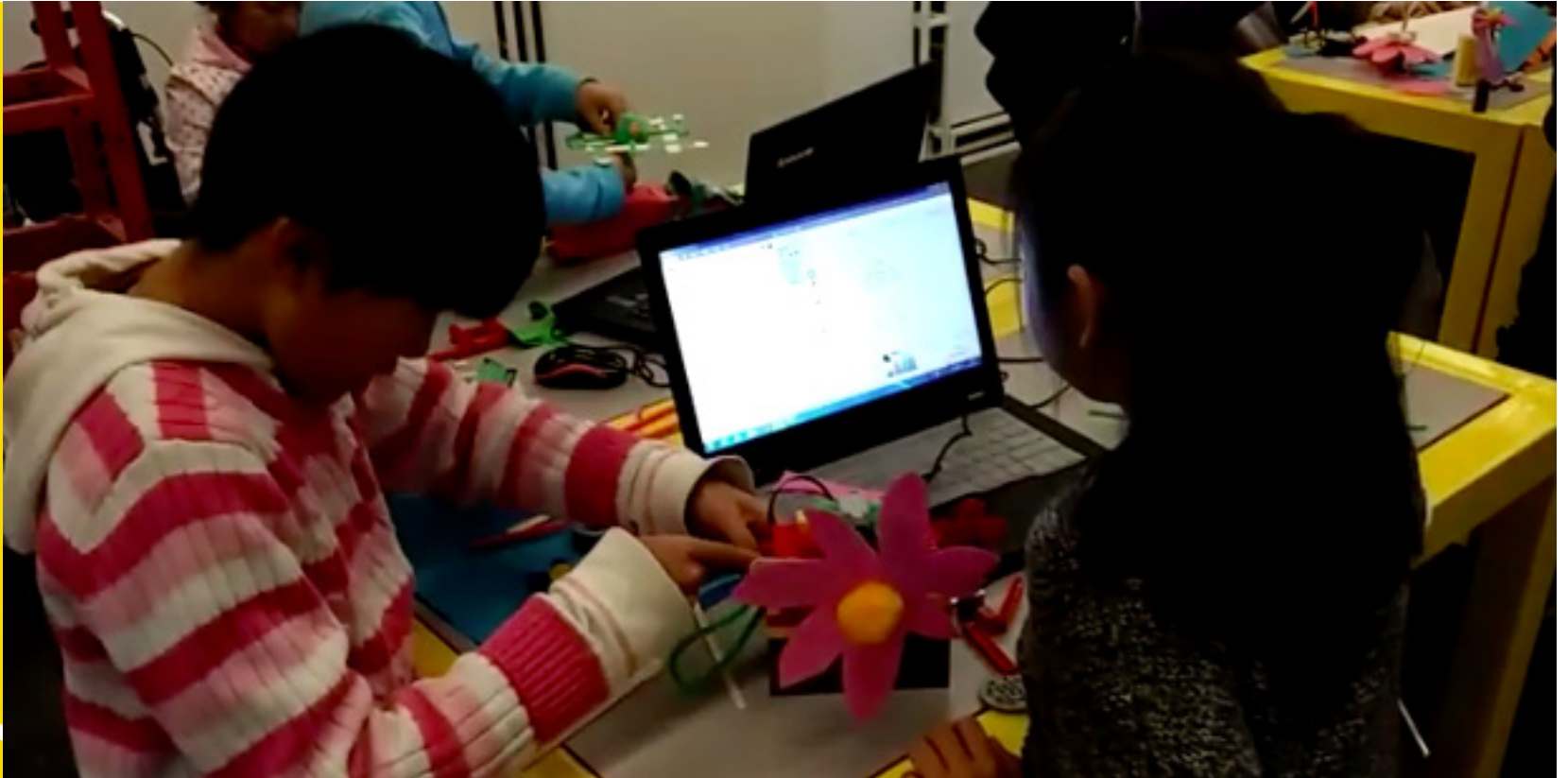
- Digital distracting from the physical world
- Hard to “mess about” digitally if it’s new to you
- So many possibilities can be overwhelming / distracting
- If not us, it’s gonna be bad (there are a lot of ways to do this wrong)
- Losing the playful spirit or soul entering the digital domain
- Space considerations are greater / materials, set-up etc...
- Hard to create an activity that is balanced between the two (does it have to be balanced?)
- Facilitation – working with new people is particularly hard when they need to facilitate
- Hard to design meaningful and generative prompts
- Harder to iterate physically (with scratch it’s easy)
- Environmental considerations
- Instruction vs Invitation
- Time*
- “the more you tinker with it, the more it breaks”
- Scratch is free (stuff isn’t)
- Consumables
- Control vs tinkering / creativity
- Hard to bound the physical
- Physics / sometimes it’s not easy
- More possibilities for frustration
- Feels forced
- Do they have to be combined?
- People only do one (and not the other)
- Harder this way

what do we (N)eed to know more about



- Ways to focus interaction without limiting it
- How to reveal blocks slowly over time
- What kinds of tools would support a more structured entry
- If network can support networked connected activities/thinking
- How to have documentation that feels as compelling as the work
- More about all of the sensors and platforms that are out there
- David Mellis
- Hardware business ideas
- Having hardware we know and understand (standardized)
- What board would we use?
- How to build your own sensors more easily
- Ways of presenting the screen/physical connection so people understand what's going on
- Ways of making it more approachable in terms of display and usability
- How WeDo can be more like crickets / colored lights / not being tethered
- Educator's perspective / Lisa O'Brien @ Code to Learn / Teachers College folks / Kreg
- Survey what's out there in general (and what the trade offs are)
- littleBits / Big Bits
- Hideki – reconnect with him
- Host a creativity summit
- How to work with Reggio in a more grounded way
- Better ways of communicating best practices
(more than good examples)
- Exploring more limited palette within the digital
- Having more words or vocabulary around this
- Suggestions that are more generative / than mimicry
- LEGO example / 4C's – copy, control, complement, create
- Spend more time working w/ scratch
- Trying out possibilities / familiarity helps cross boundaries easier
- How to bring out expressiveness more
- What limits and what opens up an experience

what's our (S)tance?



- Rather than seeing computer as control; it's playful and creative.
- It's tinkering on both sides of the divide
- Computer as material / as mud
- Focusing on the process more than outcome (highly iterative process)
- Keep it simple
- The big idea is their idea (our chapter title)
- Agency/choice around what this is
- Sketching
 - 3D / 2D
 - drafts
 - Materially
 - Testing out initial ideas fluidly
- Shifting roles (transformative relationships)

general brainstorm ideas

scratch on
the street

build your
own insects

surprise
boxes
“microworlds”

interactive
dollhouse

inventions
for your
house
or room

interconnected
chain reaction

mythical
animals

making
animals
come to life

LARGE
scale

theater where
people trigger
events
(animation & sound
on screen)

scratch
projects that
interact with
each other

animate
famous
artworks

wearable
inventions

full body
interactive
with computer

C.I.T.
large scale
installation
(public space)

microsoft
connect
virtual world

single trigger
for multiple
projects

physical dance
party triggers
digital dance
party

Judy's
fouling
community

make digital
art by
physical
movements

introduce
random elements
that everyone
has to include

scratch
overnight

chain reaction
with a story
(or theme)

learn to
dance ---
dance to
learn

kaleidoscope
jazz chair/
pixel wall

qualitative
data viz

Sebastian's
hi-lo tech
weather
station

Margaret's
overnight
paintings

general brainstorm ideas

DIY
sensors

cardboard
arcade

physical
treasure map
response triggers
real world

games

create your
own interface

sensor
games

marble
machines

pinball
machines

stop-motion
animation
interface

child-centered
what you see
in the world
embedded in
physical map

design your
own
boardgame

camera for
the invisible

bridge
light

immersive
environments

animate
inanimate
objects
(ala Hanoch Piven)

hacking
clothespins
(ode to Iris Gottlieb)

focus on
abstraction

physical
treasure map/
digital
treasures

Connection to
large lights,
motors &
relays

light
play

playing with
lights &
sounds
(no motors)

dancing
flowers

bringing
sprites to life:
sewn
characters

scratch
n
sniff

pop-ups

solar
do-nothing
machine

linkages

screen to
zine

Remixed
toy
take-apart

light play possibilities



Aspects of the activity that we value:

- aesthetic quality
- collaborative nature
- constructive inquiry with light & shadow
- high, low & middle tech possibilities

immersive environments

playing with lights & sounds
(no motors)

Connection to large lights, motors & relays

full body interactive with computer

light play

solar do-nothing machine

focus on abstraction

LARGE scale

