

PARK @ THE HEIGHTS- ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

PART A: YOUTH ART EVENT- AGES 8-13

GOAL: Creatively seek a sense of place and programming in a way that features kid's cultural perspectives and projective thinking.

A hands-on activity with two parts

1. **Small group brainstorm** (3-4 participants) with large sheets of paper to draw/map and take notes on.
2. **Small group creature building** with various art materials.

NARRATIVE INTRO: You are a magical creature with a unique power to create. You want to build a special place in your neighborhood for you, your friends, your family and other creatures like birds and pollinators.

- What is the first thing you create for the space?
- What will this space look like? Are there people, plants, trees?
- What activities will happen in the space?
- Who do you want to visit this place?
- What will they do there?
- What do YOU want to do there?
- What is this space called?

It seems like it might be easier to help direct the younger kids in smaller groups? Open to your suggestions!

Materials for the art activities could be anything-maybe found objects and collage?



PARK @ THE HEIGHTS- ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

PART A: YOUTH ART EVENT- AGES 14-18

GOAL: Creatively seek a sense of place and programming in a way that features kid's cultural perspectives and projective thinking.

A hands-on activity with three parts

1. **Individual brainstorm** with paper (11x17) to draw/map and take notes on.
2. **Group discussion** of everyone's narratives
3. **Exquisite corpse activity**-(3-4 participants) What kind of creature lives in the land envisioned? Drawing paper, pens, graphite.

NARRATIVE INTRO: Origin Story- You are land undergoing a transformation. You can become anything you imagine. You're transforming within a neighborhood with lots of people- families, kids, older people. How will you shape yourself to invite them in?

- What will you look like?
- Are there people, plants, trees?
- What sort of creatures will you support?
- How will you transform to allow activities to happen in the space?
- What do you want people to do in the new space you create?
- What do YOU want to do there?
- How do you want people to feel when they visit you?
- What should they call you?

The Exquisite Corpse exercise might work better with older kids? We could do either or a hybrid of these approaches.

