Trace Fossils to Tinkering:

Summer at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History

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September 26, 2016

History of the Museum

- 1945 – Fort Worth Children's Museum formed in two classrooms in De Zavala Elementary School
- 1947 – Museum moved to R.E. Harding House
- 1954 – Museum opened in new building on Montgomery Street

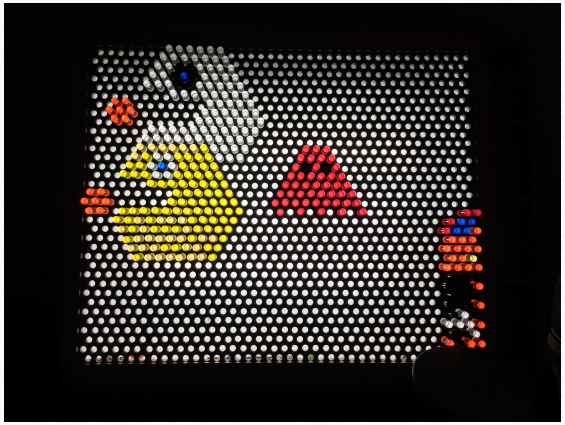
History of the Museum

- 1968 – Name changed to Fort Worth Museum of Science and History
- 2009 – The new and current building was built

The Innovation Studios

- 1992 – TCU sought an environment for nontraditional learning
- NSF grant to help bridge gap between the museum and university
- *Hands on Science* - "imaging a different way of doing things," inquiry-based learning

"Nothing happens
unless first we dream."
Carl Sandburg



Self-Set Goals

- Become a better facilitator
- Become more confident in my work as a museum professional
- Learn the logistics of planning activities and events
- Do as much as possible, have fun, and make friends!

Innovation Studios Intern Projects

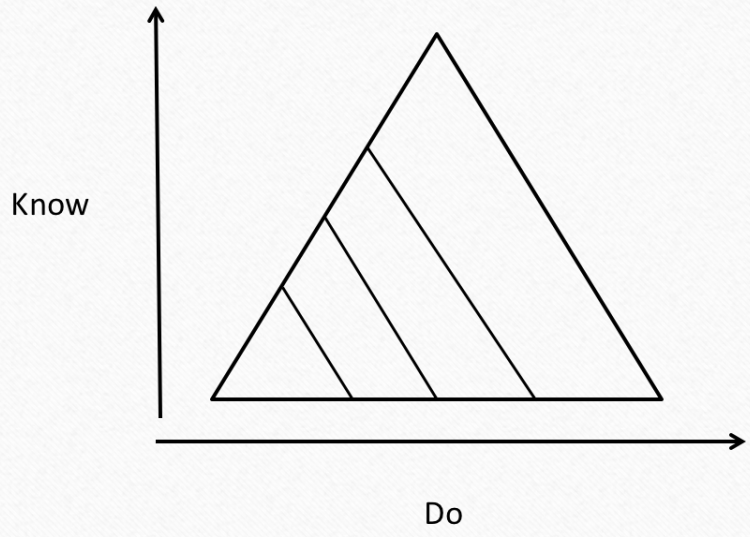
- Work on the Innovation Studios Floor
- Dig deeper into improving the guest experience
- Assist in Maker Studio
- Assist in the planning and execution of large events

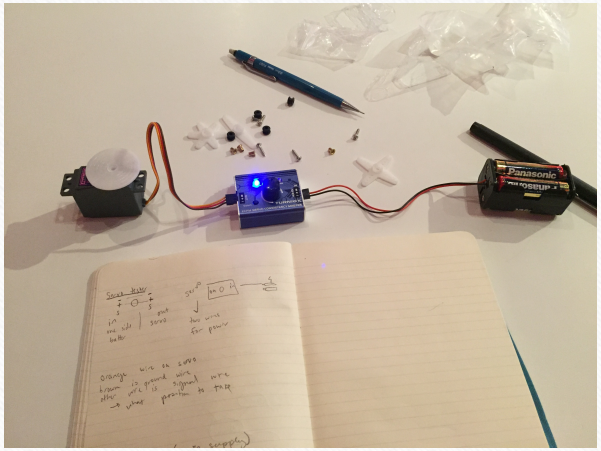
On the Innovations Studios Floor

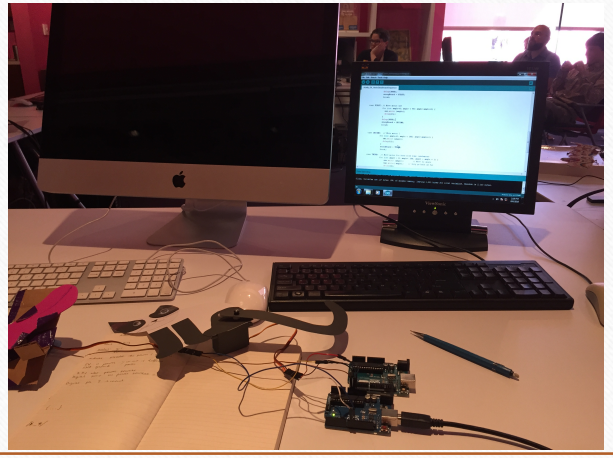
- Interact with guests
  - Introduce ourselves & use key contact words
  - Speak at eye level
  - Challenge them to take experiments further
- Floor demonstrations at 11:00, 1:30, & 3:00
- Observations in each studio to dig deeper

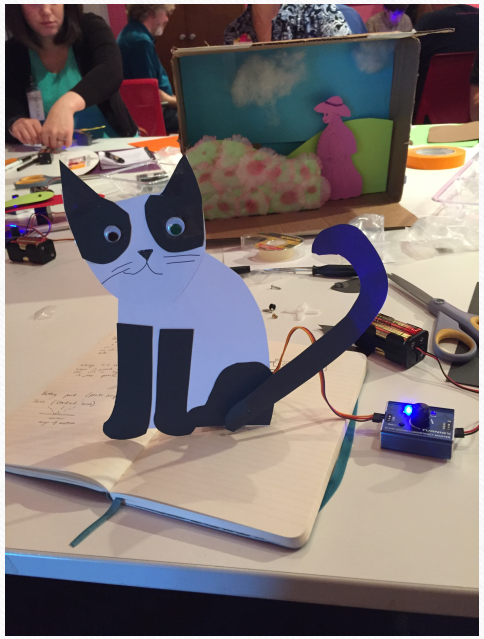
Professional Development with Maker Ed
"Making is creating"

- Facilitation discussions & goals of Maker Studio
  - Make personal connections
  - Embrace failure through trial and error
  - Learn new skills and new ways to do things
  - Connect to the bigger picture & allow guests to go as deep as they want
  - Learn by doing & with each other



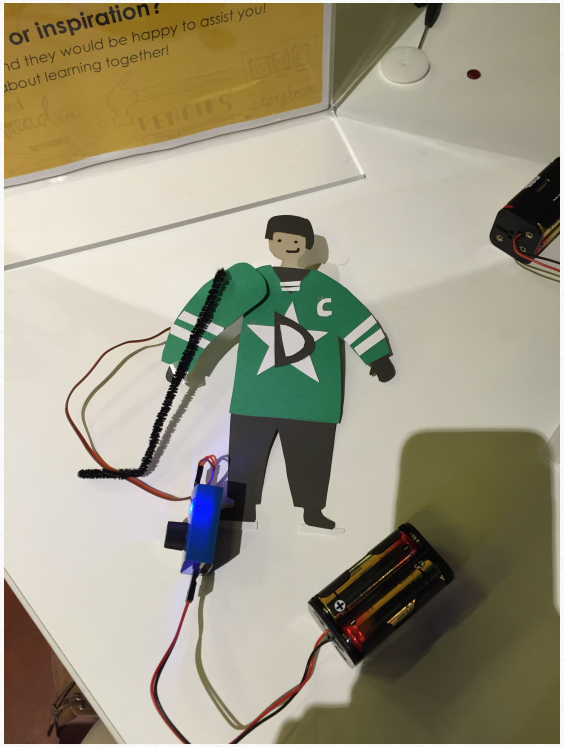

Panasonic





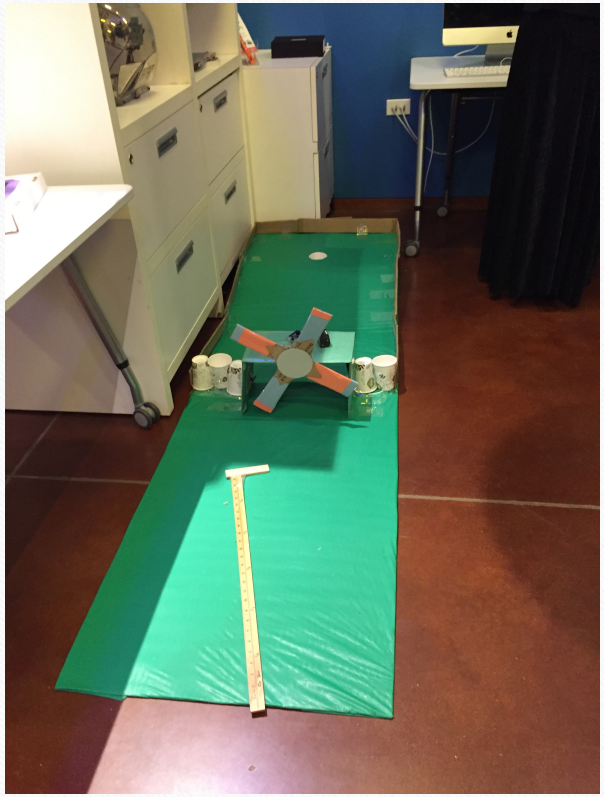
Maker Studio

- Making & Tinkering
- Thursday through Saturday, 10:00-4:00
- Technology varies from paper materials to computer coding with Arduino
- New activity every week
- Work along side guests
- Paper animatronics
- Sound and Light
- Leather working
- Chain maille
- Cardboard Arcade
- Plastic Fusion
- Plant to plate


or inspiration?
nd they would be happy to assist you!
about learning together!
PENCILS

MAYA

MAYA



Science on Tap

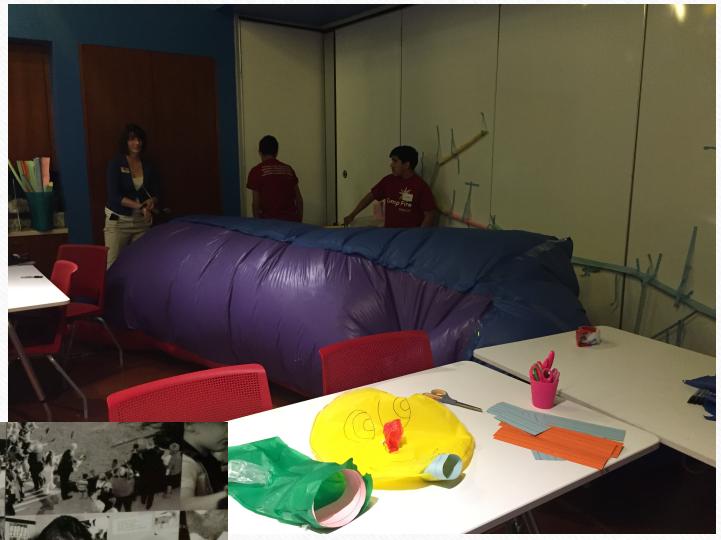
- An evening event for adults 21+
- Planning began with brainstorming meeting that included all departments
- Next, programs team meeting
- Then, marketing meeting
- Finally, facilities meeting
- Ready, break!

Science on Tap

- Shopping, preparation,and problem solving the week leading up the event

- Guest talks
- Playing with Plastics
- Pinball
- Local Makers
- Adult coloring
- Take apart electronics
- Heart dissections
- Liquid nitrogen Brandy Alexander
- Live music, cash bars, dinner menu

Inflate Plastic



Reel Adventures

- Family event including a movie with activities planned around the movie theme
- Planning began with brainstorming meeting
- Activity planning and preparation for 3 weekends of the event
- Ready, break!

Reel Adventures

- Animal and dinosaur themed activities
  - Make you own tail and ears
  - Eat a bug
  - Paper birds
  - Live animal demonstrations
  - Make your own cattle brand
- Problems faced technical difficulties and movie choices

Go Paleo

- Educational opportunity to showcase the paluxysaurus jonesi move across the museum
- Four Fridays during June and July
- 1:00-4:00, all museum guests welcome to participate

Go Paleo

- Troubleshooting experience after first week
  - We altered our timing and preparation
- Activities included:
  - Make your own trace fossil
  - Dinosaur stop motion animation
  - Ice and sandstone excavations
  - Name your own dino
  - Paluxysaurus updates

Asteroid Day

- Similar to Go Paleo: an event during the day open to all museum guests
- My first solo activity – Crater Creations
- Planned by testing different activities related to asteroids
- Opened to guests from 1:00-2:00,and 3:00-4:00

Conclusion

- Self-set goals: Check!
  - Practice make perfect.
  - I feel more confident as a education facilitator and more comfortable working in a professional environment.
  - Lessons were learned,friends were made, and steps were logged!
- Special thanks to Gary Smith & Charlie Walter

SARAH
FORT WORTH MUSEUM
SCIENCE AND HISTORY
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