Open ended activities

Open ended activities include technical creativity, a movement birthed by Tinkering Studio (from the San Francisco Exploratorium), aims to create personal artifacts related to exciting scientific challenges.
Based on Seymour Papert's constructionism theory, this approach helps developing soft skills (namely your artistic or technical creativity), gaining confidence in your personal skills and starting the process of creation through failed attempts, inspiration, iteration, adaptation, collaboration, hypothesis, etc.

The facilitators guide the audience with the development of solutions that involve physical phenomenon or technical resources. However, the audience has to choose their own personal solution to a problem that, by definition, has countless answers.

The training questions our relation to expertise and to the audience, it encourages soft skills and the transmission of scientific knowledge.

Duration: 1 to 2 days

Goal: To organize "Open ended activities" sessions.

Learning objectives

- Thinking about the integration of technical creativity in your organization.
- Hosting sessions as a facilitator.
- Creating Open ended activities activities that are adapted to your organization.

Learning progress

- **Discovering « Open ended activities »**

  Participation in a workshop. Theorical basis, origins, audiences, objectives, interests, constraints, etc.

- **Hosting « Open ended activities » sessions**
  Presentation of the differents activities. Organization of the workshop. Role as a facilitator.
- **Creation of "Open ended activities" sessions.**

  Development of new activities. Material and logistics.

Technical and educational resources

The training offers several configurations depending on the activity: group or individual work, work in pairs or small teams.

It favors participative methods like case studies, games, etc. which help people gain ownership of the notions studied. The different mediums used (PowerPoint presentations, articles and

studies, bibliographies…) will be distributed to each participant. The tools used during the training will also be distributed at the end.

Support
A certified trainer will oversee the training.

Monitoring
An attendance sheet has to be signed by the trainer and the participants twice for each half-day of training.

Assessment of the results

This training does not end with a diploma or a certification.

Different methods are used to evaluate satisfaction and skills acquisition:

- A survey will be sent to each participants two weeks before the training to learn about their experiences and specific expectations.
- Case studies help evaluating live the knowledge acquired during the training.
- A self-administered survey will be filled by each trainee at the end.
- An attendance sheet summing up the skills acquired during the session will be distributed at the end.
- A call can be organized to review the training.

The target of the training

It targets scientific explainers or people who want to organize workshops at their organization.

Prerequisite: None.

Logistics

The training is organized by the client, who provides a room adapted to their needs.

To make sure the training goes smoothly, each group will be composed of a dozen of trainees (12 at most, cancellation below 5).

Feedback

« The training allows you to try “technical creativity”, in a different way from where I work. »

« This training was useful to practice “technical creativity” with children to develop this activity at children’s centers abroad. »