Engagement Technique

Gallery

Description

The term 'gallery' is used to describe a variety of techniques that involve participants reviewing items pinned up on the workshop walls. Two major variations are:

- A concept at the top of a piece of butchers paper with participants moving from one to another and adding their contribution.
- Work carried out by participants being displayed and viewed and/or presented by participants.

Other Considerations

This is a workshop technique, and should be used as part of a variety of community engagement toolbox.

While a great way to make sure participants don't fall asleep, it can also be very tiring for those not used to long periods of standing.



Benefits

Having work pinned up on the walls of a space makes it public and easily accessible. It is useful when wanting to get participants up and moving about whilst still working.

As people are standing it provides an opportunity for participants to move around, potentially even joining a different group. This can either be useful or counter-productive depending on the situation. It also seems to provide a better way of generating ideas than when participants are seated, though the converse is true about depth of thought

Skills

The flexibility of the concept means that effective use requires knowing when to use one of the many variations, and in what format. They are though robust, and it is rare to make a complete disaster using this technique.