

Tinkering Studio Facilitation

Art of Tinkering Workshop

Spetember 2014

Facilitation is...

a way of teaching where we support the learner's own investigations, questions, and ideas within the framework of an activity.

Spark

We help get
people started

We try to create
a welcoming
environment



Spark

This helps
introduce
participants
to a tinkering
disposition





Sustain

We follow the learners' paths

We welcome frustration

We make connections between participants



Sustain

This helps cultivate a tinkering disposition and builds relationships with participants around a project

Deepen

We point out
connections to
prior experience
and interests

We encourage
complexification

We model a
reflective attitude



Deepen

This helps provide opportunities for the participant to confirm their current understanding and make their investigations a little more complex.



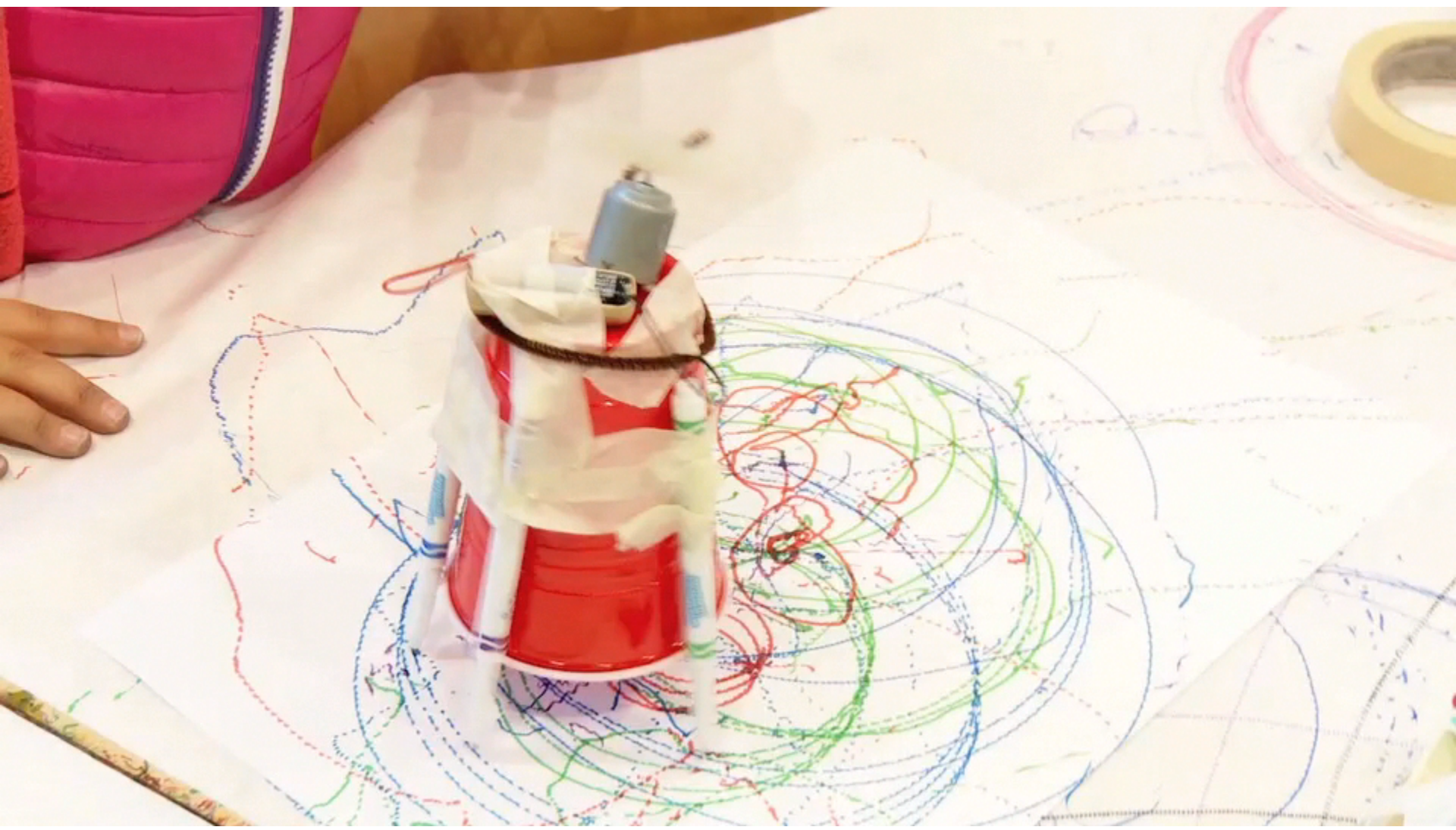
We try to keep in mind...



It's a practice

It's fluid

It's supportive



Some Best Practices for Facilitators



Try Activities as Learners

Build familiarity with
materials and
identify possibilities

Empathize with the
participants

Reflect on moments
of surprise, pride,
frustration.



Use the Teaching Space for R&D

Experiment with prompts,
challenges, materials

Learn from participants

Work together with other
facilitators and borrow ideas

Be comfortable with
spontaneity and
improvisation



Support a Reflective Practice



Discuss what went well and not so well

Focus on specific elements of the activities

Create tools for reflection (journals, video, photos, blogs)

Developing a Community

Grow environments,
events, and extensions for
tinkering

Identify artists, scientists
and makers to contribute
ideas

Connect to your personal
interests and projects

