

OVER THE PAST TEN WEEKS A GROUP OF STUDENTS FROM GEMS GENESIS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL HAVE BEEN WORKING ON A PROJECT WITH INTERIACT LAB TO LEARN THE DESIGN PROCESS AND DESIGN AN INSTALLATION THAT WILL BE EXHIBITED IN THE CITY OF AHMEDABAD.

WHAT IS INTERIACT LAB? INTERIACT LAB IS A DESIGN AND INNOVATION AGENCY THAT PRACTICES DESIGN THINKING AND OFFERS A PLATFORM FOR CHILDREN TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES THROUGH SOLUTION DRIVEN, HUMAN CENTRIC DESIGN PROJECTS.

WHO RUNS IT? INTERIACT LAB IS RUN BY KETNA HIRJI WHO IS FROM LONDON BUT CURRENTLY LIVES IN AHMEDABAD. SHE STARTED INTERIACT LAB IN INDIA WHILST RESEARCHING THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY. SHE IS A FIRST PRINCIPLE THINKER AND HAS DEVELOPED SOME PRODUCTS OF HER OWN WHICH WILL BE LAUNCHED AND EXPORTED INTERNATIONALLY IN 2016.

THE DESIGN PROCESS THE STUDENTS HAVE FOLLOWED:



KEY SKILLS THE STUDENTS DEVELOPED:

- OBSERVING
- LISTENING
- SPEAKING & COMMUNICATING
- WORKING TO DEADLINES
- PRESENTING
- DOCUMENTING
- DESCRIBING
- RAPID PROTOTYPING
- BRAINSTORMING

A SUMMARY OF THE PROGRAM IN COLLABORATION WITH GGIS.

WEEK ONE - WE ARRANGED A TRIP TO VASTRAPUR LAKE, TO OBSERVE AND UNDERSTAND HUMAN BEHAVIOUR IN PUBLIC PLACES. THE STUDENTS WERE GIVEN THE TASK TO OBSERVE WHAT THEY COULD SEE AND WHY. THEY HAD A SOLUTION DRIVEN MINDSET FROM THE BEGINNING WHICH ALLOWED THEM TO ALWAYS THINK ABOUT IMPROVING AND SIMPLIFYING DESIGN.

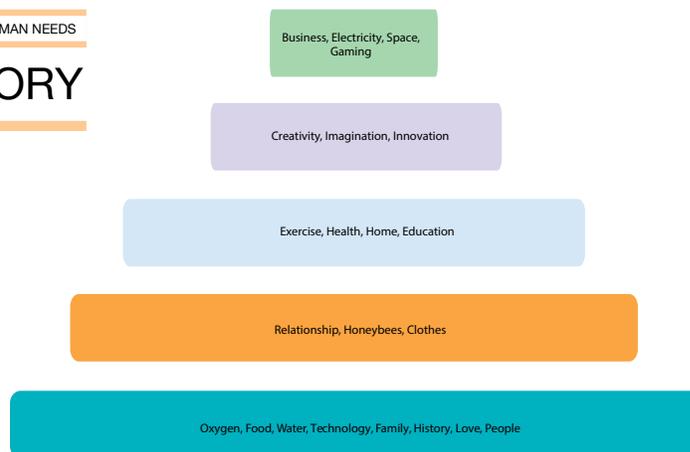
WEEK TWO - WE SPENT THE SESSION DISCUSSING PRODUCTS AND THEIR FUNCTION. THE STUDENTS UNDERSTOOD WHAT MULTIFUNCTION PRODUCT DESIGN IS AND HOW A PRODUCT CAN BE USED IN MULTIPLE WAYS.

WEEK THREE - WE HEADED DOWN TO THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN TO UNDERSTAND HOW SOLAR AND KINETIC ENERGY WORKED AS WELL AS A TALK LED BY PRODUCT DESIGNERS ON MACHINERY.

WEEK FOUR - SIX - WE SPENT THESE SESSIONS GENERATING MULTIPLE IDEAS AND CONCEPTS TO HELP US BUILD A THEME FOR OUR INSTALLATION. DURING THIS PERIOD THE STUDENTS DESIGNED THEIR OWN VERSION OF ABRAHAM MASLOW'S HIERACHY OF NEEDS. THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME IT HAS BEEN REDESIGNED BY CHILDREN.

GGIS INTERIAC T THEORY OF HUMAN NEEDS

GIHN THEORY



WEEK SEVEN - TEN - AFTER NARROWING DOWN TO THE THREE PILLAR THEMES OF [EDUCATION, RUBIK'S CUBE AND SOLAR ENERGY] WE STARTED TO PROTOTYPE. WE HAD INVITED PRODUCT DESIGN SPECIALISTS TO OUR PROTOTYPING SESSIONS WHICH HELPED THE STUDENTS TO UNDERSTAND FORM, FUNCTION AND MATERIAL IN A SIMPLE WAY. DURING THIS TIME WE VISITED FAB LAB AT CEPT UNIVERSITY TO UNDERSTAND MATERIALS AND MACHINERY BETTER, WE ALSO GOT TO LEARN ABOUT 3D PRINTING AND THE PURPOSE OF EACH MACHINE.

WEEK ELEVEN - WE FINALISED THE EDUCATION ELEMENT WHICH IS A 12 LINE POEM WRITTEN BY THE STUDENTS WHICH WILL READ DIFFERENTLY ON EACH SIDE OF THE INSTALLATION AS THE TWELVE SLICES SPIN AROUND. SO EVERY READER SEES SOMETHING DIFFERENT. WE HAD A CLOSING CEREMONY AT CEPT UNIVERSITY WHICH INCLUDED SOME INSTALLATION DEMOS FROM AROUND THEIR CAMPUS.

WHAT'S NEXT?

THE FINAL INSTALLATION WILL BE BUILT IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS AT FABLABS, AND WE WILL UNVEIL THE INSTALLATION AT A GGIS ANNUAL EVENT.



STUDENTS PRESENTING THEIR OBSERVATIONS
VASTRAPUR LAKE, AHMEDABAD



STUDENTS BUILDING AN ORIGAMI SATELLITE
CONCEPT AT NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN



DEFINING THE PURPOSE OF DESIGN AND
UNDERSTANDING THE FUNCTION AND FORM OF
PRODUCTS.



STUDENTS WATCHING VIDEOS ON KINETIC
ENERGY AT NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
DESIGN.



A SESSION ON SOLAR ENERGY WITH POST GRADUATES FROM NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN



A WALK THROUGH THE CAMPUS OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN, EXPLORING THE DESIGN OF THE BUILDING.



A BRAINSTORMING SESSION BUILDING ON THE THEMES AND IDEAS FOR THE INSTALLATION.



STUDENTS HAD BROUGHT THEIR OWN MATERIAL IN TO BUILD THEIR PROTOTYPES.



POST GRADUATES FROM NID HAD COME IN TO HELP THE STUDENTS BUILD PROTOTYPES.



STUDENTS WERE CONTINUOUSLY PITCHING THEIR IDEAS IN A NON JUDGMENTAL WAY. THEY WERE ALWAYS ITERATING AND ADJUSTING THEIR DESIGNS.



MORE PROTOTYPES FROM THE STUDENTS.



A VISIT TO CEPT UNIVERSITY, FAB LAB TO UNDERSTAND MACHINERY AND AND MATERIALS.



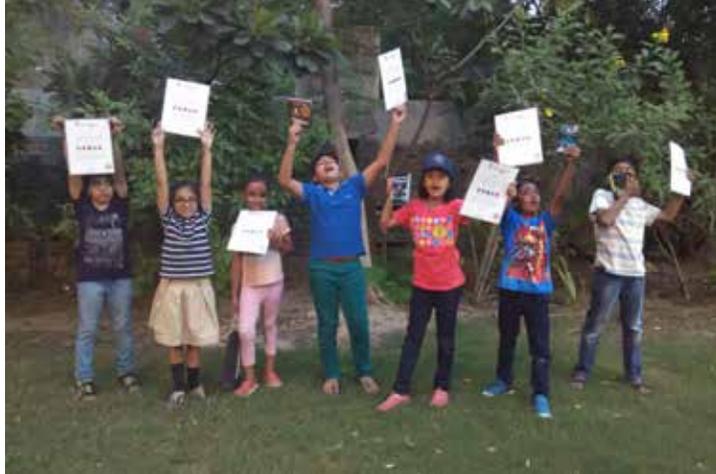
WE EXPLORED PROTOTYPES MADE WITH A 3D PRINTER.



THE STUDENTS TOOK PART IN HIGH LEVEL DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE STRUCTURE AND BUILD OF THEIR INSTALLATION WITH DESIGNERS AT CEPT UNIVERSITY.



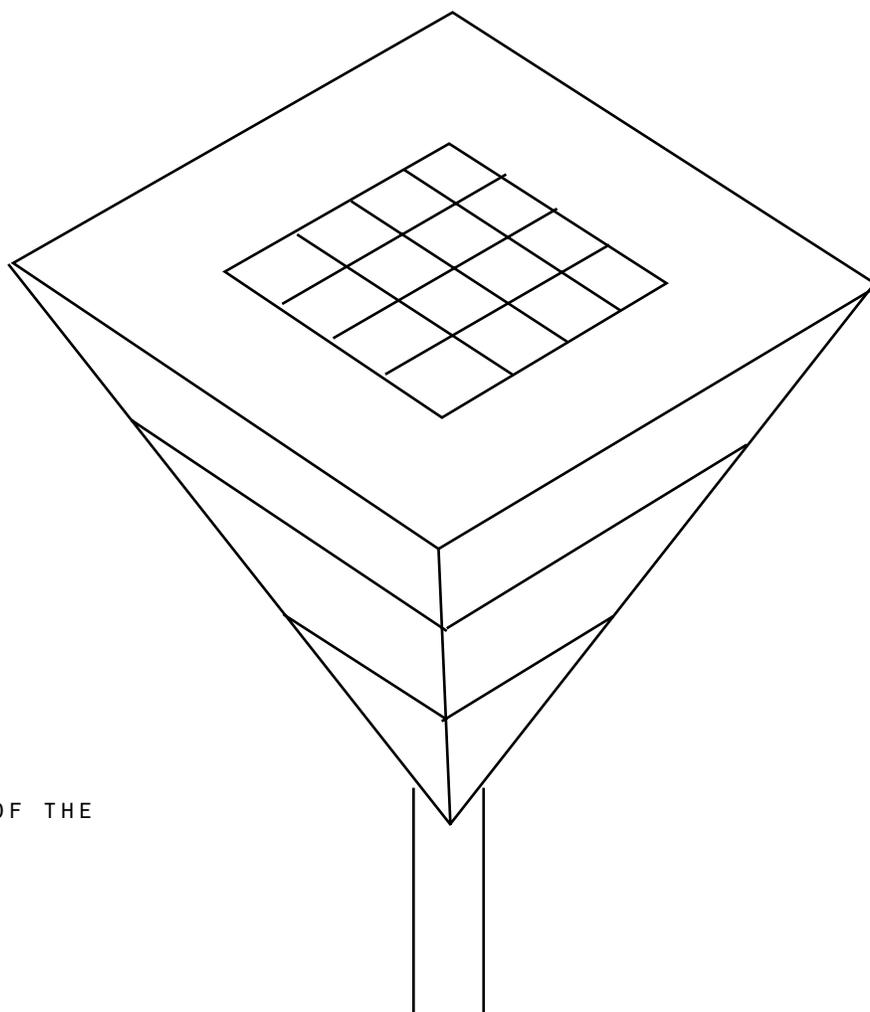
WE EXPLORED A FEW START UP TECHNOLOGIES AND MOBILE APPLICATIONS AT FAB LAB.



THE STUDENTS HAD A CLOSING CEROMONY AT CEPT WHERE THEY WERE AWARDED CERTIFICATES.

THE THREE THEMES

- EDUCATION
- RUBIK'S CUBE
- SOLAR ENERGY



THE STRUCTURE OF THE INSTALLATION

THE STUDENTS WROTE THIS POEM TOGETHER WHICH WILL BE LASER CUT ON EACH SLICE SO AS THE SLICES SPIN EACH SIDE WILL READ SOMETHING DIFFERENT

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I AM A FLY
I ONLY HAVE ONE EYE
THE SKY FELL AND LANDED ON MY EYE

MY VISION IS HALVED BUT I STILL TRY
I PRAY TO GOD OH MY OH MY
OH THAT GUY HE'S EATING A PIE

SOMETIMES I WISH I WERE A BUTTERFLY
I WISH I HAD AN EXTRA EYE
I'M SO SHY

I HIDE IN MY SKIN WHEN PEOPLE PASS BY
I ALREADY KNOW HOW TO SPEAK THAI
OH WHY WHY WHY.

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Testimonials from the parents about Interiact Lab.

"Thanks for your contribution in 'making kids think'." – Arun Gandhi

"I am in short of words to describe the whole experience the kids are going through. I am jealous. Interiact is like a dream come true for the kids. At such an early age they are getting amazing exposure with your guidance. Keep up the good work. Working with NID and CEPT professionals at their campus at such an early age is a rewarding experience. – Kavita Shah

