Beyond the Walls:
Building Community with Offsite Camps
Adrienne Huffman
Educator, Family and Public Programs
By Your River, Gently Flowing, Illinois
Look, Listen and Smell

What can you see?
Look for birds floating down the river.

What can you hear?
Listen for sounds of the owl hooting in the trees.

What can you smell?
Smell the different scents of the Illinois River Valley.

What do you smell near the river?

What Kind of Plant Will Grow?

Who Pooped?

Water Works

Water is VERY Important.

We all need water to live. But there is only so much fresh water that we can use. This is why it is important for everyone to use water wisely. What are some things we can do to help prevent water pollution?

Can you guess?

LIFT HERE

Can you guess?

LIFT HERE

Can you guess?

LIFT HERE

Can you guess?

LIFT HERE

Can you guess?

LIFT HERE

Can you guess?

LIFT HERE

Can you guess?

LIFT HERE
Wonders of Water
Summer Camp
Goals

• Build relationships with community partners
• Have amazing, related, off-site experiences
• Make correlations with our existing museum exhibit
• Utilize museum classrooms for awesome hands-on activities to extend what we learned off-site, or to expand upon our exhibit
• Invite other community educators to come to our facility and talk to our camp/lead activities
• Admit that we are not always the experts
Community Partners
Peoria Riverfront Museum Stream Lab
Peoria Zoo
Luthy Botanical Garden
Spirit of Peoria
Dickson Mounds
Glen Oak Park Lagoon
Illinois American Water Mobile Lab
Why This Model Works for Us
Justin Spencer
Associate Director of Education
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located in Minneapolis, MN
Camp Innovation
Young Makers Camp

Camp Innovation (onsite)

Camp Innovation (offsite)
How can we grow our camp program?
Camps on a corporate campus
How do you take this on the road?
Technology and Creative Constraint
on start

show string "Hello!"

show number 0

on shake

clear screen

if Random <= 2 then

show string "YES"

else if Random <= 1 then

show string "NO"

else

show string "I DON'T KNOW"
Making the case
Lunch and Learns
5 years later...
Tips for getting started

1) Find a champion
2) Reserve a space
3) Communication Plan
4) Sponsorship - ask for support
5) Engage Parents
Sean Murray - Staff Scientist, Informal Programs
SUMMER SCIENCE CAMPS
How Does This Work?

1) Business/Financial Plan

1) Staffing

1) Logistics
Logistics
THANKS!
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