

Design Thinking Activity Directions

This powerpoint is a guide to teach an introductory design thinking lesson. Each slide contains clear step-by-step directions in the notes section below the slide.

This is a template, please adjust and edit to meet your needs. It can be tailored to meet the needs of any age group of experience level.



Design Thinking

IBM

Introduction to Design Thinking



[Click HERE](#)
[for video](#)

(You must be in presentation mode
for link to work)



What is Design Thinking?
in your own words

Design Thinking Activity Set-Up

1st Step: Divide the class into groups of 4-5

What each group needs?

- ▶ 1 Post-It Note easel pad (chart paper) with multiple sheets
- ▶ Markers
- ▶ Lots of Post-It notes



Understand the problem/issue you want to design a solution for

- ▶ You can brainstorm multiple issues/problems as a class or in groups.
- ▶ Example: Brainstorm problems your community that you want to solve.
 - ▶ Students may say things like...
 - ▶ Homelessness
 - ▶ Animals in shelters do not have homes
 - ▶ Community service opportunities
 - ▶ Elderly transportation
- ▶ Students choose which problem they want to design a solution for.
 - ▶ Each group could work on a different problem or the whole class can work on the same problem.
 - ▶ Each group writes their problem down on a sticky note and keeps in a central location



1st step of design is **understanding the user's emotions**

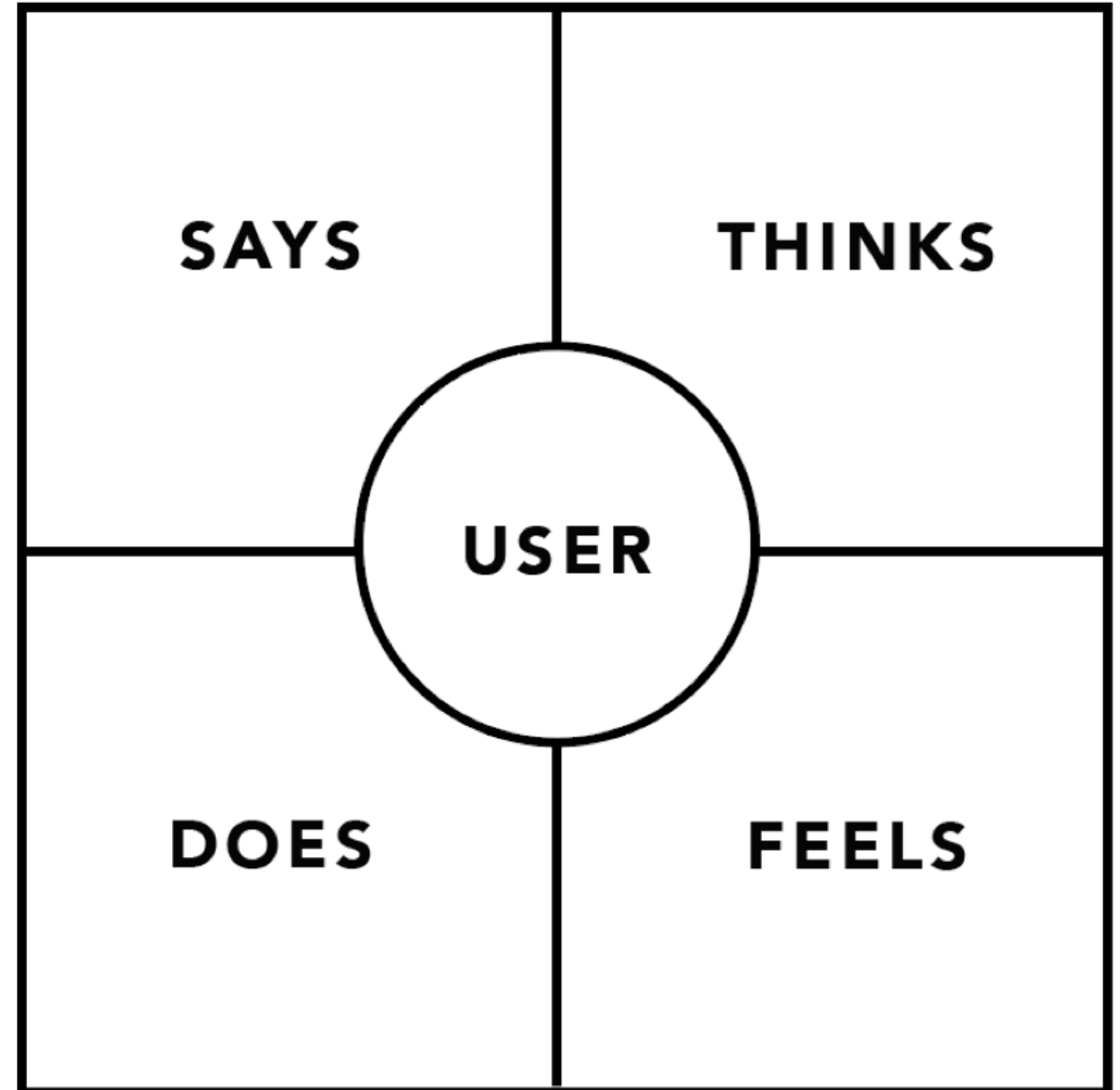
Why is it important to understand the **emotions** of the people you are designing a product for?

Empathy Map

- ▶ Each group should sketch an empathy map on a new piece of chart paper with the quadrants - says, thinks, feels, does and a circle in the middle.

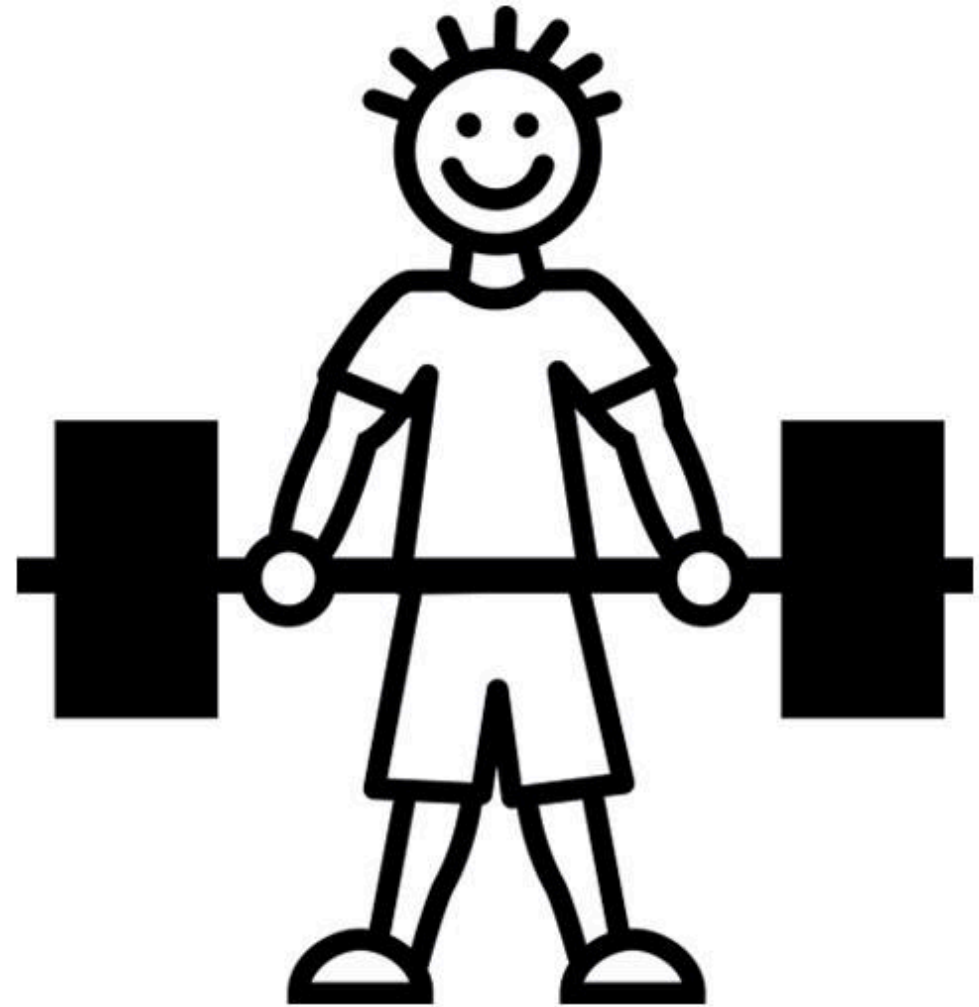
Empathy: the ability to understand and share the feelings of another

EMPATHY MAP



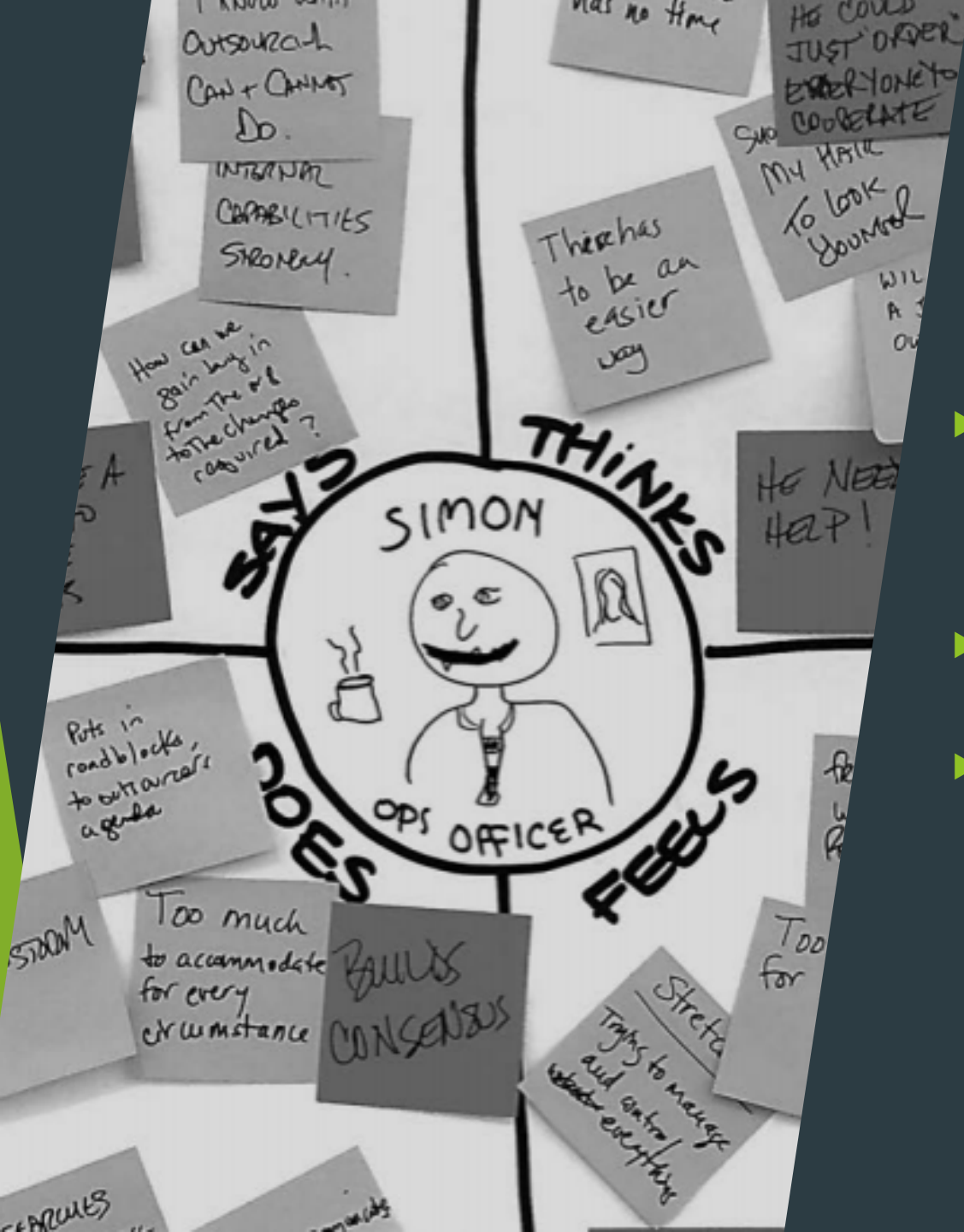
2nd Step - Sketch Your User

- ▶ Think about your problem. Who is your “user”? Who is the person you are designing a solution for?
- ▶ Sketch your user in the center circle of the quadrants
 - ▶ Give them a name
 - ▶ Draw a picture of them
 - ▶ Provide some details of who they are (e.g., a parent who travels with children, a business person who travels for work weekly, etc.)



3rd Step - Ideating

- ▶ Independently: begin brainstorming what/how the user says, thinks, feels, and does in relation to the problem
- ▶ One idea per sticky note - keep it simple
- ▶ Post sticky's in each quadrant



4th Step - Grouping Ideas

As a group, begin reading through the ideas on each quadrant and grouping the ideas together

- ▶ I.e., common themes amongst what you and your peers included under each quadrant
- ▶ Note - there will not always be “perfect” groupings, this is more about getting into each other’s thinking and identifying some common themes



Based on your brainstorm & groupings, do the following on a new piece of chart paper as a group:

- ▶ At the top of the paper write: [our user] needs a way to [addresses this need] so that they [benefit in this way]
- ▶ You will place post-it's below
- ▶ Identify 3-4 “need” statements (*E.g., Toni needs X, Y, Z, so that she can X, Y, Z*)

{Our user}	needs a way to	{addresses this need}	so that they	{benefit in this way.}
{Our user}	needs a way to	{addresses this need}	so that they	{benefit in this way.}
{Our user}	needs a way to	{addresses this need}	so that they	{benefit in this way.}
{Our user}	needs a way to	{addresses this need}	so that they	{benefit in this way.}
{Our user}	needs a way to	{addresses this need}	so that they	{benefit in this way.}

5th Step - Identifying Your User's Needs

6th Step - Brainstorm Solutions

Independently, brainstorm possible solutions to your user's needs - 1 idea per post it note. Place all notes on a new piece of chart paper

- ▶ Quantity over quality
- ▶ Come up with all types of solutions. Imagine there was no financial or material barriers.
 - ▶ Treasure Wild Ducks*
- ▶ No idea is too big, silly, or “not right”
- ▶ Be Brave



7th Step - Identifying 1 Solution that can be Implemented

As a team, review the need statements and solutions

Identify the most important need & solution (this will probably be a combination of multiple) that you would like to present to the user

Choose 1-2 people in your group to present your user, their need, and your recommended solution.



8th Step - Presenting the solution

Each group will...

- ▶ **1 minute** presentation from each group
- ▶ **1 minute** from audience to ask questions/provide constructive or positive feedback



Discussion

- ▶ Have a discussion about the design thinking process.
- ▶ Ask students to talk about their experience as a group or as a whole class.
 - ▶ What was really cool about design thinking?
 - ▶ How did it change the way they solved a problem?
 - ▶ How else can this process be used?



CLOSEOUT

Thank you students
for being learners and
leaders.

