

Guidelines to Implement

Activity Rationale and Aims

Guidelines

01. Consider the nature of the collaboration and the activities to align with the local values and visions.
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02. Engage anew in activities of building trusted teams and identifying and understanding the context.
03. Make the theory of change visible (see “[Make](#)
0UMYHZ[Y\J[\YL =PZPISL” and “[Principled Improvisation](#)”)
04. Identify the values and visions of the audience of where the design outcomes are negotiated amongst collaborators over time, as articulated by Jurow and Freeman (2020) write about an example of a local adaptation of a Fifth Dimension club, EPIC. The design narrative presented in Jurow and Freeman (2020) showcases the importance of adapting programs time and again not only in response to the local context, but in response to political climates and local and national events. Jurow and Freeman (2020) detail the process of how they “systematically and concretely adapted the design of EPIC for children and pre-service teachers to respond to the increasingly explicit racism in US political discourse that fueled Trump’s election and coinciding forms of evading race” (p. 711). This article provides an example of how sustaining research and designed programs involves a continual cycle of renewing the design.
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toward equity, we must hold lightly onto our designs, be willing to let go of features that no longer serve our goals and develop new approaches that can help us achieve them.” This involves holding central community perspectives and adapting to align the design work with the community’s desires, perspectives, and values.

Example from the field

The [Fifth Dimension program](#) is an example of a designed program and research study that has developed into a network of afterschool programs that connect school children to undergraduates from local colleges and universities (Cole & The Distributed Literacy Consortium, 2006). The shared activity emphasizes learning, play, and peer interaction. Researchers and educators have implemented the Fifth Dimension model nationwide, connecting undergraduates and school-aged children and emphasizing learning, play, and interaction. These guiding principles have then been adapted in response to local contexts.

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Commitments to Equity

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to new contexts, it is imperative to bring humility and openness to the process. There is a risk that processes, programs, and tools designed
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dramatically revised to meet the needs of local cultures and geographies. Engaging in activities previously conducted in the original setting, such as understanding the context, exploring values,

and funding will be extremely important so as to mitigate the risk of undermining local knowledge systems and value structures.

Supporting communities to thrive necessitates an understanding of the practices, values, and visions of local communities and then adapting research practices to extend existing practices, align with values, and work towards the communities' visions. Doing this centers care and reciprocity.

Additional Reading

Bell, P. (2004). On the theoretical breadth of design-based research in education. *Educational Psychologist*, 39(4), 243–253.

Lather, P. (1986). Issues of validity in openly a soft place. *Interchange*, 17(4), 63-84.

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Tuck, VES & McKenzie, M. (2015). Relational validity in qualitative research. *Qualitative Inquiry*, 21(7), 633-638.

Gutiérrez, K. D., Morales, P. Z. & Martinez, D.C. (2012). Nondominant communities. *Review of Research in Education*, 33(1), 212-245.

Cole, M. and The Distributed Literacy Consortium (2010). *Program built on diversity*. Russell Sage.

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Jurow, A. S. & Freeman, Q. (2020). Re-mediating concrete. *Information and Learning Science*,