

Research Jamming in a Remote World

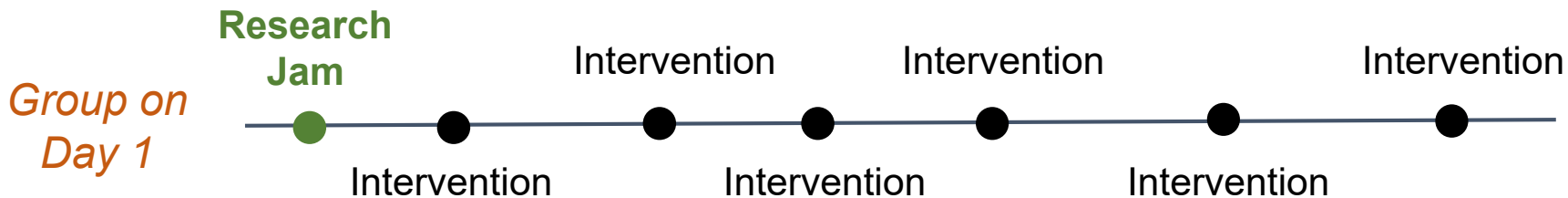
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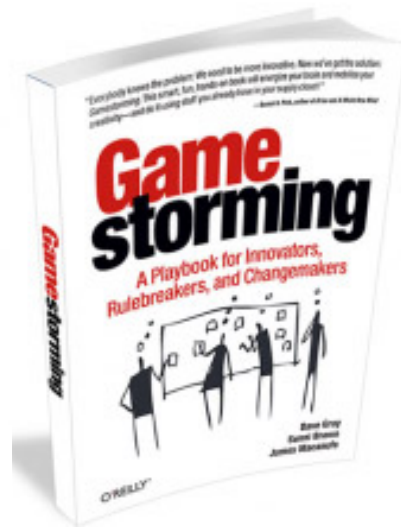
Research Jams

- ❖ Facilitated brainstorming sessions
- ❖ Ideal for new and loosely formed groups tackling a complex research problem
- ❖ Goals are fuzzy



Collaborative grant submission

Designing Research Jams



Affinity Mapping
Sort and cluster ideas based on relationships

Dot Voting
Use dots to prioritize and converge upon an agreed solution

Types of Cats

- Maine Coon ●●●●●
- Birman ●●
- Ocicat ●●●●●

Pecha Kucha
Fast, structured talks that enable people to share ideas quickly:

- Example: 20 slides, 20 seconds per slide
- Slides advance automatically

NUF Test
Provides a reality check on proposed ideas; tally results

	New	Useful	Feasible
Thing 1	7	5	1
Thing 2	2	9	7
Thing 3	4	5	3

Pre-Mortem
Directly address risks at project conception

Original Goals

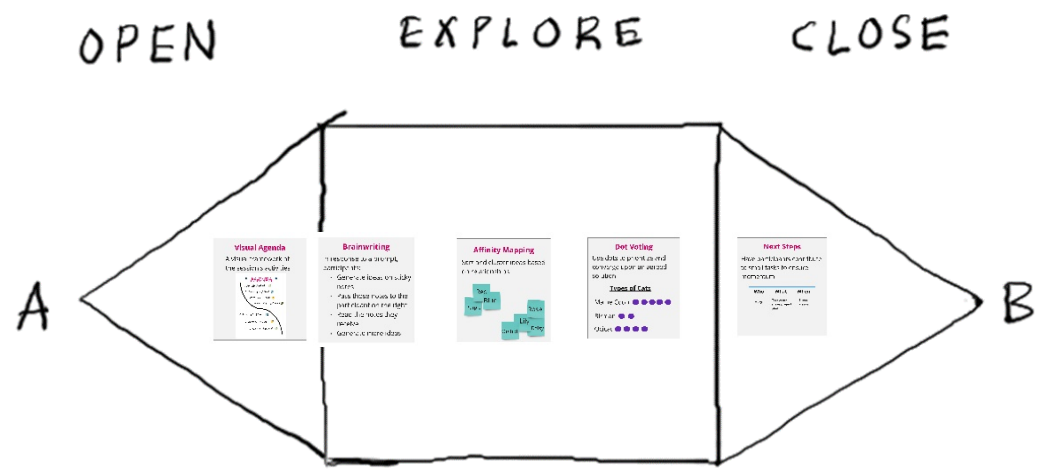
1. _____
2. _____

Original Plan

1. _____

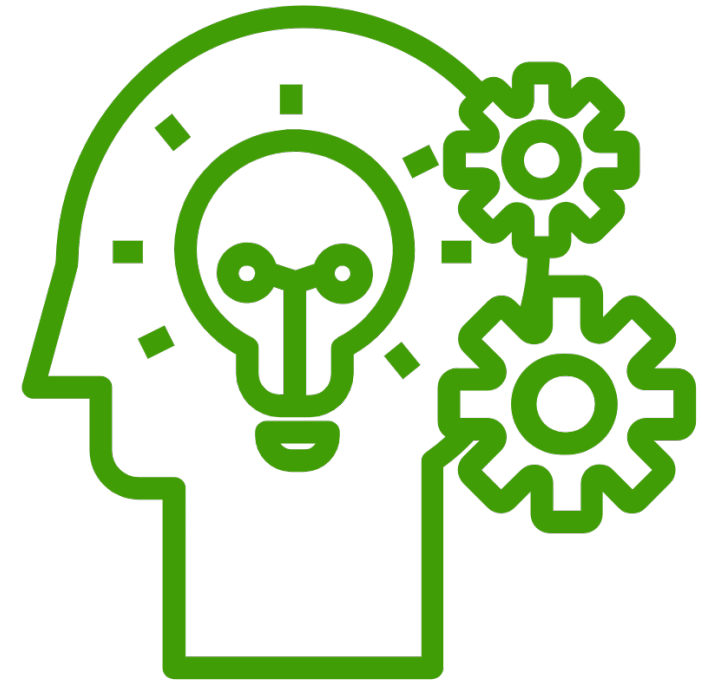
What went wrong?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



A Few Design Thinking Principles

- ❖ Understanding 'user' needs
- ❖ Making things visual
- ❖ Amplifying diversity
- ❖ Bias towards action




Research Jam in Action: Scoliosis Research



Research Jam | Scoliosis Research


Setting the Stage





MICHIGAN INSTITUTE
FOR CLINICAL &
HEALTH RESEARCH
ESTABLISHED 2006

Amy's Experience with Scoliosis



At her 11 year old well-child exam, Amy's pediatrician suspects scoliosis and refers her to orthopedic surgeon Dr. Smith

12 year old Amy & her family have been in "watchful waiting" with X-rays every 4-6 months to monitor her curve


6 months later, Amy's curve has worsened and Dr. Smith prescribes a back brace to wear 18-23 hours/day

13 year old Amy's curve has progressed, despite wearing a brace; Dr. Smith recommends surgery

What is scoliosis?
A curvature and rotation of the spine. Scoliosis prevalence in the US is ~3-4% (curves >10°), and girls are more commonly affected than boys (up to 10:1 for severe cases)


Why is scoliosis harmful?
It's not just about looks. Scoliosis can lead to health issues, such as:
- Pain
- Mental health issues
- Lung and heart issues

What are the current treatment options?
- Observation ("watchful waiting")
- Bracing
- Casting (in early onset)
- Physical therapy
- Surgery




Amy's curve is not large enough to prescribe a brace, but Dr. Smith is worried her curve will get worse as she grows

"I've seen so many girls Amy's age have rapid curve increases and go on to surgery. I wish we could prevent that."
- Dr. Smith




Mom worries about another one of Amy's X-ray appointments

"Amy has had so many x-rays as a kid already and that can't be healthy. There must be a better way to perform these frequent measurements."
- Mom




Amy just wants to fit in at middle school

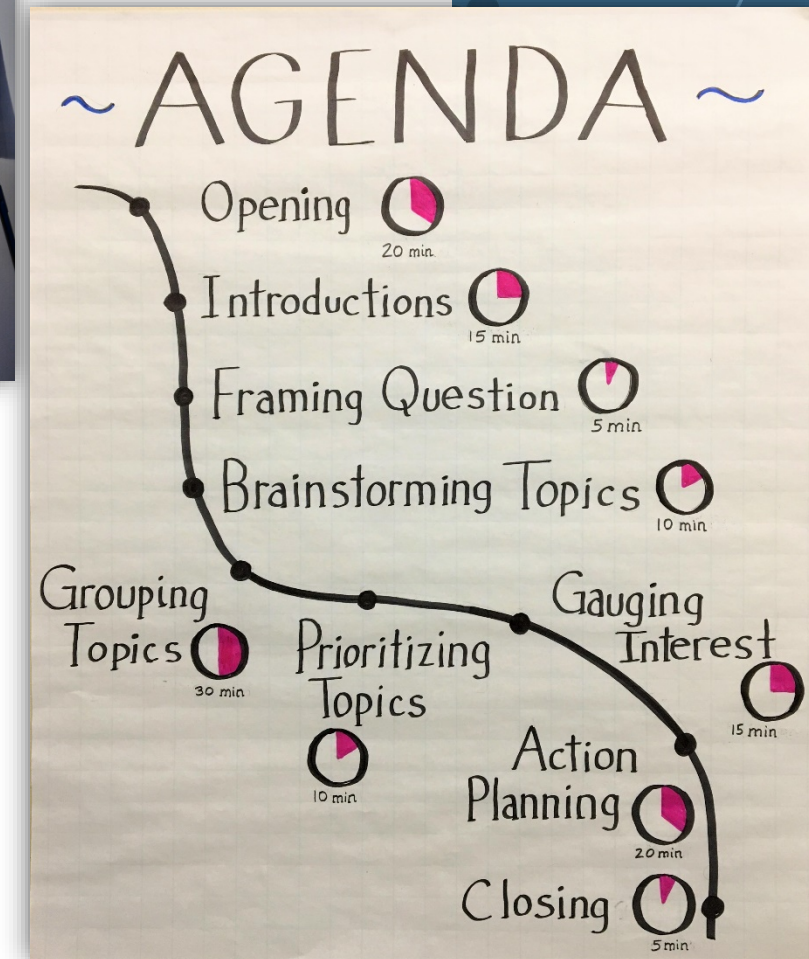
"I'm getting really hot in this sweater but hopefully it's hiding my brace. I feel like everyone is looking at me - I'm definitely not going to raise my hand."
- Amy



Amy is exasperated that she followed the rules but still needs surgery

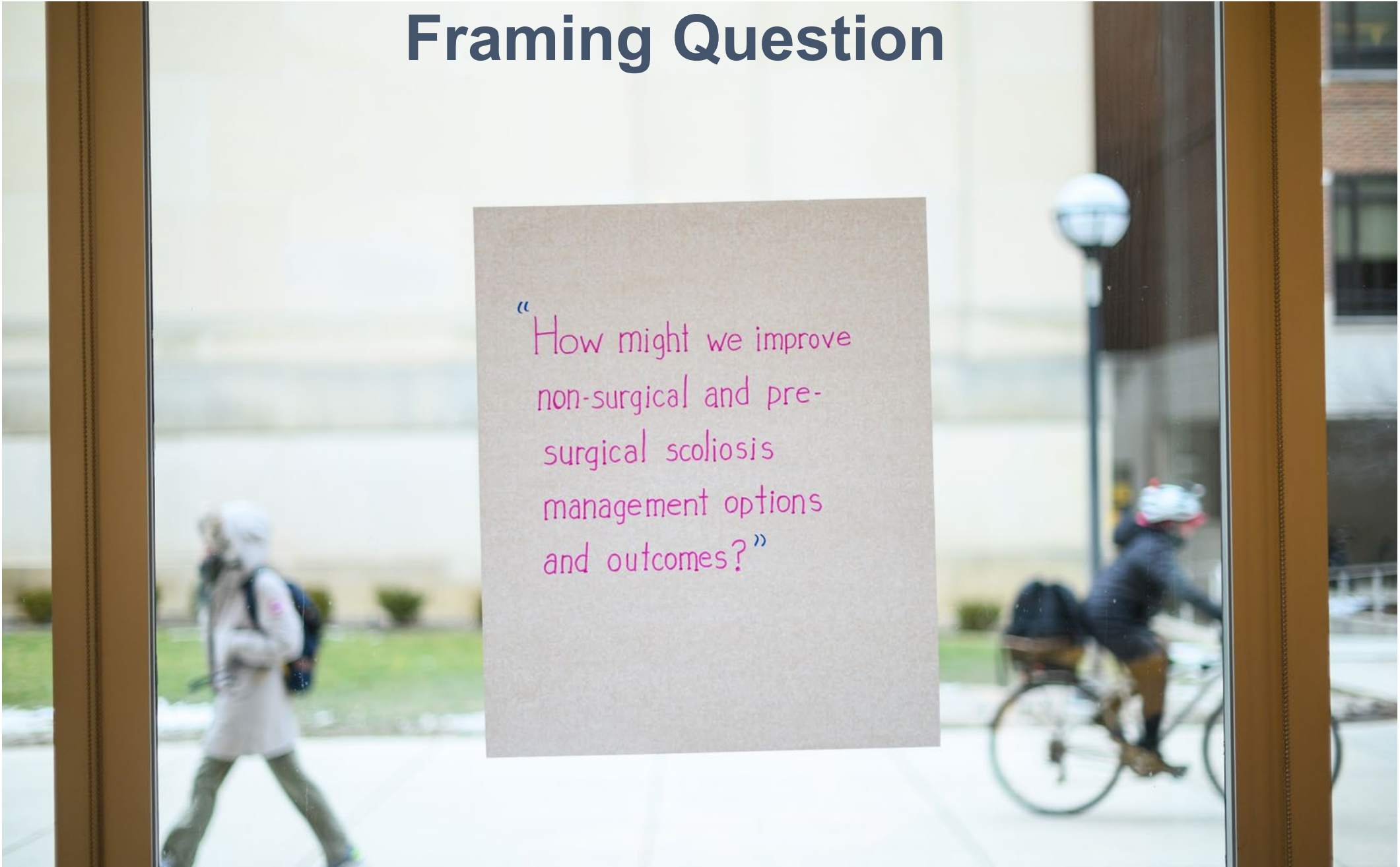
"I don't understand. I've been wearing my brace EVERY day but it's not working - what is the use? Plus, all of my favorite clothes are getting holes from the stupid brace."
- Amy





Framing Question

“How might we improve non-surgical and pre-surgical scoliosis management options and outcomes?”



Research Jam | Scoliosis Research

Ideation and Thematizing

What collection of **BROAD RESEARCH TOPICS** would we need to pursue to address the framing question? “**Brainwriting**”



Affinity Mapping



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Action Planning



Research Jams: A Remote World

