ACTIVATING: GATES HILLSIDE
Weee Garden

Alice Grantham | Mike Lin | Spencer Sugarman | Christine Wu | Jacky Yip

USER RESEARCH
discovering user needs

Like it because it is quiet and not many people know about it.

Grass is nice. Shade is nice.

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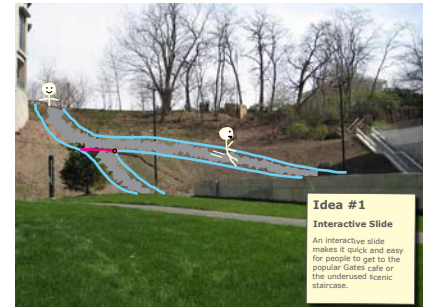Like it because it is quiet and not many people know about it.

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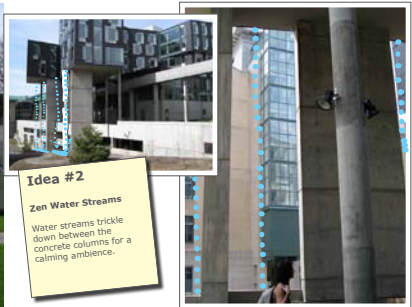
"Please don't change it. It's where I go to escape."

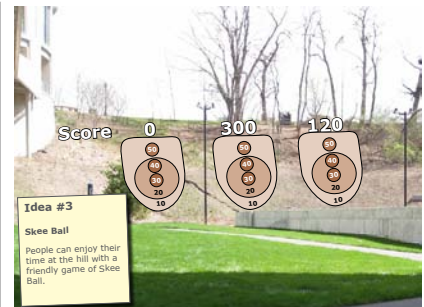"If I wanted crowds, I'd go to the UC where the cut is."

20 CONCEPTS
ambience, entertainment, needs

Idea #1
Interactive Slide
An interactive slide makes it quick and easy for people to get to the popular Gates cafe or the underused scenic staircase.

Idea #2
Zen Water Streams
Water streams trickle down between the concrete columns for a calming ambience.

Idea #3
Skee Ball
People can enjoy their time at the hill with a friendly game of Skee Ball.

Score   0   300   120

Idea #4
PowerUp Mushrooms
Colorful mushrooms widely dispersed on the lawn that conceal power outlets but can also be used as stools for sitting.

Idea #5
Lounging on the lee.
Place sets of colorful lawn chairs along plush terraced hillside for a moment of solitude or quiet time between two.

Idea #6
Waterfall Movie
Screen made up of water falling off the side of the Gates building. Project movie on it so people can congregate and watch the movie at their leisure.

Idea #7
Hill Movie
Movie is projected on side of hill, which is perfect for a wide audience viewing.

Idea #8
Under cover
Abstract animal shapes with hollow center shielding laptop from glare or to tuck one's head in for shade while napping.

Idea #9
Interactive Waterfall
Lawn areas have pressure sensors such that if enough people sit on it, concrete blocks move out to block path of waterfall and create patterns.
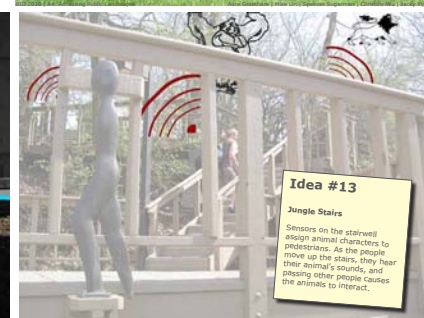
Idea #10
Plinko
People from the cut can drop balls down the hill for a fun game of plinko.

Idea #11
Dome of Silence
When audio sensors (e.g., microphones) detect loud noises from a distance, a soundproof dome encloses the public space.

Idea #12
LED Guide Lights
LED lights line the path from Gates to the cut, helping to show the connection between seemingly disconnected areas.
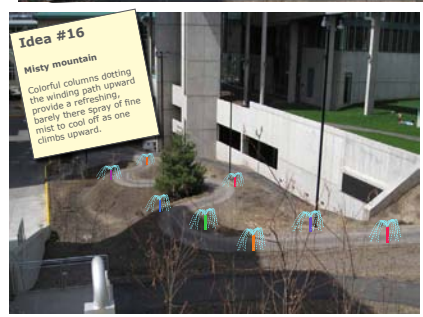
Idea #13
Jungle Stairs
Sensors on the stairwell assign animal characters to pedestrians. As the people move up the stairs, they hear their animal's sounds, and passing other people causes the animals to interact.
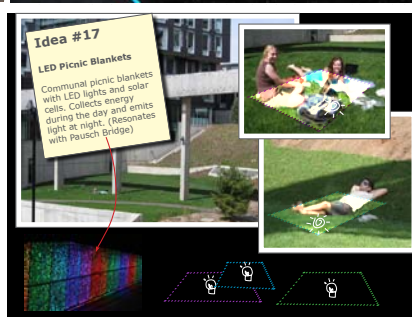
Idea #14
Community Garden
Plant herbs and place "thirst indicators" along the path, plus faucets and watering cans at "entrances" and "exits" of the path.

Idea #15
Rope Ladder
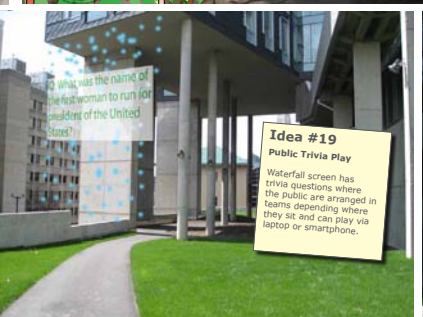Childhood days were cool. So were rope ladders. Climb at your own risk.

Idea #16
Misty mountain
Colorful columns dotting the winding path upward provide a refreshing, barely there spray of fine mist to cool off as one climbs upward.

Idea #17
LED Picnic Blankets
Communal picnic blankets with LED lights and solar cells. Collects energy during the day and emits light at night. (Resonates with Pausch Bridge)

Idea #18
Outdoor Classroom
Augmented reality app for viewing lectures and other goings-on inside Gates. Students can bring the classroom outside during nice weather.

Idea #19
Public Trivia Play
Waterfall screen has trivia questions where the public are arranged in teams depending where they sit and can play via laptop or smartphone.

Idea #20
Paintball Art
Students can use paint balls to create spontaneous, temporary art on the concrete columns. Water falls from the top to wash off the paint.

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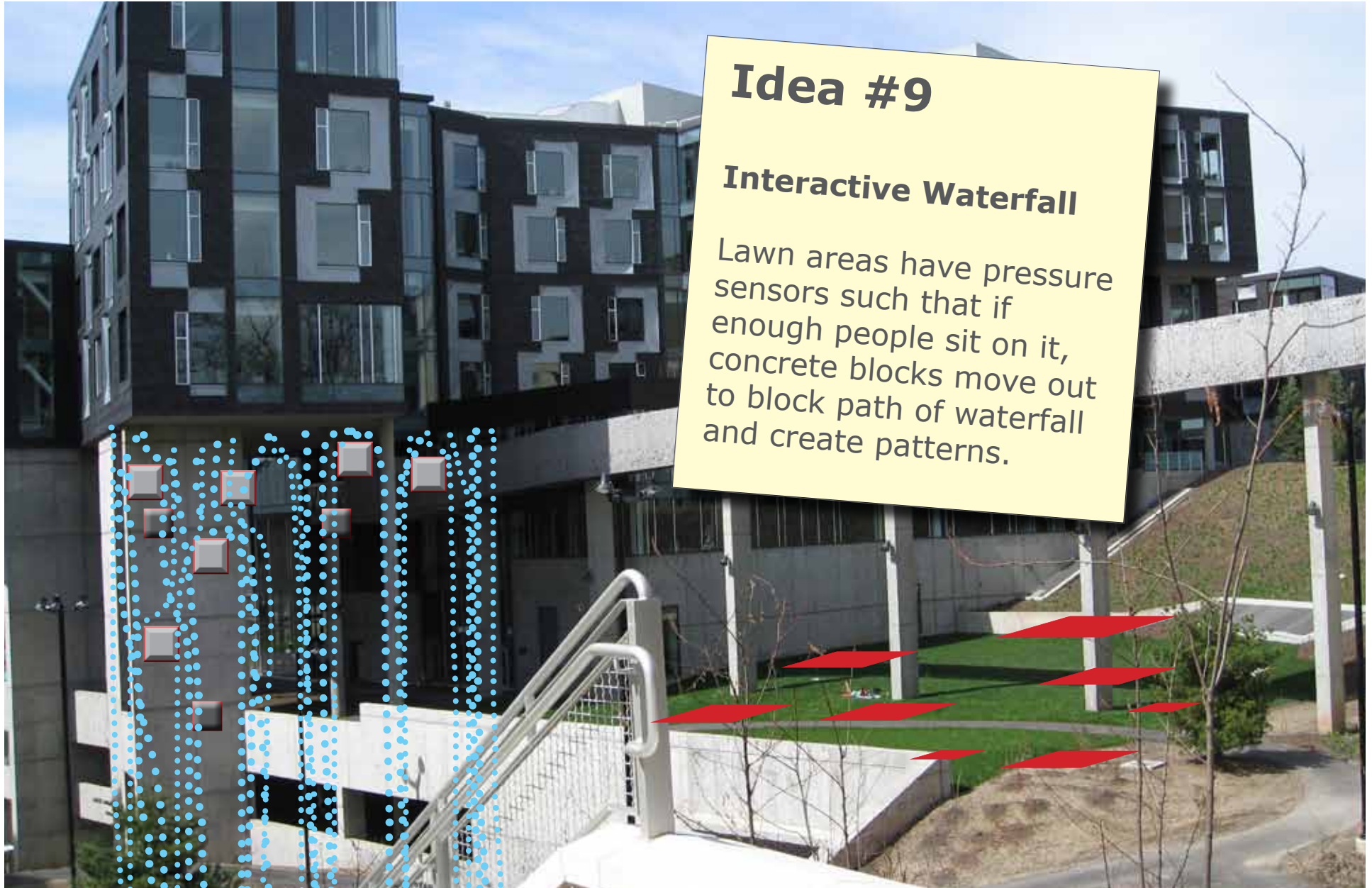
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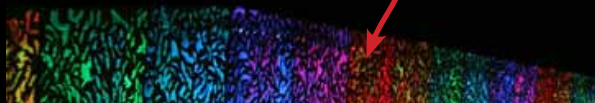Alice Grantham | Mike Lin | Spencer Sugarman | Christine Wu | Jacky Yip

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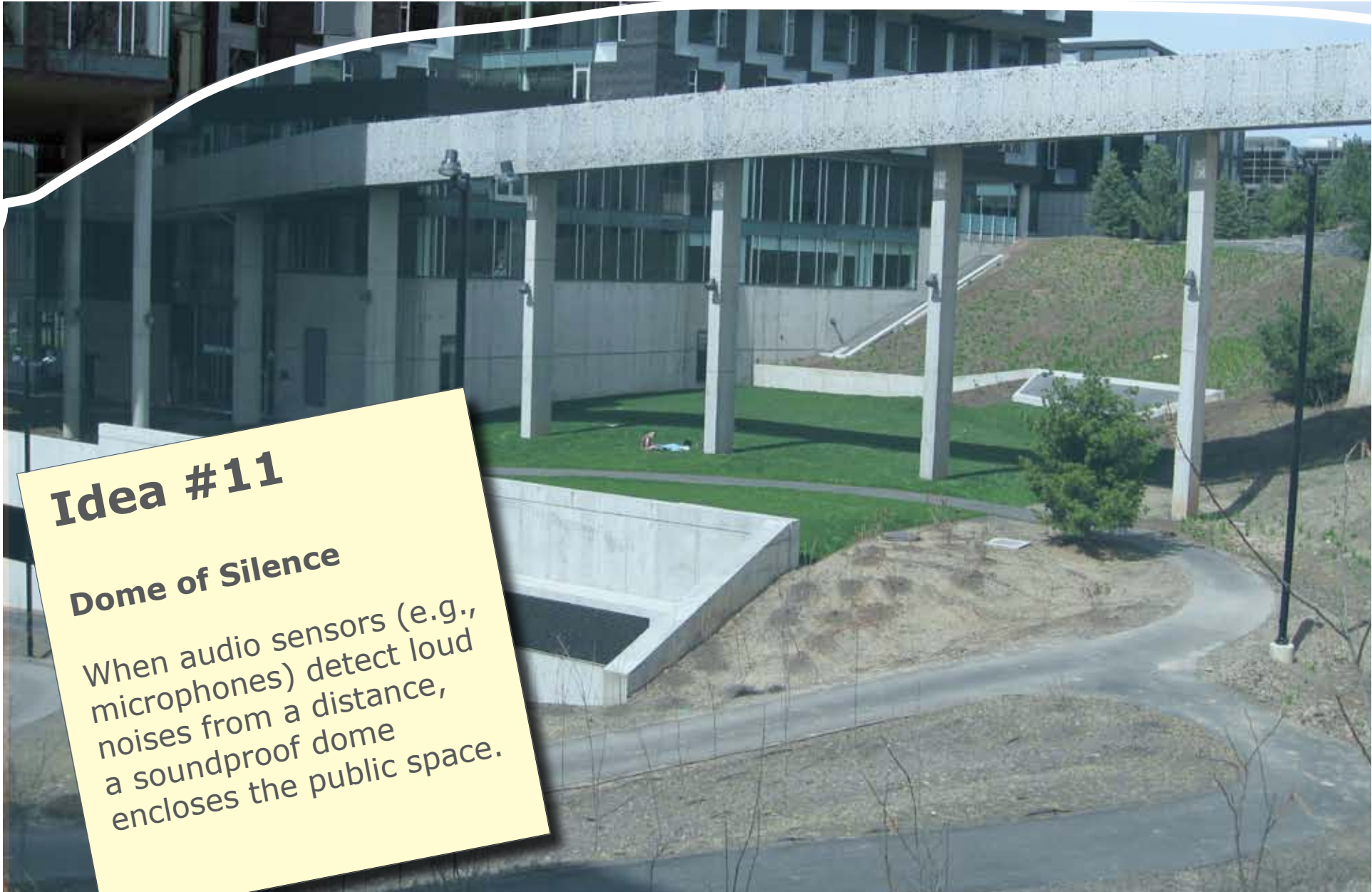Powerup mushrooms

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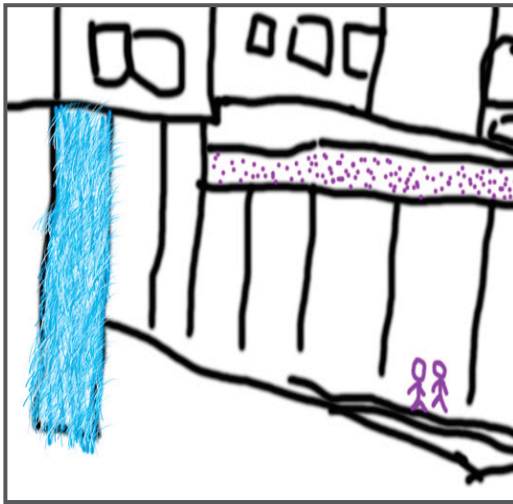
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Spearmint

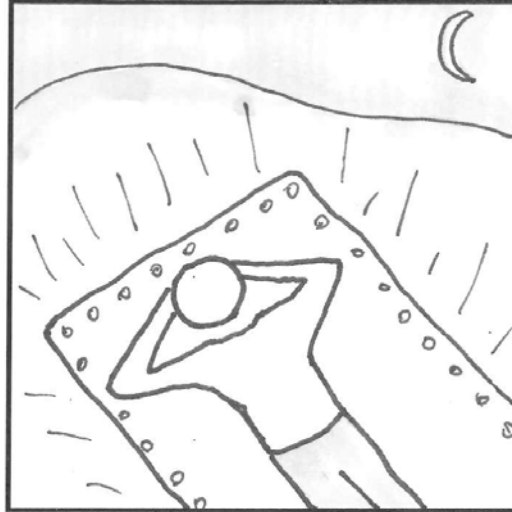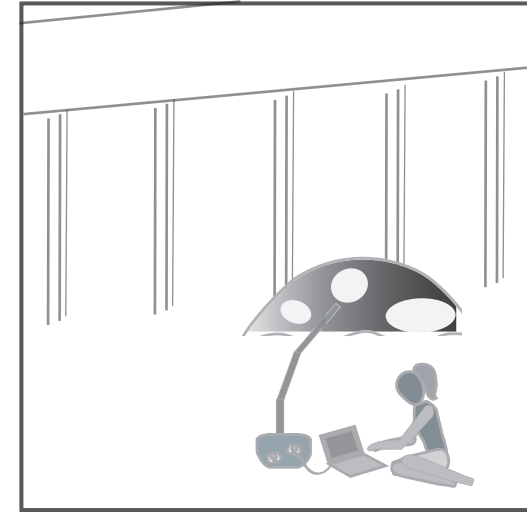Alice Grantham | Mike Lin | Spencer Sugarman | Christine Wu | Jacky Yip

5 CONCEPTS
needs validation

1. Zen Waterfall

2. LED Blankets

3. Mushroom Shade

4. Noise Cancellation

SELECT SOUNDS
TO CANCEL

ALL

outside
3m radius

5. Secret Garden

5 CONCEPTS
speed dating results

5 Users

Each concept was speed dated at least 4 times

1. **Zen Waterfall** - Background is best. Not too engaging.

2. **LED Blankets** - Will charge blanket during day, but less likely to use at night.

3. **Mushroom Shade** - Outlets and shade are cool, but unsure about delivery mechanism.

4. **Noise Cancellation** - Seems cool. but unsure of need.

5. **Secret Garden** - Will water plants if need is obvious AR interaction could be cool.

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WEEE GARDEN
it's a small secret

Secret Garden

Located in low-traffic area. Only discoverable by those who know it. Small, non-intrusive installment that blends well.

Secret Connection

Plants will remember you (face-recognition cameras). Plants will respond to you (motorized planters) and not others.

Secret Portal

Who else comes here? What happens when I'm not here? Use augmented reality (smart phone app) to discover more in-depth information.

WEEE GARDEN
it's a small secret

Hidden cameras for face recognition

Plaques with instructions & QR code

Underground View

Yellow and green LED ropes

Plants are inside planters with attached motors so they can wiggle back and forth

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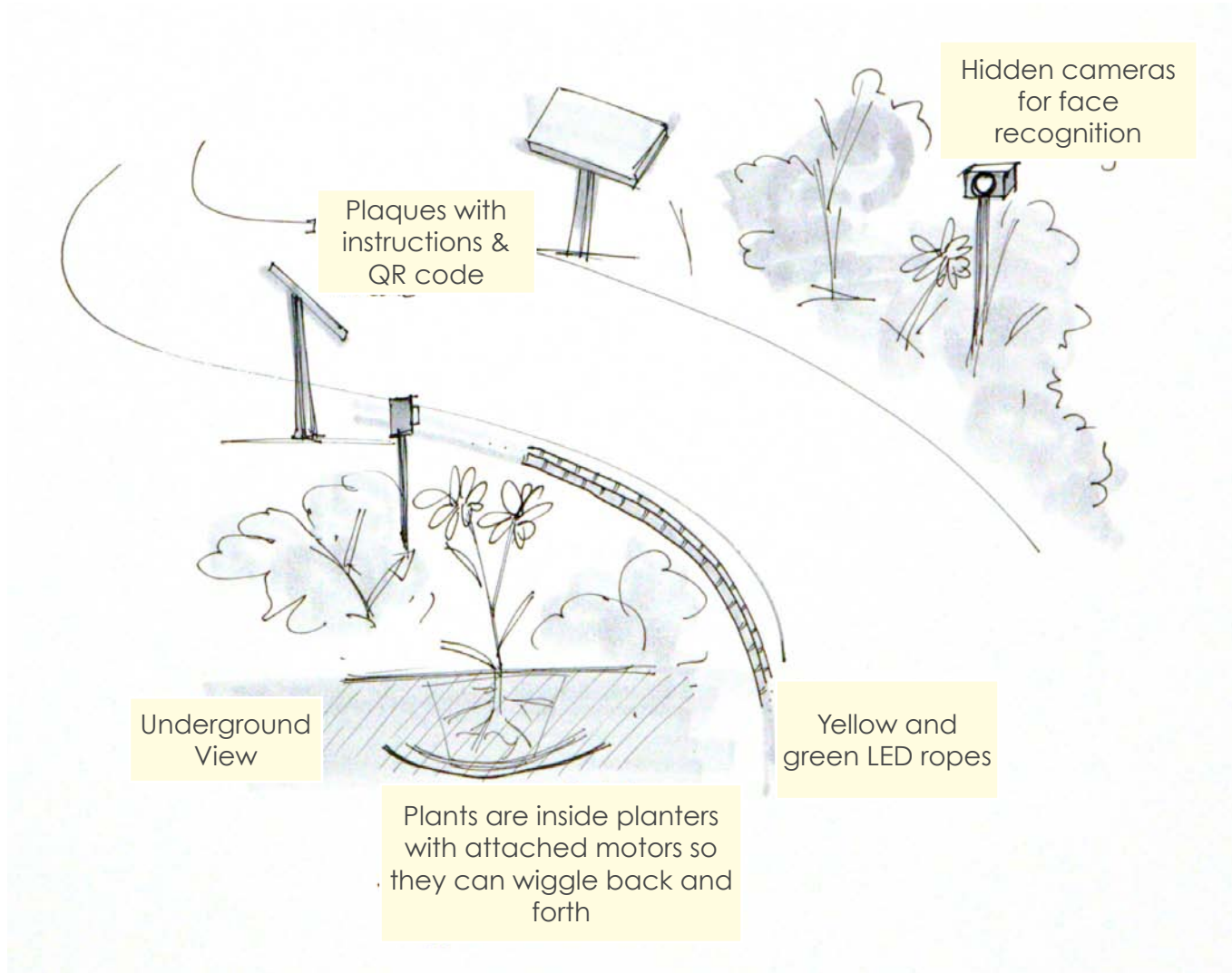
WEEE GARDEN
persona

Jaqueline Chan
27 years old
Lives in Squirrel Hill
Works as a research assistant at Gates

Jaqueline (Jackie) is a graduate student at CMU. Her research forces her to spend most of her time indoors. She works on her computer all the time, so much that sometimes she just wants to avoid technology.

Whenever she can, she like to go outdoors to enjoy the sun. The Gates hillside is her favorite hideaway because it is quiet and free of crowds.

VIDEO SKETCH: Weee Garden

Jackie's Secret

Alice Grantham | Mike Lin | Spencer Sugarman | Christine Wu | Jacky Yip

VIDEO SKETCH RECAP
notices yellow LEDs along the path are lit

Alice Grantham | Mike Lin | Spencer Sugarman | Christine Wu | Jacky Yip

VIDEO SKETCH RECAP
reads plaque to figure out what's going on

Alice Grantham | Mike Lin | Spencer Sugarman | Christine Wu | Jacky Yip

VIDEO SKETCH RECAP
waters plants until the green LEDs light up

VIDEO SKETCH RECAP
plants wiggle in happiness after getting water

Alice Grantham | Mike Lin | Spencer Sugarman | Christine Wu | Jacky Yip

VIDEO SKETCH RECAP
uses AR to find in-depth information

Alice Grantham | Mike Lin | Spencer Sugarman | Christine Wu | Jacky Yip
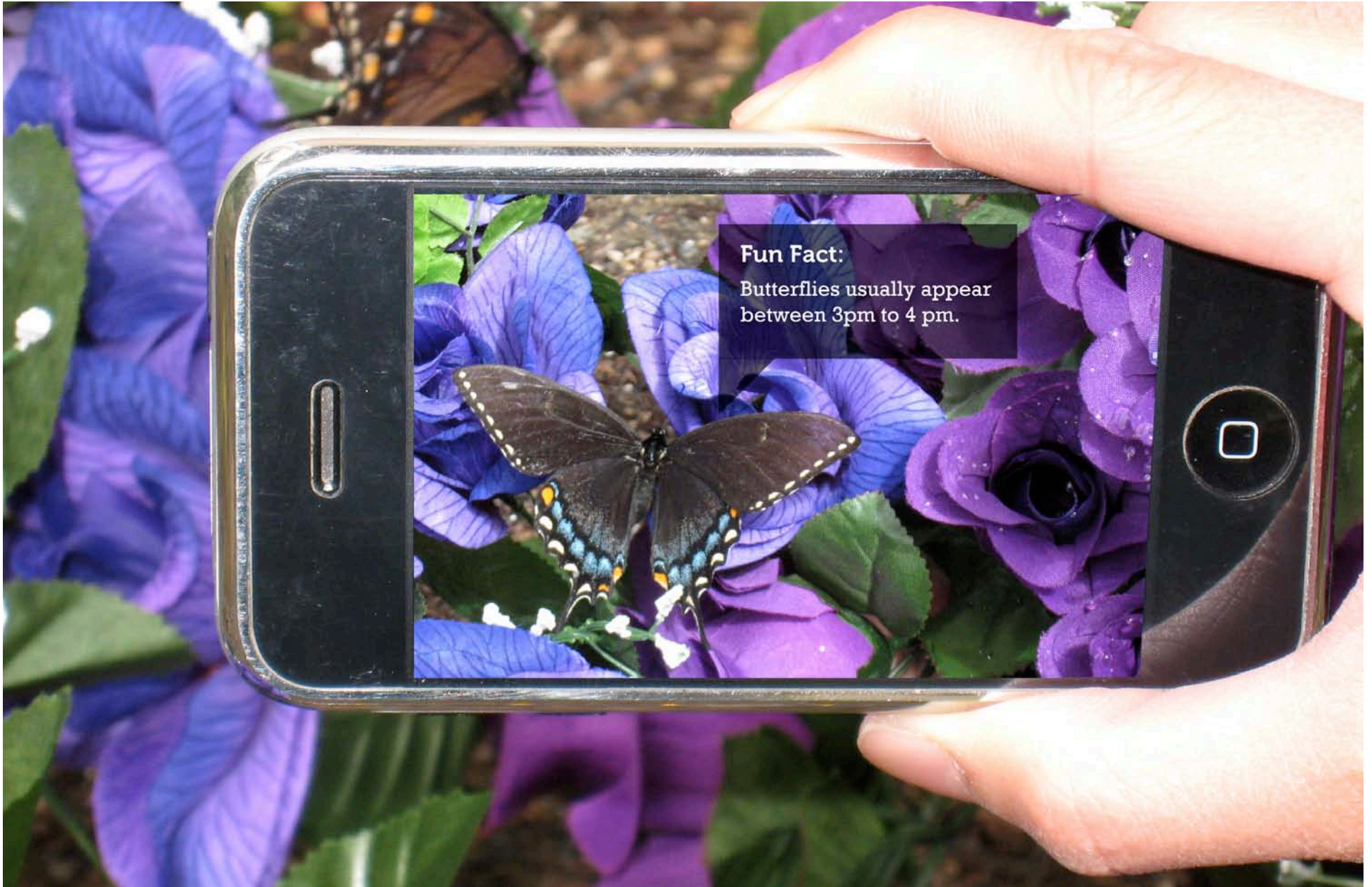
THANK YOU. ANY QUESTIONS?
Weee Garden

Alice Grantham | Mike Lin | Spencer Sugarman | Christine W.. Jacky ..p

WEEE GARDEN
mood board

Connect with nature

An escape....
A portal...

Alice Grantham | Mike Lin | Spencer Sugarman | Christine Wu | Jacky Yip