

Topic: So much of our lives in the city consist of a non-stop schedule that does not allow us “smell the roses” and take in the surroundings. Setting up of a “Take a book, Give a book” shelf of books. People with Near Field Communication (NFC) phones or cards would hold it up in front of a Radio Frequency Technology (RFID) scanner to scan to have access to the bookshelf. Then, they basically “Take a book, Give a book” by scanning both books. It would be recorded into the scanner’s card or phone and the main database.

2) What: I learnt to include all social norms of society living in the city when forming a platform for all citizens to come together to share their pursuits. Such factors included costs and culture.

3) Where: It is to be set up at my country, Malaysia, placed at bus stops and overhead bridges as those are the facilities most used by pedestrians.

4) Who: I engaged with the locals of my neighbourhood through surveys and a mock project. Libraries and bookshops in the city were also visited. Because my country is a multi-cultural society, not everybody reads English. In fact, we have four main languages- Malay, Mandarin, Tamil and English. We have yet to recognize the dialects and the immigrant languages such as Indonesian, Cantonese, Burmese and so on so forth. Many also showed interest in the cost above all else before engaging in the project.

5) How: After many trips to my hometown, I realized everybody knew just about everything about everybody. Sharing our pursuits with others through portable pages gets us a little more into the sense of community among the rush hours of the city.

a. Data Analysis: Setting up a prototype in a controlled environment in a library event did not render as good results as the prototype set up in also a controlled environment but in a public event. Reasons are probably due to the wider range of interests received by the public. Much publicity should have been done instead as in order for them to take a book, they have to give a book and did not participate wholly due to the fuss of not having a book.

b. Design: I’ve completed this project with research on Radio Frequency Technology (RFID) and Near Field Communication (NFC). With that, these technologies were integrated into a “library card” that just about anybody could afford instead of relying on a specific model of phone. A lock system for the glass of the shelves that correlates to the Radio Frequency Technology (RFID) was also looked into. Due to the wide range of interests and languages, an app was also proposed to be made in order for citizens to find a certain book available at certain bookshelves in certain areas. The app could also show the most popular books of the moment and feature some events. They could also track where their books went!

c. Challenge: There was a “build a library for an orphanage” when I was in school. I found out that a bookshelf can also be places of socializing and community building. Probably engaging volunteers in building the libraries of this project would cause a sense of community too. At certain train stations, art work was incorporated in order to add a sense of aesthetics too. Therefore, I hope that our bookshelves can also be works of art in the concrete jungle.

6) Final Product: Refer to the last page please.

7) Who did you work with: Myself

The concept:



Imagine a library..

*..where you can
engage
socially..*

..anywhere, anytime for anybody.

*"Take a book, Give a book" today!
Log on to tabgab.org to learn
more about your 24-hour friendly
aesthetics coming near you!*

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