

Exhibit Host Interactive Activity Guide and Design Brief Template

DesignRVA introduces children ages 8-14 to the design of our area, while informing them how their voices can be a part of the planning, creation, and improvement of the places where we live, work, and play. As an Exhibit Host, you will be creating an interactive activity to collaborate with children and families to build elements of a neighborhood. Children will take their elements that they build at your station and place it on a designated neighborhood map that will evolve throughout the day and build a shared vision of a more equitably built environment.

To help you get started, here are a few recommendations when crafting your interactive activity.

- Keep in mind the age group of the children. It may be best to focus on the mindset of an 8-10-year-old to ensure your activity will be understood by all participants.
- Simplicity is key! Keep the activity simple so that children understand the prompt without a lot of guidance and can finish building their element. There will be multiple stations at the event, so attendees may only spend a short time at your station.
- Easy to read signage will be important to guide participants through the activity. Refer to the next page for an overview for setting up a design brief.
- Be creative with materials. With such a short amount of time to build elements, recycled products such as cardboard could work great. Have fun, but please keep sustainability in mind when selecting materials.



Design Brief Template

Storefront for Community Design encourages you to create a design brief for your interactive activity that you can display at your table during the event. Below is a sample template with examples.

1. Theme: What theme is your activity based on (housing, transportation, land use, or health & wellness)?

Example: Transportation

2. Design Challenge: The overall question at DesignRVA is "What do you want your neighborhood to look like?" Using that question, create a design challenge for children to create a specific element that can be placed on the designated neighborhood map.

Example: "Your challenge is to design and create a futuristic form of transportation"

3. Criteria: Provide a few items for the children to think about when designing and creating their element.

Example: "Your form of transportation will move a certain number of people from one location to another"

Example: "Include an energy source on your form of transportation"

4. Materials and Tools: Provide an overview of materials and tools to be used

Example of materials: Boxes, tape, and string Example of tools: markers, pencils, and tape





image: A similar activity where students were asked to design elements based on a theme and create a city. (Ref. The Steward School)



