

BRAINSTORM WITH YOUR FRIENDS & WORKMATES

Thanks for your interest in involving your friends, colleagues or family in #WTF Australia. This guide will give you tips on running a simple 1-hour event to generate great ideas to submit for a chance to win. This guide could be used to run events at your school, local club, workplace, at the pub or around the family dinner table.

1 FIND A VENUE, SET A TIME AND INVITE YOUR FRIENDS

You may wish to use this guide in the classroom or at a regular club meeting, but if you're looking at holding a new event the first step is to find a venue, set a time for the event and invite people to come along.

2 HAVE SOME SUPPLIES READY

People like to brainstorm in different ways, but having some butchers paper, pens and post it notes available can be helpful. If you don't have a computer and internet connection available at the time of the event, make sure you have a way of recording the ideas to be entered into wtf.org.au. You could print out a couple of copies of the submission form and take them along.

3 SO I HAVE EVERYONE HERE, WHAT DO I DO NOW?

There are six steps on the other side of this leaflet that should take no more than an hour. It could take a lot less depending on the challenge you are solving and the people you are working with. Nominate someone to monitor the time and keep you on track.

The first four steps will help people at your event better understand the challenge they are trying to solve, while steps five to six focus on developing ideas to submit. It may feel a little funny spending so much time upfront talking about the challenge, but remember Albert Einstein, one of the smartest men of this age, said, "The formation of the problem is often more essential than its solution".

STEP 1: CHOOSE YOUR CHALLENGE 🕒 5 min

Visit wtf.org.au and pick one of the 12 challenges you would like to work on. It is even better if participants can do this in advance of your event. If you have a large number of people, split them into smaller groups of four or more. Each group can identify which challenge they would like to work on.

STEP 2: EXPLORE 🕒 15 min

Discuss the challenge as a group. Have someone take notes so you can keep track of the issues. Does it affect someone more than others? What experiences have people had with existing services that attempt to address it? What do you like about what is currently happening? What do you want to see more/less of?

STEP 3: WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? 🕒 10 min

Each person then tries to write a problem statement for an issue that was discussed. It should take the format of:

So and so (e.g. my local community, my grandpa, my school, health care providers, anyone really) needs a way (e.g. be healthier, have a shorter commute, learn better, feel safe) so that (e.g. they have higher quality of life, can work harder, spend more time with the kids, feel happier)

For example: If you were addressing a sample challenge “How might we make it easier for those who need a doctor or dentist to see one?”, your problem statement might be:

(a) My grandpa (who rides a scooter) needs a way to remember everything his doctor tells him in appointments so that he can go to the doctor once a month for his regular check-up (he's stopped going because he doesn't see the point as he forgets what he has been told and I'm unable to attend regular monthly appointments as I work full time, far away from the doctor's office).

(b) My teenage daughter needs a way to feel comfortable visiting the GP to talk about whether or not she has depression so that she can get the help she needs, if she needs it.

STEP 4: REFINE YOUR PROBLEM 🕒 5 min

As a group share your problem statements with each other. If someone likes another person's problem statement, they can work on developing a solution to

it together or separately. This solution is the idea you are going to submit at wtf.org.au. Let's say you picked the first example above about your grandfather visiting the doctor.

STEP 5: WHAT'S YOUR SOLUTION 🕒 15 min

Allow time for each person to write down an idea for solving their problem statement. If post it notes are available, get them to write each idea on a different note. No idea is too silly or out there. Then spend the remainder of the time as a group sharing your ideas. See if you can build off each other's ideas and collaborate if you want to join ideas together.

For example: in response to the challenge about your grandfather not remembering what his doctor tells him and you not being able to attend in person, solutions could be: doctor's surgeries allowing designated family members or friends to phone into an appointment; or doctors having opening hours outside 9-5; doctor's surgeries writing down clear notes for patients and a designated family member or friend from the consultation.

STEP 6: SUBMIT YOUR IDEA! 🕒 10 min

With your list of ideas pick one or more you like the most. Then go to wtf.org.au, click CRAFT AN IDEA and provide as much information you can about the particular problem and solution you have come up with and then submit! Don't forget to go back and add people as collaborators if you worked with someone on coming up with your idea.

FINALLY: REMEMBER TO SHARE AND VOTE

When you're done, make sure you share your idea on your social networks by clicking the 'Share' button. And then vote for other ideas that you think are important for Australia too. Go to wtf.org.au to view submitted ideas and show your support. Remember, submitted ideas will be shortlisted by popular vote, so be sure to get your mates to vote for your idea!

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you're thinking of running a brainstorming event or have any questions about #WTF Australia, please send an email to:

wtf@australianfutures.org

We look forward to receiving your ideas!