Applying The Systems Perspective

System: diagram descriptions dynamics

- me and my concepts
- you and your concepts
- someone and her concepts
- another and his concepts

? reality ? ? ?
When And Why

- More than 4 chunks
- Designing a new project
- Perplexing issue
- Need a shared understanding
- Resolving conflicts
- For the delight of discovery
Surface Your Thoughts

- What are the key parts in your system?
- What are the key relationships in your system?
- Use flexible tools: post-its, software, lists
WHY BLOG?

For an external
centralized viewpoint

A space for
collaborations

Personal space
for thoughts

Networking, remit

As a collection
of memory/journey

a culture of progress

Podcasts, writing

art/music

public arenas

academic

purposes

LINKS

Socialization

To create

To

To

To

To

Broadcast,

updating

News media

Academic

Watercooler

Contact

Work

Social

Twitter

microblogging

work, contact

stream

micrologging: immediate, instant updates (LIVE FEED)

Team writing

skills/journey

Learning to do

sketching
The Value Of This First Step

• Externalizes many more chunks than we can hold in working memory

• Shares those chunks; allows group brain dump

• Doesn’t require a story
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stories</th>
<th>Maps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Character</strong></td>
<td><strong>a linear trail through the landscape of thought</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Best for</strong></td>
<td><strong>describing the past or a single scenario</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Downside</strong></td>
<td><strong>puts you in a groove</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Value Of This First Step

- Externalizes many more chunks than we can hold in working memory
- Shares those chunks; allows group brain dump
- Doesn’t require a story
- Essential neutral starting point for making links
Build The Diagram

- Start simple; start comfortable
- Timeline or structure diagram?
# Timeline

## Gantt Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Task</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task 1</td>
<td>July 02, 2013</td>
<td>July 19, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task 2</td>
<td>July 04, 2013</td>
<td>July 29, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task 3</td>
<td>June 20, 2013</td>
<td>July 03, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task 1</td>
<td>July 08, 2013</td>
<td>July 12, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task 2</td>
<td>July 10, 2013</td>
<td>July 17, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task 3</td>
<td>July 11, 2013</td>
<td>July 24, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task 4</td>
<td>July 17, 2013</td>
<td>July 22, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Task 1</td>
<td>July 22, 2013</td>
<td>July 29, 2013</td>
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<tr>
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<td>July 01, 2013</td>
<td>August 10, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task 3</td>
<td>June 12, 2013</td>
<td>July 05, 2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Build The Diagram

- Start simple; start comfortable
- Timeline or structure diagram?
- It’s an art, just like making a good outline
- Expect to grow and refine your diagram over time
The Value Of This Second Step

- Externalizes many more chunks and relationships than we can hold internally.
The Value Of This Second Step
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The Value Of This Second Step

- Externalizes many more chunks and relationships than we can hold internally
- Shares those elements; allows group modeling
- Models many aspects of the real world better than linear stories
- Supports multiple valid stories
Add Descriptions

- Give depth to the diagram
- Keep diverse views
- Only do what serves
Add Dynamics

• Can be qualitative or math
• Build in appropriate “sliders”
• Only do what serves
What can you do to move more gracefully into the Planetary Era?
Inhabit Your Optimal Zone

Performance

High

Low

Neurological Arousal

High

Low

Trauma Load

Heal, Have Fun
And
Get Tasks Done

Low

High
Use A Systems Perspective

System: diagram descriptions dynamics

- me and my concepts
- you and your concepts
- someone and her concepts
- another and his concepts

???

reality

???
Find Your Way To Make A Difference

Sustainability

Connectivity

Diversity

Innovate

Implement

Educate

Self-organization
Thank You!

www.context.org