

AutSPACEs

**a co-created & open source citizen science project for
sensory processing in autistic people**

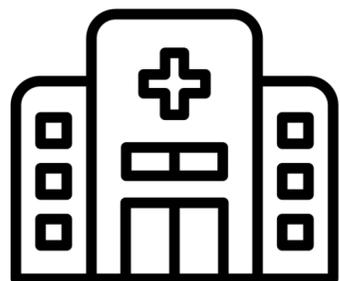
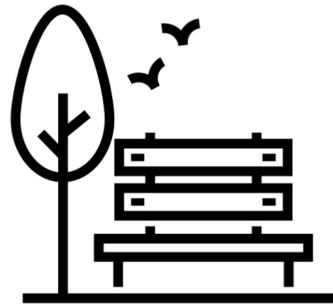
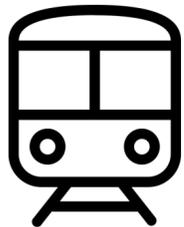
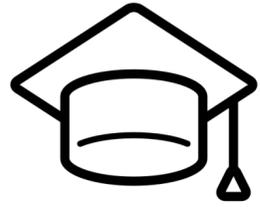
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90% of autistic people process sensory information differently from non-autistic people

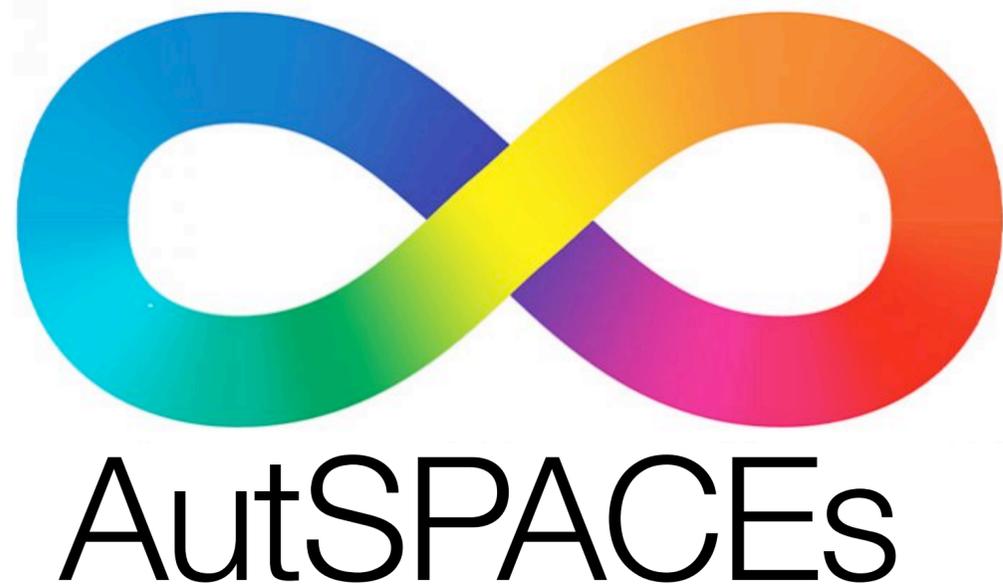
A community priority



? Top ten questions for
autism research

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- 5. Which **environments/supports** are **most appropriate** in terms of achieving the best life outcomes in autistic people?
- 9. How can **sensory processing** in autism be better understood?



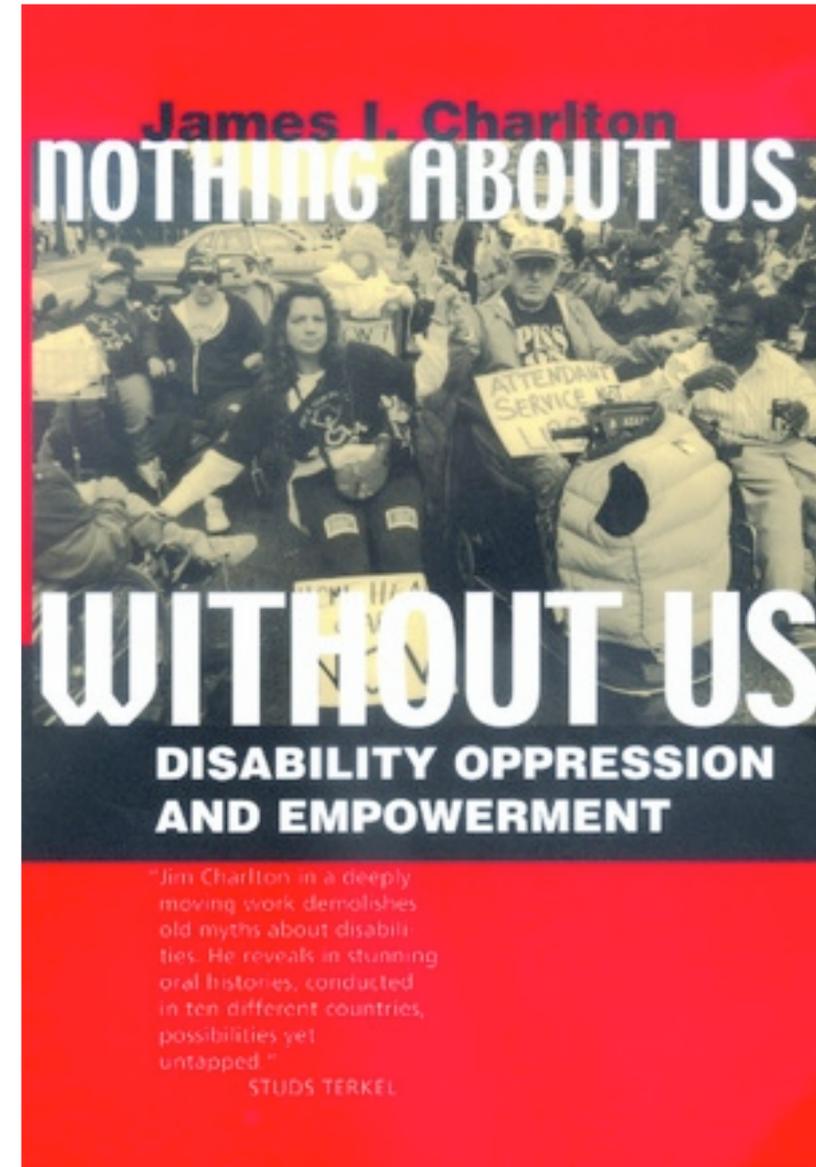
Collect qualitative data to improve our understanding of sensory processing in people's daily lives

Experience

Working in the office can often be difficult. We have hot desking so I never know where I'm going to be sitting or who else will be there. The lights are very bright as well which can be difficult as it gives me headaches. It can also be loud which makes it difficult to concentrate on my work. The commute can also be stressful if the trains are crowded and I have to take the underground.

Co-created citizen science

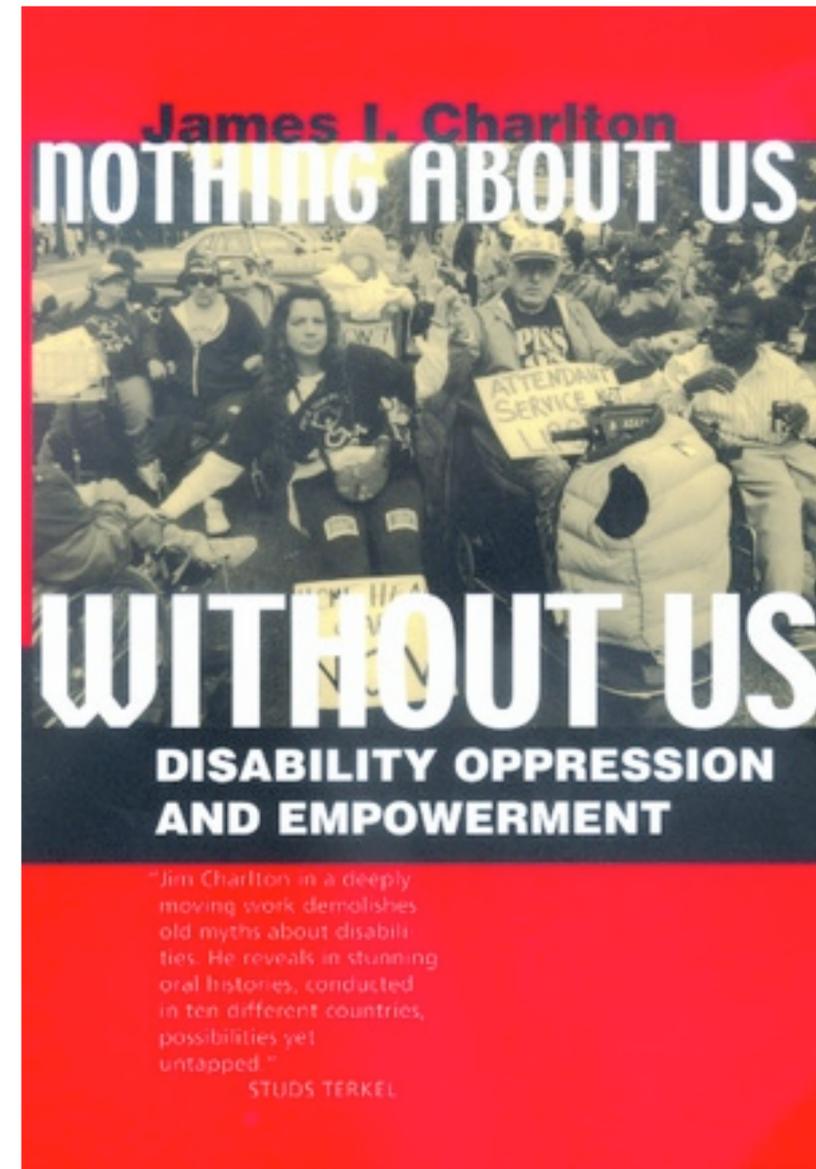
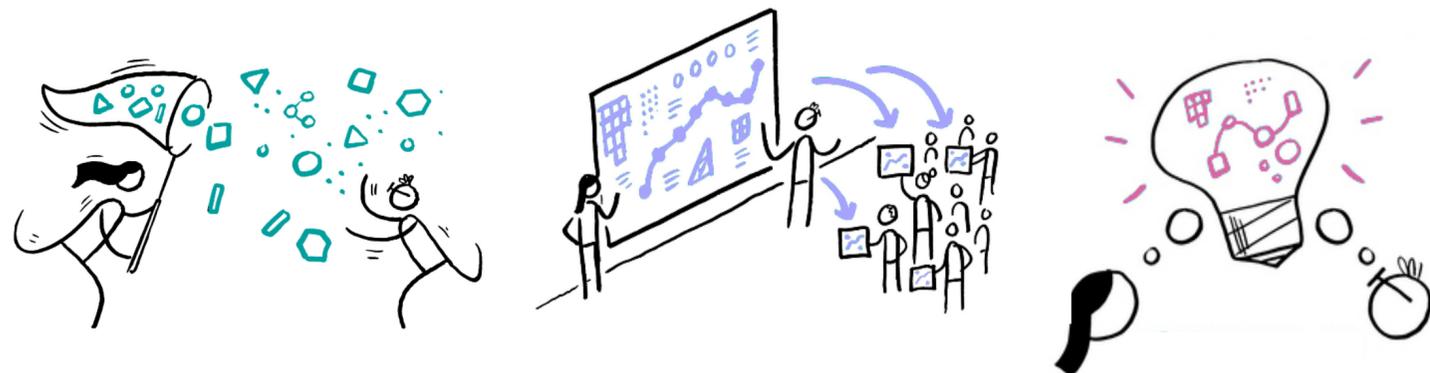
From co-design to co-ownership



Co-created citizen science

From co-design to co-ownership

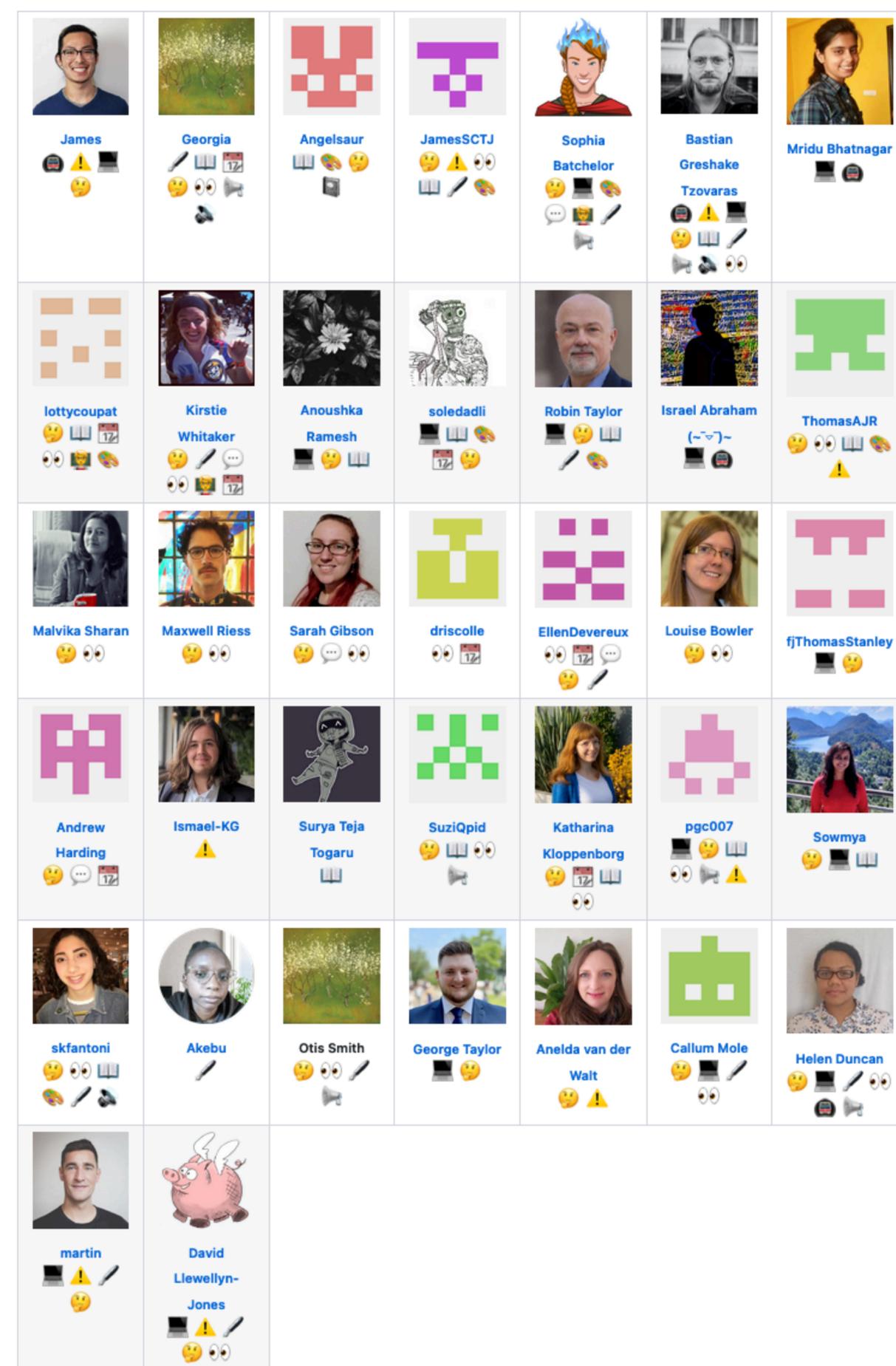
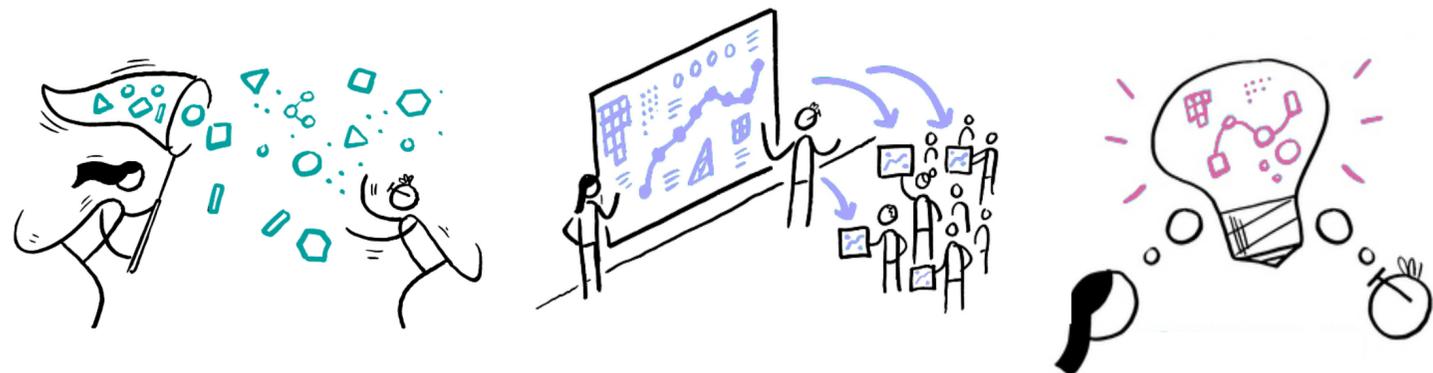
- focus groups
- monthly online community-meetups



Co-created citizen science

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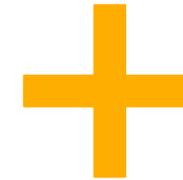
- focus groups
- monthly online community-meetups
- open source development





AutSPACEs

Collect qualitative data to improve our understanding of sensory processing in people's daily lives



Share people's stories and adaptive techniques with others who have similar experiences

Educate neurotypical people to better support their friends, family and colleagues

Advise organisations on how they can design and adapt spaces to improve people's lives

Changed goals & scope

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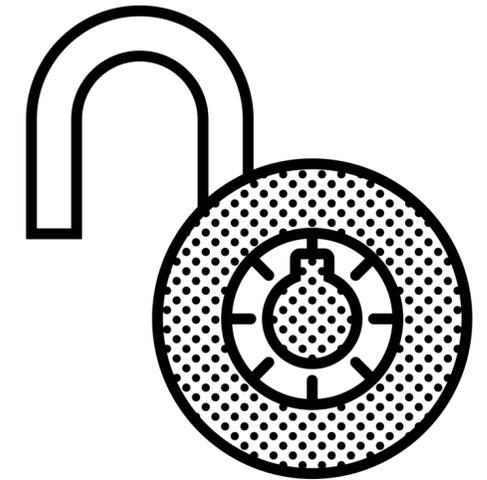
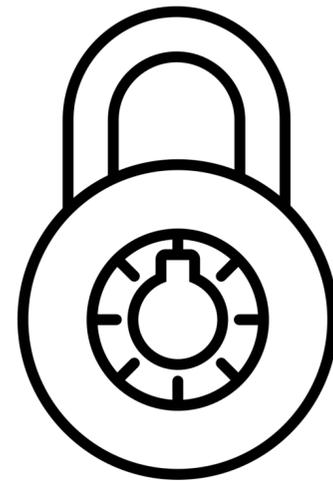
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Recommendation

I try to get in early so that I can get my regular desk which is more in the corner away from the bright lights. I also often wear my headphones whilst working. I sometimes try and work non-standard hours to avoid the big crowds. And also walk instead of taking the underground.

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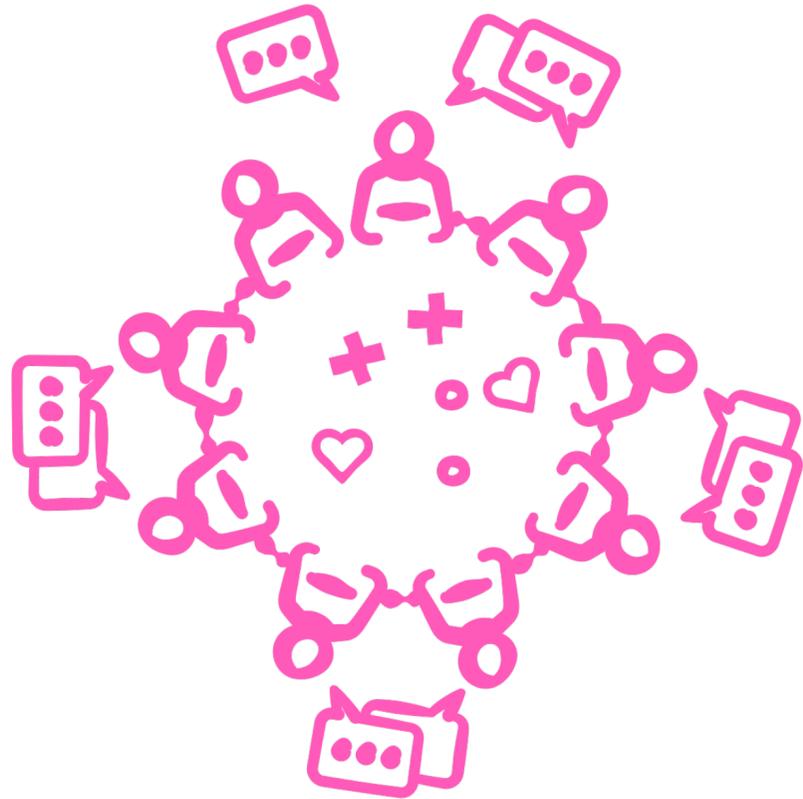


- Per-experience sharing settings
- private / “for research” / public
- How to moderate public content / experiences?



Developing content moderation

Co-designing for safety, not engagement

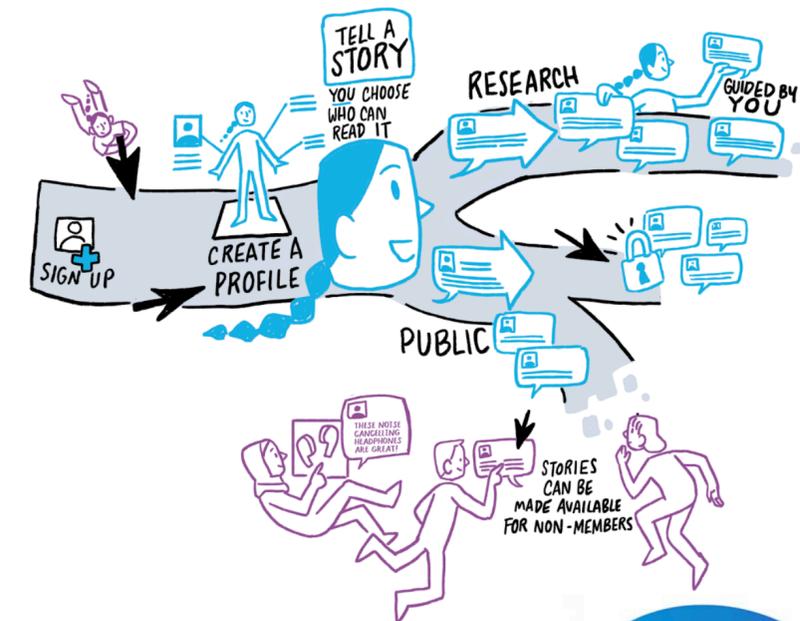


1. **No commenting** on other people's experiences
2. **Prepublication review** of experiences
3. Labeling of **trigger warnings**
4. Strict guidelines on **reporting on behalf of others!**

Participatory citizen science

mutually beneficial interactions, allowing...

- ✓ addressing novel, real-world research questions
- ✓ identifying challenges – and potential solutions – early on
- ✓ co-designing appropriate data collection methods



visit us at github.com/alan-turing-institute/AutSPACES

Thanks to all the community members making these projects happen:

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**The
Alan Turing
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AUTISTICA

 **OPEN HUMANS**

 **Inserm**