

Integrating Youth Perspectives: Transforming a Community Garden

Context

- The Grandview Woodland Food Connection (GWFC) is converting a decorative garden for the teen that use the GWFC Teen Centre
- Gathering participant perspectives fosters community project success (1)
- The best way to gather teen perspectives on garden projects is unclear based on pre-existing literature

Impact

- Our project will attempt to fill the knowledge gap by trialing a workshop to gather teen perspectives on the proposed garden
- The collected teen perspectives will help guide the GWFC's decision making process regarding this garden

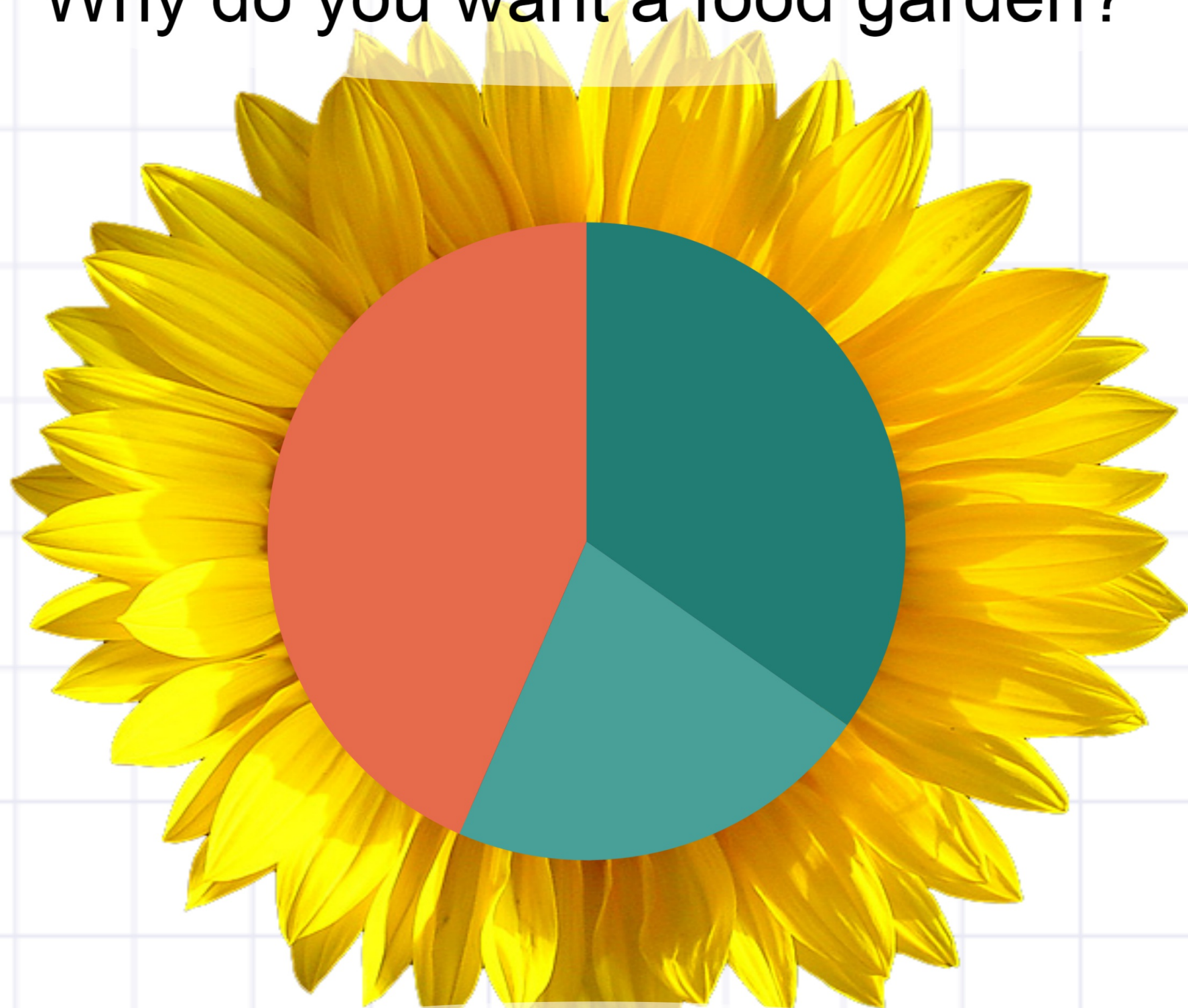
Approach

- Gather teen ideas & interests through a participatory workshop guided by the Delphi Method (2)
- Collect successive responses to open ended questions from groups of 3-4 teens (n=15)

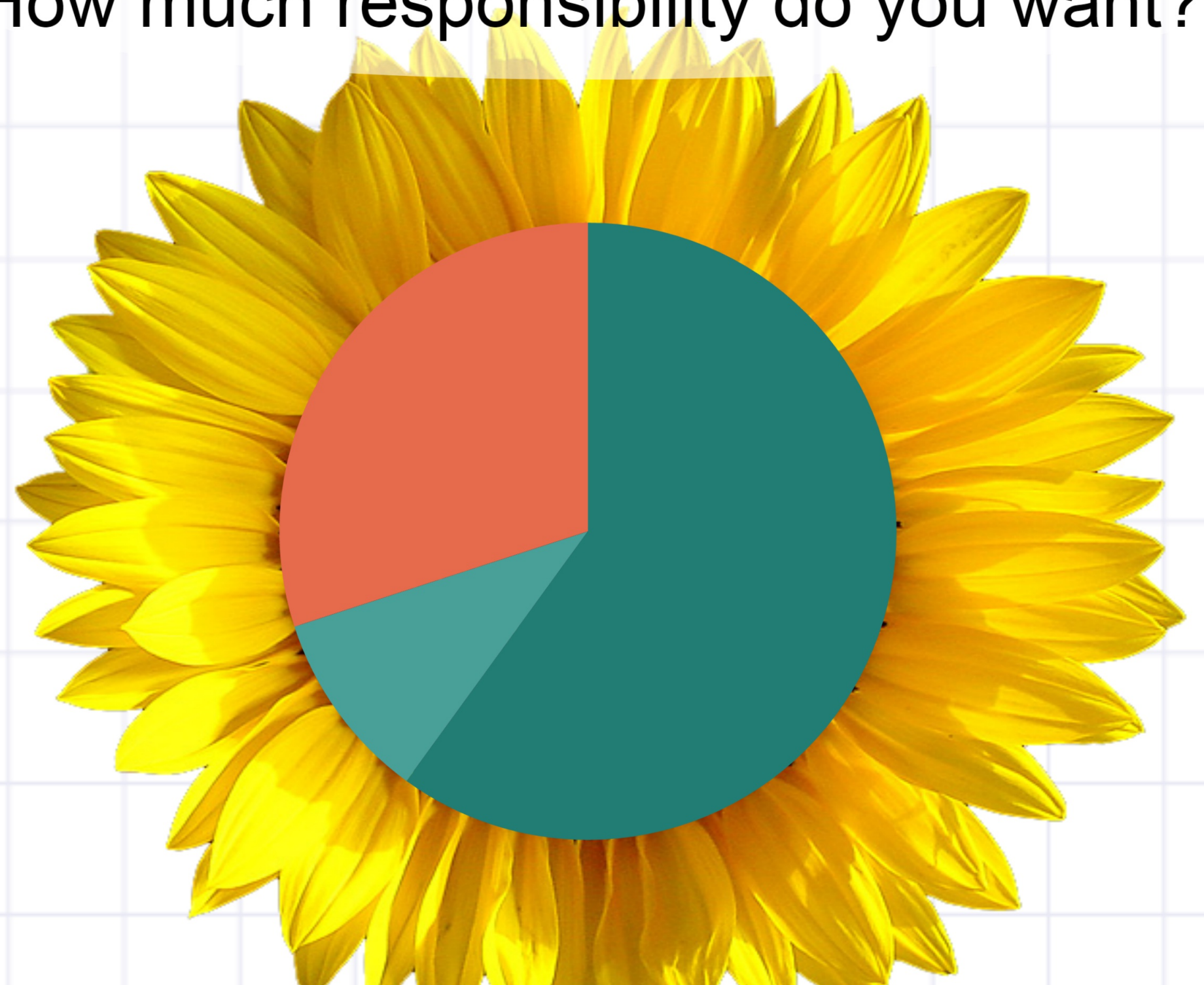
1. Sirolli, E. (2012). Want to help someone? Shut up and listen!. Retrieved from https://www.ted.com/talks/ernesto_sirolli_want_to_help_someone_shut_up_and_listen
2. Harmon, A., & Maretzki, A. (2006). Assessing Food System Attitudes Among Youth: Development and Evaluation of Attitude Measures. Journal Of Nutrition Education And Behavior, 38(2), 91-95.

Results

Why do you want a food garden?



How much responsibility do you want?



■ More Food (34.78%) ■ Aesthetics (21.74%) ■ Other (43.48%)

■ Choose Plants (60%) ■ Ongoing voice (10%) ■ Other (30%)

Not Shown: Results for "What experience would you like to take from the garden?" & "What does growing food mean to you?"

Conclusion

Method Strengths:

Seemed engaged
Able to build off each others' ideas
Great variety in responses

Method Weaknesses:

No objective engagement measure
Difficulty interpreting responses
No follow up sessions

This group of teens is most interested in improving their access to food and having control over what types of foods are grown in this garden

The GWFC may want to consider involving these teens particularly at planting and harvest



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For more information, please visit: <https://blogs.ubc.ca/graff/>