Sound travels: The journey of listening with wonder, together

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What is Sound Travels?

We are investigating how sounds around us (soundscapes) impact people and their learning in spaces like parks, zoos, and science centers.
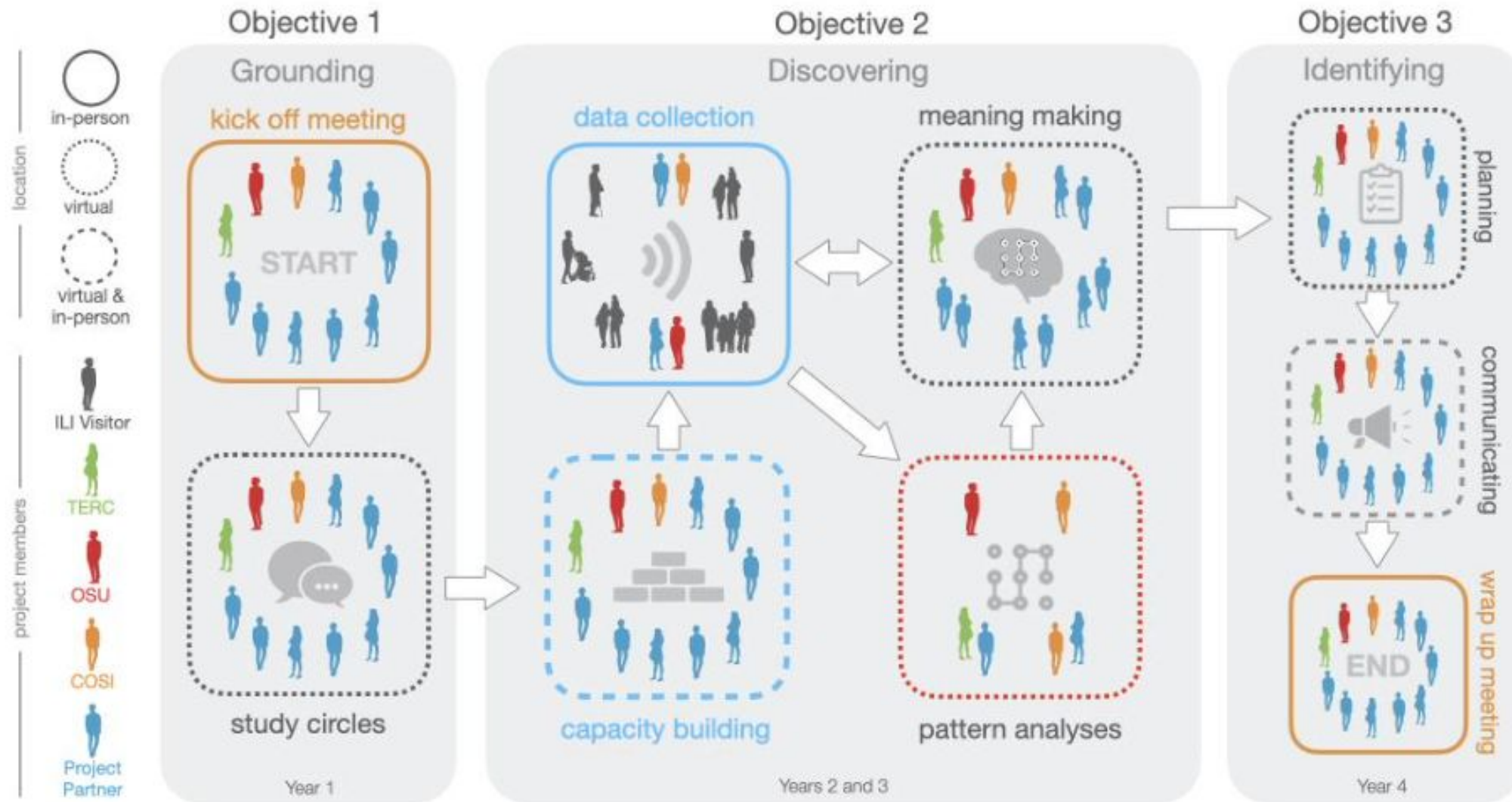
Our questions

R1: How are soundscapes used by informal science learning (ISL) practitioners?

R2: What are the qualities of soundscapes at different ISL sites?

R3: How do informal learners at ISL sites experience sound? To what extent does sound impact attention attraction, dwell time and shared learning in these learners?
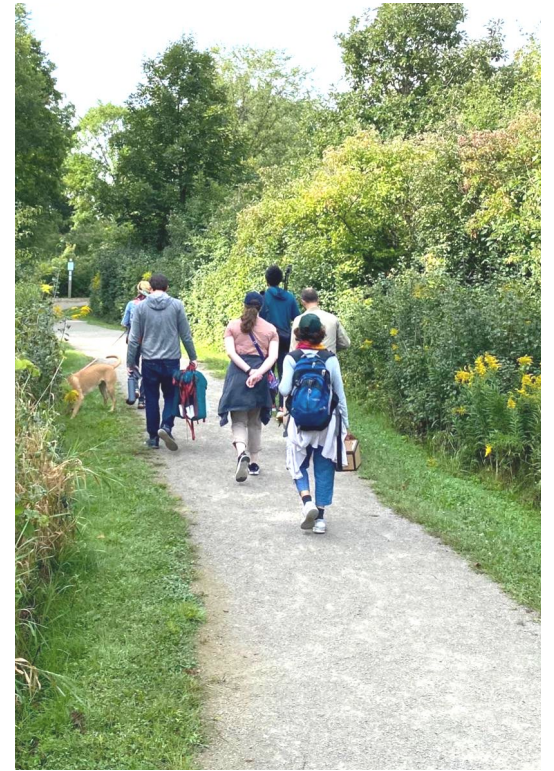
R4: How do qualities of the soundscape correlate with indicators of learning: attraction, attention maintenance, and shared learning?

Research in service to practice

Research in service to practice

accountability to our values and each other

Research in service to practice...in practice
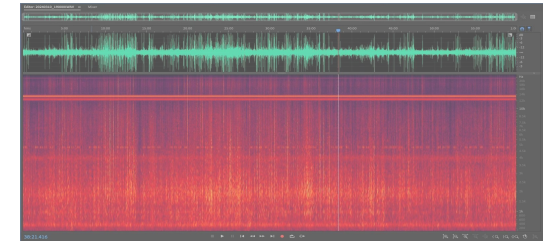
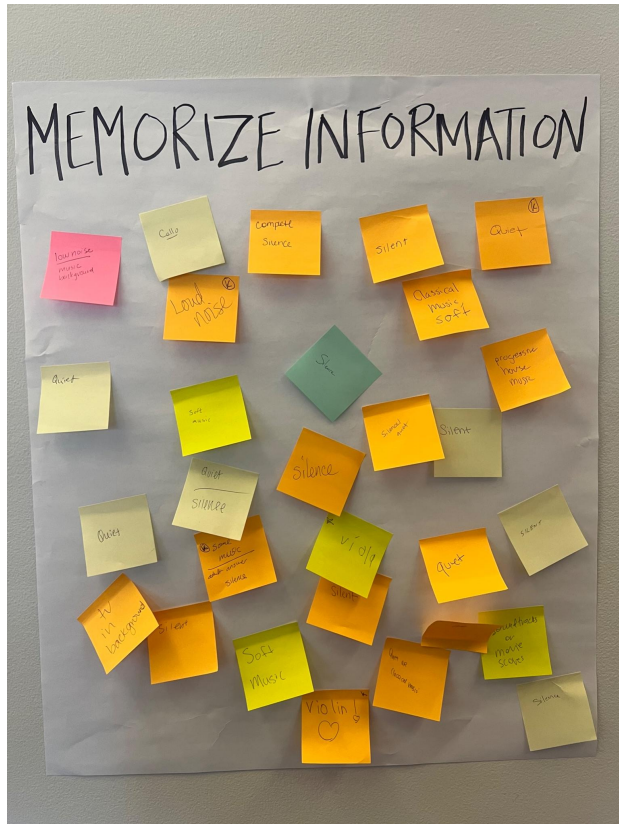celebrating epistemological differences

developing a shared language and knowledge base

affirming each person as both expert and learner

identifying opportunities through affinities

Bridging research cultures

How does each of US listen? What are we listening FOR?

Rigor, usability, and value

unpacking ideology together

operationalizing "risks and benefits"

Rigor, usability, and value

offering our own participation AND inviting our colleagues' participation

Your mission: For every block of the meeting agenda (to be outlined in more detail), make a note of and try to characterize VIBES and ECHOES.

VIBES are what you notice about the dynamics of the group – things like the tone of discussions, how people sort themselves and move through space, what kinds of conversations are being had, and what topics/issues are prioritized.

Ask yourself: What did this segment of the agenda FEEL like? How would you describe what the discussion/work in this segment of the agenda was ABOUT? What kinds of lenses are folks using to talk about sound and/or their professional practice?

ECHOES are the ways that content and ideas are connected to the work this group has done and is doing, either in Sound Circles, in previous parts of the meeting, or in people's existing collaborations or held professional knowledge.

Ask yourself: Which themes KEEP coming up? Where have we heard these themes before? In what ways, if any, are these themes generative of new ideas and ways of understanding sound (on its own, or as related to professional practice)?
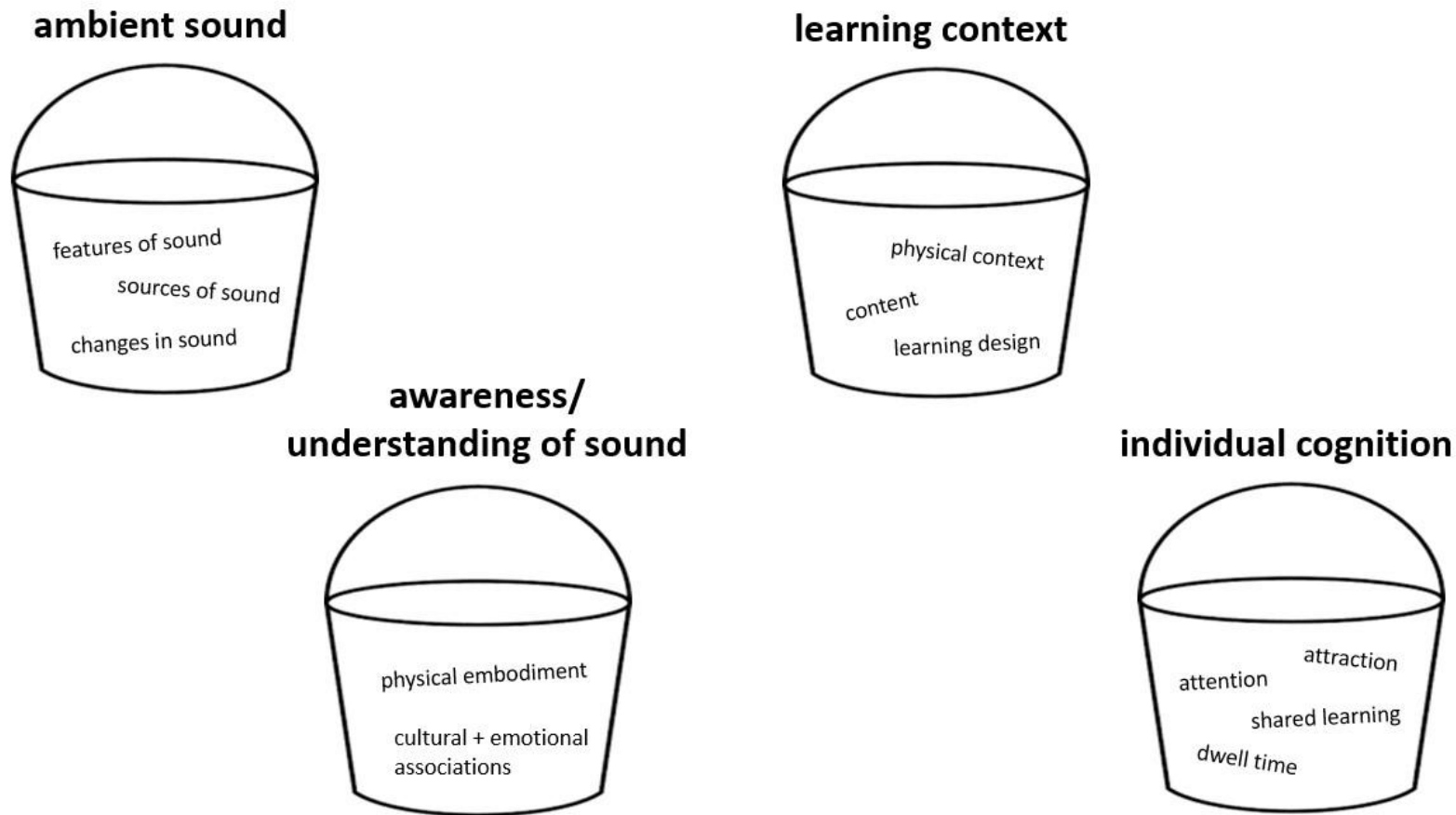
Rigor, usability, and value

making meaning together: member checks, applications, opportunities

DEDUCTIVE CODES	
Technical descriptions of sound	academic or professional ways of describing sound
Physical descriptions of sound	nontechnical language related to identifying the features of sound
Affective descriptions of sound	nontechnical language related to the poetics and/or emotional understanding of sound
Relational descriptions of sound	nontechnical language related to human interactions with or related to sound
Applied thinking about sound	language related to the potential effects of sound in teaching and/or learning

INDUCTIVE CODES	
Programmed sounds	specific sounds added with intention by educators/designers
Human sounds	sounds made by people involving the human body
Other biogenic sounds	sounds made by non-human living organisms
Atmospheric sounds	incidental, non-biogenic sounds
Physical environment	sounds made by any features of space intended as experience design
Attention/focus	comments pertaining to engagement (or lack thereof)
Other senses	comments pertaining to sight, smell, taste, and/or touch

Rigor, usability, and value

making meaning together: leveraging shared language, collective deliberation

ambient sound

features of sound

sources of sound

changes in sound

learning context

physical context

content

learning design

**awareness/
understanding of sound**

physical embodiment

cultural + emotional
associations

individual cognition

attraction

attention

shared learning

dwell time

Rigor, usability, and value

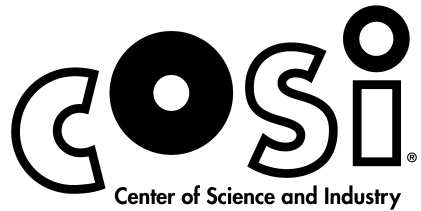visitor-facing data collection means thinking about…

- unique visitor experience of each site

- interests and needs of partners

- aggregating data across sites and methods

We would like to acknowledge and thank...

Get in touch!

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sound travels

https://www.terc.edu/soundtravels

You can also find our work in the community repository on informalscience.org!