SCAMPER TOOL

THE SCAMPER TOOL HELPS YOU TO GENERATE AND IMPROVE YOUR IDEAS FOR A PREFERRED FUTURE

HOW TO USE THE TOOL:

1 Before using this tool you should have built up a clear idea about the problem you are trying to address. You may have already thought about some preferred solutions. This tool helps you to play with your initial ideas to make them stronger.

2 Use **SCAMPER** to generate a list of 'what if…' questions, taking each letter in turn. For example, you might ask "What if we Modified our idea by making it bigger/smaller?" or "What if we Combined it with another idea?"

Substitute
Combine
Adapt
Modify
Put to another use
Eliminate
Rearrange

3 Work your way through the list thinking about the possibilities that each question provokes. Try not to restrict your thinking at this stage; you're just generating possibilities.

4 Jot your ideas down on post-it notes. Put the ideas on a large display wall and read them all.

5 Try to have a **SCAMPER** session at the end of one day and revisit it the next morning. Sleeping on it can often generate even more ideas.

6 Finally, pull together three or four new ideas that the exercise has generated. Spend some time refining and firming them up. When you've got your new proposals, think about using another NX tool, such as the feasibility funnel, to identify the best ones to take forward.

NXTHINKING

This tool can help you to generate and adapt ideas

It helps you to play with possibilities as you explore different ways to enhance or improve your initial idea.

Thinking about Change

Thinking about The Future

Adapted from a tool created by Robert F. Eberle found in Mind Tools.

> **We didn't just choose the first good idea we had... the tool made us explore other possibilities, adapting and improving our initial idea.**

WHAT IF...

Substitute

Combine — COLLECT GREY WATER | HYDRO-PONICS | SOLAR PUMPS

Adapt

Modify

Put to another use — COOK-BOOK | GREEN-HOUSE CLASS-ROOM

Eliminate

Rearrange

Shell NXplorers