



Sketching, Low-fi Prototyping & Pilot Usability Testing

Maya Harvey, Jonathan Affeld, Janelle Rudolph, Gayatridevi Tarcar



# DAILY SELF-HELP WITH FRIENDS

# **Problem/Solution Overview**

#### The Problem

- Hard to understand symptoms when they are not talked about
- Younger people need these conversations in their community to assess their symptoms
  - Hard to **report symptoms** because of social pressures/lack of conversations around many medical conditions



### how do we let users feel confident and enjoy independent self assessment while connecting this with a form of community?



Create an empowering and fun routine to help the user better understand how they are feeling currently and over time that utilizes the power of community

### HOW?

Concept: An **idle game model** with a habitat and creatures where the user is prompted to answer daily questions about their wellbeing.

Motivation: Upon completion of these questions they will earn coins/credits/rewards that will enable them to expand and evolve their garden and creatures

Novelty: Users also will be able to **visit other users' habitats** and talk to other users. They can choose to share their health status, invite friends over or ask to check on friends.

### INTERFACE

Screen console built into a plush toy with a dual app component that can be used on the go. The toy is to create a comfortable home base for users.



# **Outline of Talk**



- Overview sketching process
- Interface selection rationale
- How did we construct the low-fi prototype?
- Taskflow overview
- Testing process
- Results overview
- Implications?

# **Concept Sketches**











# Realizations

# Wearable Tech (Apple Watch)





# Stuffed Animal w/Screen and App



# **Selected Interface and Rationale**

# Stuffed Animal w/ Screen & App

Winner Winner!

Hundrich ist Hindrich ist Hi	How are you feeling today? Fress my pair to take I minute to check in with your body? OR Cuddle mode	recent feelings heav feeling X haveau, makey, tad, excited, Smetted, Smetted, Click my paw to commit: Click my paw to commit: Click on your into check of your into check of your into
Would you live awy of These suggestions?	CHRISA Want you to check in with thim Chuck im Chuck im Select an oftion trun click my paw to continue	Chris El Mas been feeling View cimilar feelings A in unicular or just Gend a message Christ Dubn chill Dubn chill Dubn chill my paw to return to this page when you're done. Select this button then chill any paw to return to your home 1

## **Pros of Stuffed Animal**

- Very **unique** and **novel** in market space
- Brings the value of wellness home, having a physical animal could make the user feel very safe and comfortable
- Help create sense of community by creating trend to have the toys
- Opportunity for **creative** and **never before seen** design

Pros of Wearable Tech that were good but not good enough:

- Already has biometric stat collection built into Apple Watch
- Convenient for travel which would make logging symptoms easy

These Pros did not benefit our design values enough!

## **Cons of Stuffed Animal**

- People might not want to carry around an animal, too **cumbersome**
- Don't want people to **purchase just for the physical toy** but also to actually use the app and self-assess

By **connecting the stuffed toy interface with an app** that you can download on your phone, these cons can be minimized.

#### Cons of Apple Watch:

- Not everyone has an Apple Watch; unequal opportunity
- Limited space to view habitat on small screen
- Unoriginal

## ...Constraints of the Stuffed Toy Platform?

- Necessitates **both** stuffed toy screen functionality and phone app functionality
- Screen on stuffed toy must be large enough to be readable but small enough to fit within medium sized toy chest and not obstruct cuddliness of toy
- User must be able to physically interact with stuffed toy (i.e. press paw) and have this result in a change on screen

### What Ultimately Shaped Our Decision?

 After conducting extensive market research, no other health assessment/self-help/personal health app has a direct interface with a stuffed plush toy

 Many members of the team reflect fondly on stuffed toys they were attached to as children and still have today, demonstrating clear emotional attachment and grounding in these stuffed toys that will help with consistent self-assessment

# Low-Fi Prototype Construction



For our low-fi prototype, we chose to use a paper flip book with tabs to simulate an app. We have extended paper segments to simulate scrolling, and page flips to represent button taps. The flip book is mounted onto a stuffed bear on its belly, in the same place the screen would be attached to.





# Low-Fi Prototype: 3 Task Flows



## Simple





## Complex



# **Testing Methodology**



## **Our Participants:**

- Participant 1, a Highschool girl met outside Pete's Coffee
- Participant 2, a Post-Grad student (non Stanford) male met in parking lot on campus
- Participant 3, a Highschool boy met outside local swim team practice
- Participant 4, a male Stanford Student met in a dorm common room

Target audience: a **younger demographic**; focused on young people of different genders, **equal gender distribution** 

Recruitment: To ensure diversity, the first three participants were approached at **random**.

Compensation: We compensated each participant with a **Halloween inspired recipe** when they reached the survey completion screen.

### **Environment and Apparatus**

We tested two of our participants inside, and two of them outside. We had all participants sit down to help with fluidity of flipping the screens.

Apparatus included prototype (right images) and iPad for note-taking and recording.



### Roles

Participant 1 was interviewed by **Maya** who served as facilitator, observer, and computer.

Participant 3 was interviewed by Jonny as facilitator and by Janelle as observer and computer.

Participant 2 was interviewed by Janelle as facilitator and by Jonny as observer and computer.

Participant 4 was interviewed by **Gaya** who served as facilitator, observer, and computer. Introduce team & thank participants for their consent. Provide background to project including values and goals.

Demo how to flip pages with button clicks, paw clicks and tabs

Encourage participants to verbalize their thoughts and emotions while interacting with the prototype

Explain each goal to user one a time; repeat for each task

# Testing Procedure

Thank the participant!

Conclude at the end by again asking how the experience made the user feel, and what was difficult and easy about the whole process.

After each task, ask the participant what stood out to them and what was easy or difficult.

### Usability Goals and Key Measurements

- Efficient: Users are able to complete tasks in a reasonable amount of time with little issues
- **Pleasing:** Users enjoy interacting with the prototype and want to come back for more

#### Success:

- Users **complete tasks** with no interruptions
- Users **interact** with button clicks, tab slides, and scrolls **without help**
- Users have **fun and feel comfortable** while using the prototype
- Users express interest in using the prototype and **desire to continue** interacting with it

#### Failures:

- Users need help completing tasks
- Users are **confused or frustrated** by buttons and flips
- Users express confusion, distaste, or discomfort in using the prototype

# **Testing Results**



### **Process Data: Strengths**

- All 4 participants successfully used the swiping mechanism to toggle between tasks
- All **buttons on the screens in Task 1** were successfully pushed and navigated to the next pages
- Were **willing to interact** with the stuffed animal outside of the screens
- 2 participants expressed eagerness to see their real "past" and "future" health stats
- All participants expressed interest in the garden and what it could possibly look like
- 3 participants expressed **excitement and satisfaction** when their **invites** to their "friends" were successfully sent
- **2 users** wanted to **continue** using the prototype after the tasks were completed

#### Process Data: Weaknesses

- 3 participants had **severe problems** interacting with the **buttons** in Task 2, from not clicking to clicking the wrong things to not realizing there were buttons on that screen
- 3 participants felt the **free response** screen was **too open ended** and preferred to just tap
- Sometimes participants would incorrectly interact with the plush toy at different times
- 2 users wished there were **more next and back** buttons
- Swiping and scrolling seemed "unintuitive"
- 1 user expressed **confusion about the bear** body parts screen and what was supposed to be tapped (the physical plush toy or the bear on the screen)

#### Kay Measurements of Success

- Users **complete tasks** with no interruptions
- Users **interact** with button clicks, tab slides, and scrolls **without help**
- Users have **fun and feel comfortable** while using the prototype
- Users express interest in using the prototype and **desire to continue** interacting with it

#### **Bottom-Line Data:**

- 3 participants had **severe problems** interacting with the **buttons** in Task 2, from not clicking to clicking the wrong things to not realizing there were buttons on that screen
- Swiping and scrolling seemed **"unintuitive"**
- 3 participants expressed **excitement and satisfaction** when their **invites** to their "friends" were successfully sent
- **2 users** wanted to **continue** using the prototype after the tasks were completed

### Usability Goals: Efficiency

- Achieved goals for efficiency with Task 1 and 3; had mis-clicks and misunderstandings with Task 2
- Task 1: when to click paws vs screen, when to swipe vs click
- Task 2: Inefficient because not intuitive, instructions not clear
- Task 3: Very few issues, successful!
- Need for more back/next buttons made experience less efficient

### **Usability Goals: Pleasing**

- Achieved
- Users wanted to come back for more
- "community aspect made me feel safe"
- "my privacy was protected", aligns with our values
- Phrase "here is how you are dealing with" in Task 2 elicited negative emotions; could be replaced with "here is a summary"



# Discussion

#### Participants were very eager to interact with their community in this personal way

- Concepts of each task were exciting and valuable to users.
- Satisfactory usability, can improve
- Many users struggled with **button presses** and understanding when to use the **plush toy interface**.
- Limitation: hard to truly simulate a swipe

### Moving Forward

- Make buttons more obvious and wording more clear
- Remove text box survey component from task 1
- Have **hovering arrows** that guide the user to swipe
- Change some weighted emotional wording to simpler phrases
- Dive deeper into **implementing** what a **garden** would look like
- Add **back and next** buttons for linearity

### Things Testing Might Not Reveal?

- Will the kind of stuffed toy impact how easily users interact with it?
- How easily **integratable** the stuffed toy with a screen will be with a separate phone app
- Will users **prefer to just use the phone app** as opposed to playing with the stuffed toy?
- Whether or not **notifications** will be helpful to remind users to self-assess



# **Thank You**



### Full Pros & Cons List - Wearable Tech/Apple Watch

#### **PROS:**

-Already has biometric stat collection built into apple watch (i.e. heart rate etc) -Opportunity for very clean, tamagotchi-like design -Already have easy ways to connect with others -Convenient for travel which would make logging symptoms easy

CONS: -Need to format it for the Apple Watch -Not everyone has an Apple Watch unequal opportunity -Need to be able to integrate with apple health, etc? -Limited space to view habitat on small screen -Would make the community aspect wholly virtual -Unoriginal

## Full Pros & Cons List - Stuffed Toy w/Screen, App

**PROS:** 

-Very unique and novel in market space -Brings the value of wellness home, having a physical animal could make the user feel very safe and comfortable

-Help create sense of community by creating trend to have the toys

-Materializes the solution in the physical world rather than in cyberspace or virtual reality

-Could be like a "home base" for people, if the toy is always on a bed/desk it would be an extra manifestation/reminder to log how one is feeling

-Opportunity for creative and never before seen design

#### CONS:

-Difficult to implement in timely manner due to having two interfaces: one on toy and one on app -People might not want to carry around an animal - too cumbersome -Don't want people to purchase just for the physical toy but also to actually use the app and self-assess

# **Testing Script**

Thank you so much for participating in our study! We are Stanford Computer Science students testing a new app called LucIDLy that guides users through their daily mind and body symptoms. We would appreciate your help to test our app. As you explore this prototype, please verbalize what you're thinking as you tap buttons and complete tasks. There is no such thing as talking too much, the more you explain what you're thinking the better.

#### **Background Questions:**

-Name, Age, background (are you in school? Are you a parent?)

#### System Demo:

-Facilitator will raise tabs, will only explain the swipe right and swipe left features due to the paper form of the prototype -The Facilitator will lift up the sheets in the demo as the participant swipes and clicks for fluidity

#### Tasks:

-"Please explain what you are doing and what you are thinking as you tap."

Task 1: "Your first task is to log how you are feeling today. Use this app to do so"

-Task ends when participant reaches the "Thank you for checking in" Screen

Task 2: "Your next task is to see your progress over time" -facilitator will explain this demo is what you can expect for your own personal information -Task ends when the participant has checked on all the Task 2 screens and is back at the home page

Task 3: "Your final task is to check on and share with friends"

-Task 3 ends when the participant has sent an invite or has requested to visit to a friend.

#### Conclusion:

"How did that whole experience make you feel? What were some key emotions you felt or feel about the app? "What was difficult to navigate or confusing? Or was anything easy?

Successfully completed all of task 1	0
Had no idea where to start tapping at the beginning of Task 2, asked if she was supposed to input something somewhere	3
"I really like this, I always deal with something and it sucks, and when it's over I just forget that it ever happened, I like the graphs a lot"	0
Had some problems with the wording on the stats page, felt "this is how you've been dealing with" was a little too negative, especially when stating positive emotions	2
Asked "Like do I tap the paw on the screen?" When prompted to click a bear paw to log a free response question, before successfully clicking bear paw	2
Expressed happiness and excitement around how private and safe the community sharing task is	0
Felt confusion about the difference between inviting a friend to come to their garden or asking to go visit a friend	1
"Wait, we're done?! Is there anything else I can do?" Very pleased at the end of the trial	0

"Is that like Imy name? Do I put my name?" Unclear whether to answer daily survey questions with multiple choice or free-response, and what to put in free-response.	3
Successfully swiped both in and out of health tracking page and friend view page	0
"Does this do something?" Difficult to find weekly summary button	2
Successfully wrote free-response answers to question asking about experience with	0
Did not click bear paw to move on every time this was prompted on the screen	3
Successfully used multiple choice smileys to answer survey questions	0
Relied on hard coded next buttons but did not use the hard coded back button at top of screen	1
Did not see Daily Survey button immediately when looking at garden screen, had to ask facilitators if there was a button to press	3

"I got a little lost at the start, but then I kind of figured it out!" Participant initially confused, but format became more intuitive with greater use	1
Before interacting with 'screen', participant squeezed physical bear body parts expecting this to do something	2
Wasn't sure if had the ability to scroll up or down	2
"Log your experience with yourwhat?" Experience question too open-ended, participant not sure what to write about	3
Successfully used multiple choice smileys to answer survey questions	0
"Does this do something?" Not clear that the pie chart circle led to more insights on specific health categories	3
Did not see Daily Survey button immediately when looking at garden screen, had to ask facilitators if there was a button to press	3
Successfully clicked bear paw to move on every time this was prompted	0

"When it says [click to submit], should I tap on the screen or press the paw?" Confusion about what the paw does and doesn't do	3
Participant found the bear tedious to hold on to.	2
"Oh, those were gardens?" Participant thought that the gardens were just background decor on the home page.	2
Not clear that the pie chart circle led to more insights on specific health categories	3
"I wish I could get to the home page faster"; in task 3, wanted the option to return to the friend garden and home page	1
Successfully navigated through Task 3: visiting friends/inviting friends	o

# **Elaborating on Testing Results**



### **Process Data & Strengths**

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### Bottom-Line Data & Weak Points

- Three participants had **severe problems** interacting with the **buttons** in Task 2, from not clicking to clicking the wrong things to not realizing there were buttons on that screen
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### Usability Goals: Efficiency

We achieved our usability goals for efficiency with Task 1 and 3 rather proficiently, but there were a few mis-clicks as well as some more severe problems with Task 2. The main problems from Task 1 came from confusion on when to click the bear's paw and when to click on the screen. There also was a lack of back and next buttons that could have made the overall experience a little more linear. Most participants experienced a learning curve by task 3 so there were less issues there. Most of the time, the wording was not clear enough on where to click or when to swipe.

### Usability Goals: Pleasing

Our usability goal of being **pleasing** was more accomplished. Most users expressed wanting to come back for more. One expressed outwardly that the community aspect made them feel safe and like their privacy was protected, which aligns very well with our values. A few times there were places where certain wording elicited negative emotions, such as the phrase "here is how you are dealing with," where these words could be replaced with less emotional phrases like "here is a summary" to bring up less negative emotions.