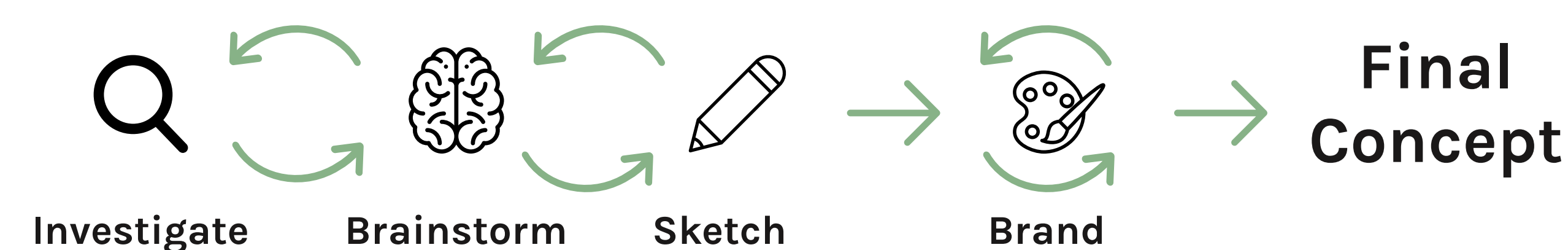


OPPORTUNITY

How patients perceive their hospital experience directly ties to health outcomes and, particularly for children, the hospital experience can be so traumatizing that it damages the well-being of the child. Hospitalized children are already missing out on many developmental opportunities and, since frequent family meals lead to better lifelong outcomes, a positive food experience could give them that developmental opportunity back and build a healthier lifelong relationship with food.

APPROACH



How a Community-Based Food Experience Could Benefit Children's Hospitals

Author: Brenna Sorkin

IMPACT

Lights, Camera, Eat

The kitchen, placed at the center of the room, is also the lowest point, allowing all diners to see what's happening in the kitchen. The dining space is broken into levels, with a stair and a ramp allowing access between each. I envision there being two types of nights: (1) regular evenings where one can watch what's happening in the kitchen throughout, (2) show evenings, where - with the kitchen in the center - the creation of food is put on as an event. This could be a cooking demonstration, a competition, or just a meal put together with flare.

A Culture of Accommodation

Many of the children who will be eating in this space require accommodation in order to enjoy a meal. Whether it be food allergies, nutritional supplements, or pureed food, in this space, the kitchen will be prepared for these requests, even anticipating them through reservations when possible.

① Drinks Bar

A traditional-style bar, but with non-alcoholic drinks as the default. Sophisticated enough in styling and execution to be an exciting experience for the children, as opposed to a cliché (think Rainforest Cafe). The experience should engage kids in the exciting aspects of having a drink made - the shaking, stirring, choosing the ingredients. The bar itself is a fish tank.



③ Small Tables

There are a number of small tables throughout the space, of varying sizes, that can accommodate 2 - 6 people. On show nights, tables will have fewer seats so that patrons can face towards the kitchen. These tables are intended to be reserved ahead of time, or for walk in parties. They can easily accommodate wheelchairs.

② Food Bar

Whether it be sushi, fruits carvings, or intricate plating, this bar provides some sort of food based experience that is visually exciting. This bar should provide variety and visual engagement, potentially even letting the children participate (adding a decoration to a plate, etc.). The Bar is a George Rhoads-style kinetic sculpture, set within a terrarium.



④ Community Tables

In the space, there will be long, modular, community tables. The purpose of these tables is for anyone to join - whether it be parties looking to socialize, or individuals, these tables are a shared space for all. The tables can come apart into sections and can also be adjusted by height. Outside of food service, the tables can be used for cooking demonstrations.