



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh



What do children want to know about HBSC?

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Aims

- To investigate what HBSC topics Irish children find most interesting
- To document what they would like to know about each “interesting” topic
- Using Participative Research Processes.

Background

- HBSC Ireland liaises with various stakeholders through out the research process
- Until recently children's involvement in the research process has been minimal
- This project is one step in a planned series of steps designed to increase children's participation with HBSC Ireland.

Methodology

- Nine schools participated; 5 primary and 4 post-primary schools
- Mix of rural, urban, disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged schools.
- In total, 10 workshops with 19 groups of children
- Consent obtained from schools, parents and children

Workshop Procedure

Introduction: Outline of HBSC research process

Icebreaker: Group game

Group Contract: The group set principles to follow for the workshops

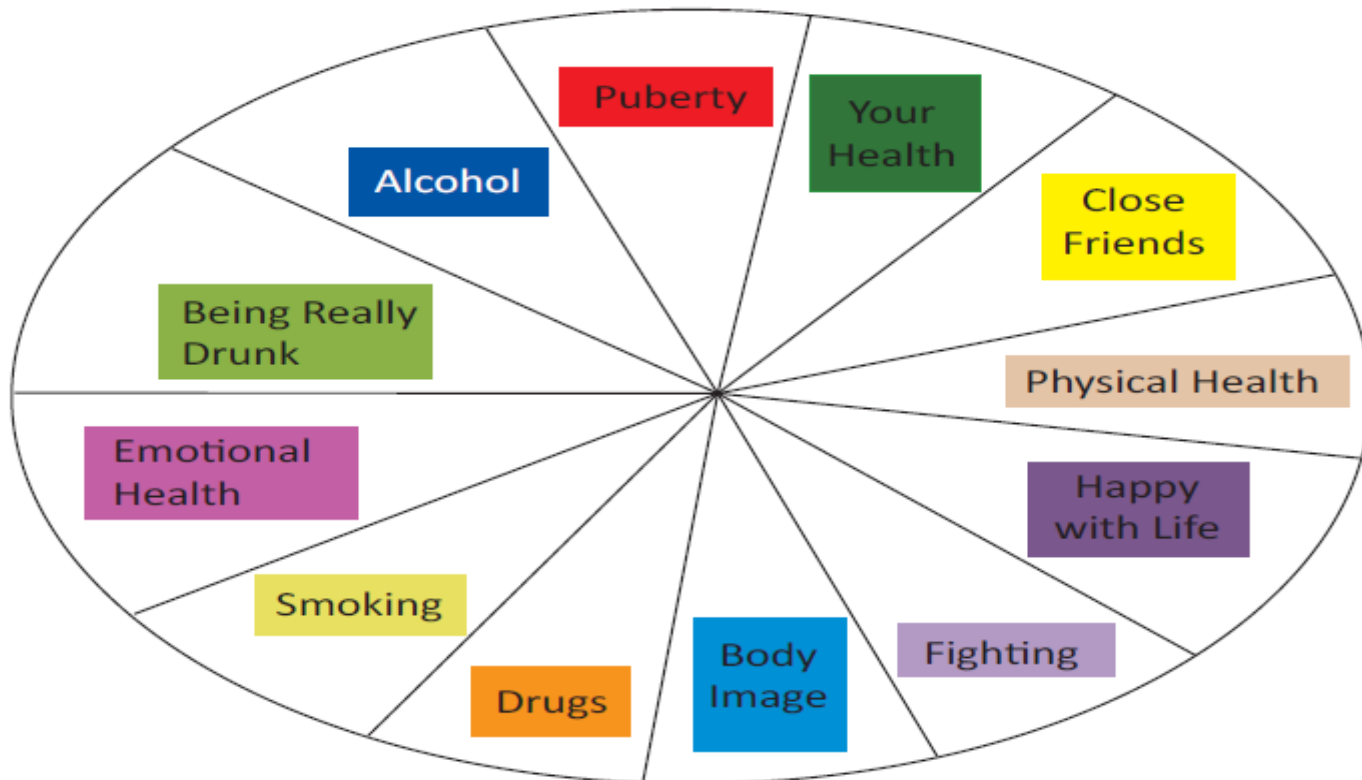
Snap Game: 51 topic cards for the groups to rank in order of interest

Pizza chart: 12 sections – one for each of the 12 most interesting topics.



Workshop Pizza Chart

Example of Pizza Chart:

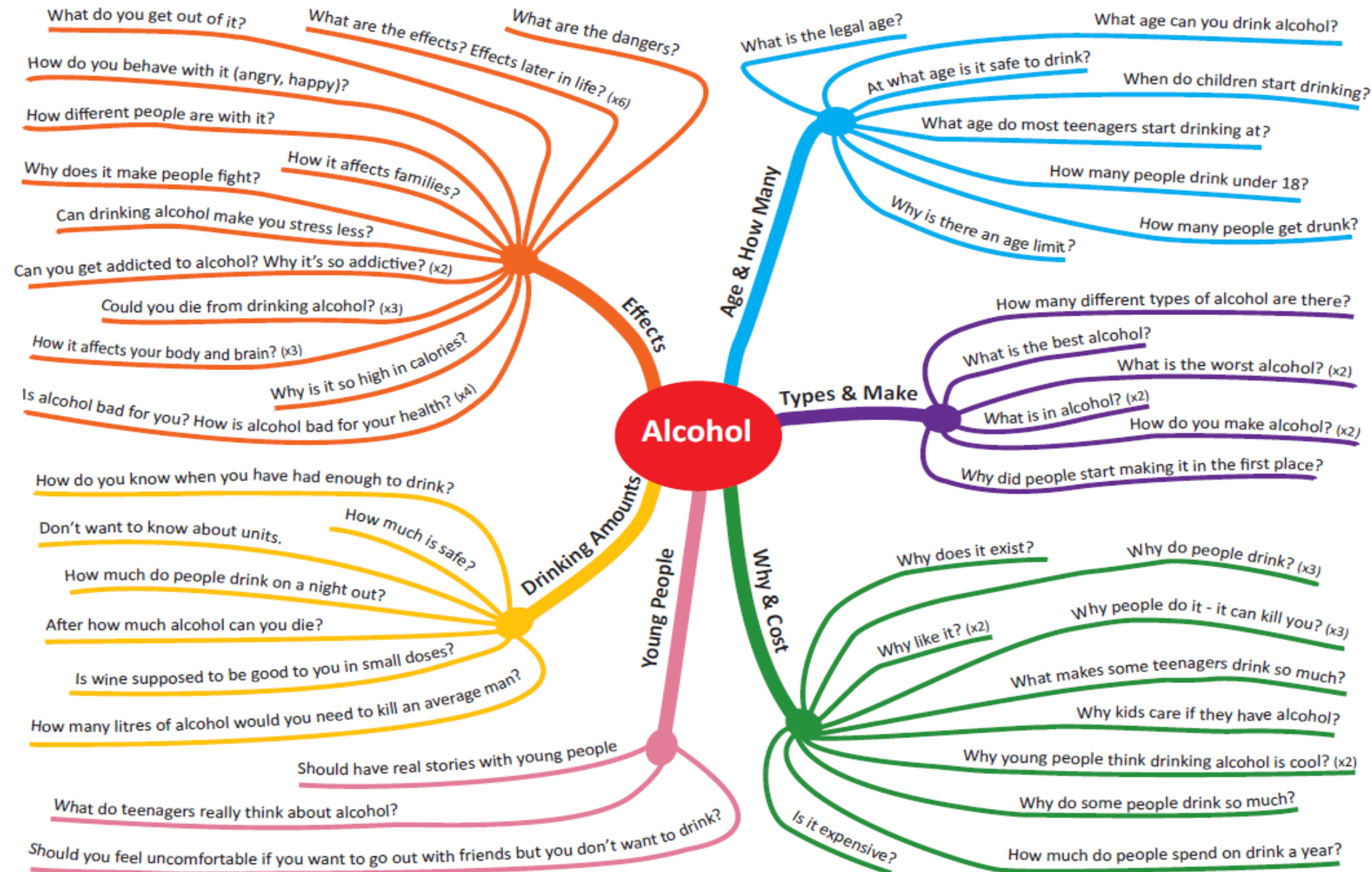




Ranking	Topic	No. of groups ranking topic in their list of top 12 most interesting
1	Alcohol	16
2	Puberty	14
3	Drugs	14
4	Being really drunk	14
5	Smoking	12
6	Fighting	11
7	Your health	9
8	Body image	9
9	Physical health	9
10	Emotional Health	8
11	Happy with life	8
12	Close friends	8

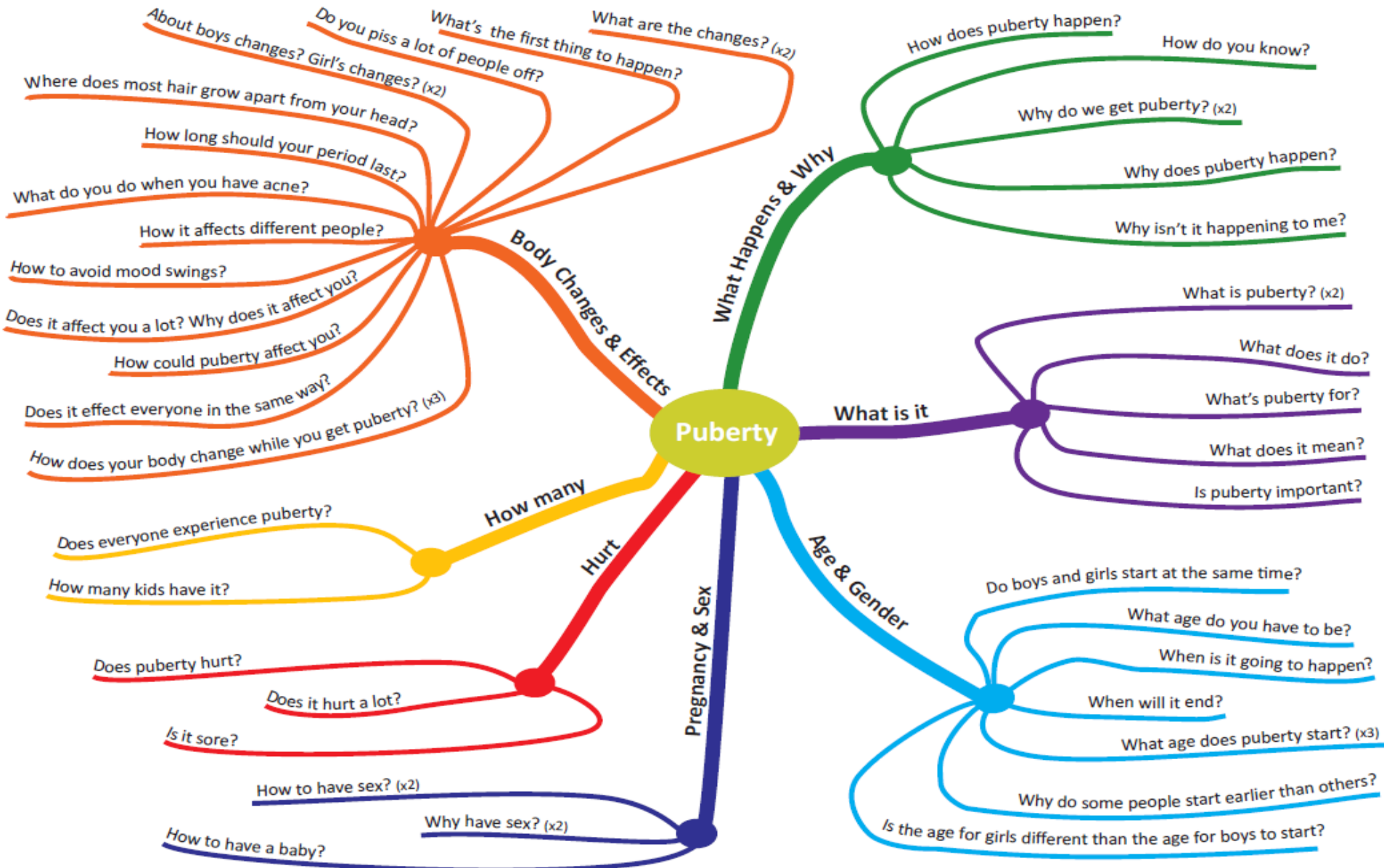
What children want to know about alcohol

A. Alcohol was the highest ranked HBSC topic



What children want to know about Puberty

Puberty was the second highest ranked HBSC topic



Social Determinants of Health

The children were particularly interested in the effects of gender and age on some of the HBSC topics

- ✓ Effects on puberty
- ✓ Effects on smoking
- ✓ Effects on emotional health
- ✓ Effects on how happy you are with life

- Students indicated a broad interest in HBSC topics and volunteered many specific questions that could be addressed through health education or health media
- This process provided children with the opportunity to explore their own priorities in relation to the information gathered through HBSC
- These data could be used to guide curricular resource and other materials in child and adolescent health promotion

- The results could serve as a catalyst for change in relation to health promotion practice with children and young people
- The findings could help in future planning for HBSC surveys and dissemination activities
- The methodologies used in this work can facilitate researchers, health promotion practitioners and policy makers to actively engage participants in research and thus inform practice and policies relating to health.

- To develop a web resource to answer/address some of the questions posed by young people in Ireland
- To recruit a young people's advisory board for HBSC Ireland
- To further develop and refine the participatory research processes used here.
- To contribute to the work of the PDG group on youth participation in HBSC.



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HBSC Ireland

<http://www.nuigalway.ie/hbsc/>

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