

# RMSC Interactive Science Exhibit

## Team Members:

Katie Jarvis

Jennifer Yu

Anne Traczyk

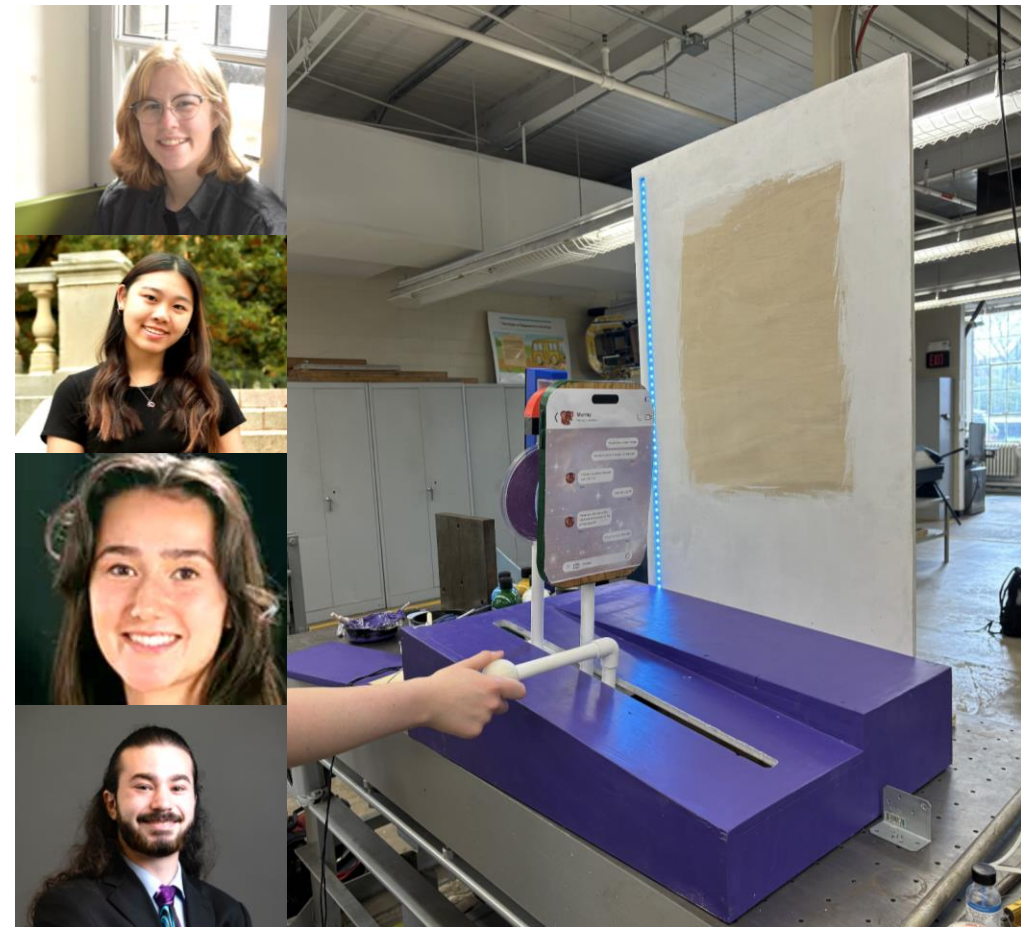
Charles Herman

## Customer:

**ROCHESTER MUSEUM  
& SCIENCE CENTER**

## Project Overview:

The goal of this project is to visualize and prototype a new exhibit for the Rochester Museum and Science Center's *How Things Work* exhibit. The technology chosen for explanation was wireless charging, which is a relatively new and common modern technology.



## Problem Statement

Adults who take children ages 5 to 15 to visit the RMSC expect the museum to teach both them and their children about science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) concepts in the world around them in a way that is intuitive as well as engaging to both the child and adult. In a broader scheme, the education of children in these STEM concepts will help in adjusting the child for adult life and contribute to the furthering of society as a whole. One topic that few people understand is wireless charging.



# Deliverables, Requirements, and Specifications

## Deliverables:

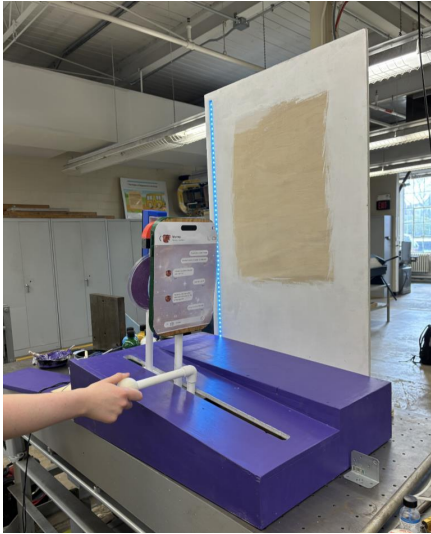
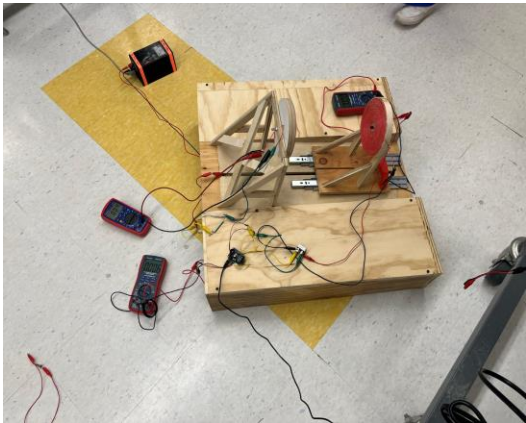
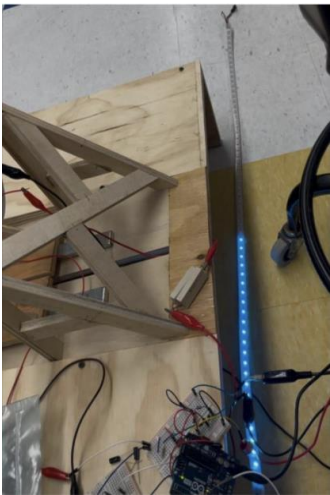
- Proof of concept
- First stage prototype
- Second stage prototype
- CAD model with Bill of Materials
- Final Report

## Requirements:

- Attractive to museum visitors
- Intuitive to use
- Not sensory overloading
- Easy to operate
- Safe to use
- Wheelchair Accessible
- Signage is readable
- Exhibit is interactive

## Specifications:

- Exhibit footprint is within 30 in x 30 in
- Maximum height is 7ft
- Table height is 27 in
- Minimum text size 24pt
- Power demand less than 12 Watts
- Forced used to interact is less than 5lbf



### Requirements

- |                             |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Must be attractive        | • Safe to use           |
| • Not overloading to senses | • Wheelchair accessible |
| • Must be intuitive to use  | • Must be readable      |
| • Must be easy to operate   | • Must be interactive   |

Specifications	Units	Nominal	Actual	Passed?
Exhibit footprint	in	Within 30" by 30"	30" by 20"	Yes
Maximum height	ft	7'	60"	Yes
Table height	inches	27"	29" (ish)	No
Minimum text size	points	24	41	Yes
Power demand (coils)	W	12	20.275	No
Force to use	lb <sub>f</sub>	Less than 5	0.4	Yes

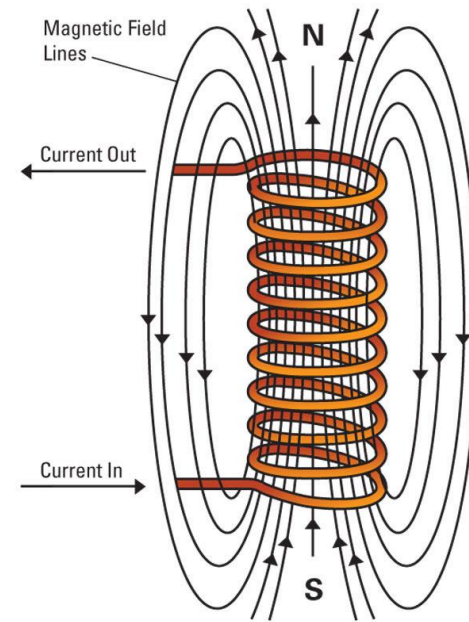




# Current Project Status (Concept/Detail Design)

## Main concept:

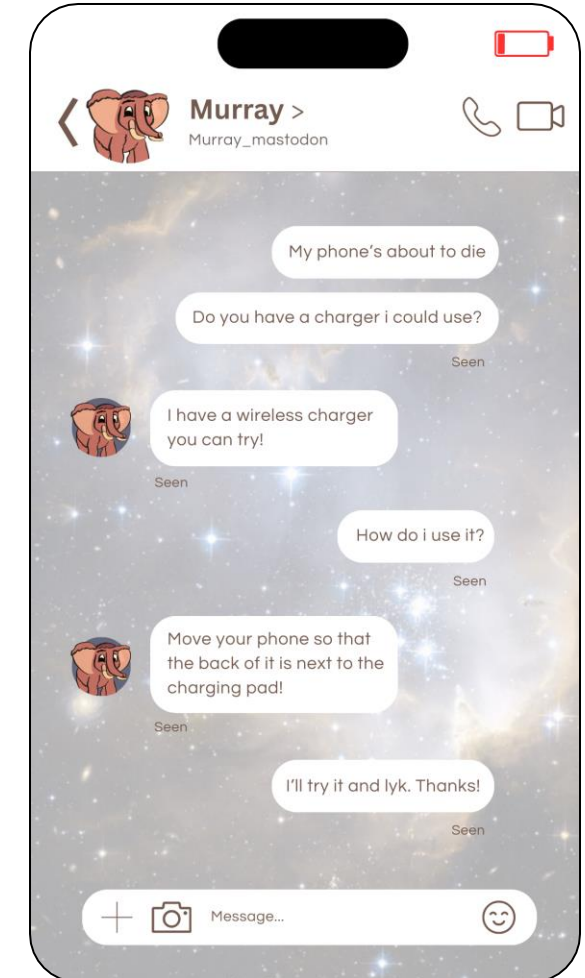
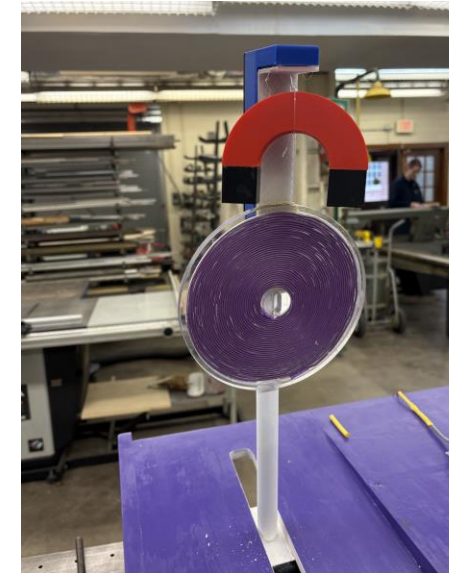
- 1) Demonstrate how wireless charging works through a proximity interaction and an interaction with magnetic fields produced by the inducing coils
- 2) Target audience's tactile preferences (ie. their emotions, touch, attention spans, etc.)
- 3) Ensure that the concept of wireless charging is grasped while providing a fun, safe exhibit that will leave a positive, memorable impact
- 4) Sliding the coils closer together to light up LEDs which model a phone being charged



# Current Project Status (Concept/Detail Design)

## Detail Design:

- 1) **Magnet Interactive** – models an actual magnet; shows where to be placed without intuitive thinking; shows the feel of the magnetic field
- 2) **Large Phone Demonstration** – relates the exhibit to wireless charging; made larger to see that it is a phone
- 3) **LED Lights** – demonstrate the 'charging' feature
- 4) **Sliding Handle**— easily accessible without risk of injury; turned to face the new view of our exhibit
- 5) **Phone Screen Print** – clear text that explains how to use the exhibit in a fun, memorable way
- 6) **Colors chosen** – eye-catching; durable acrylic finish for a long-lasting exhibit



# Current Project Status (Drawings)

## Base:

- 9 wood pieces to build the base
  - 3 Surface Pieces
  - 4 Side Pieces
  - 1 Inside Wall Piece
  - 1 Floor Piece

## Coil:

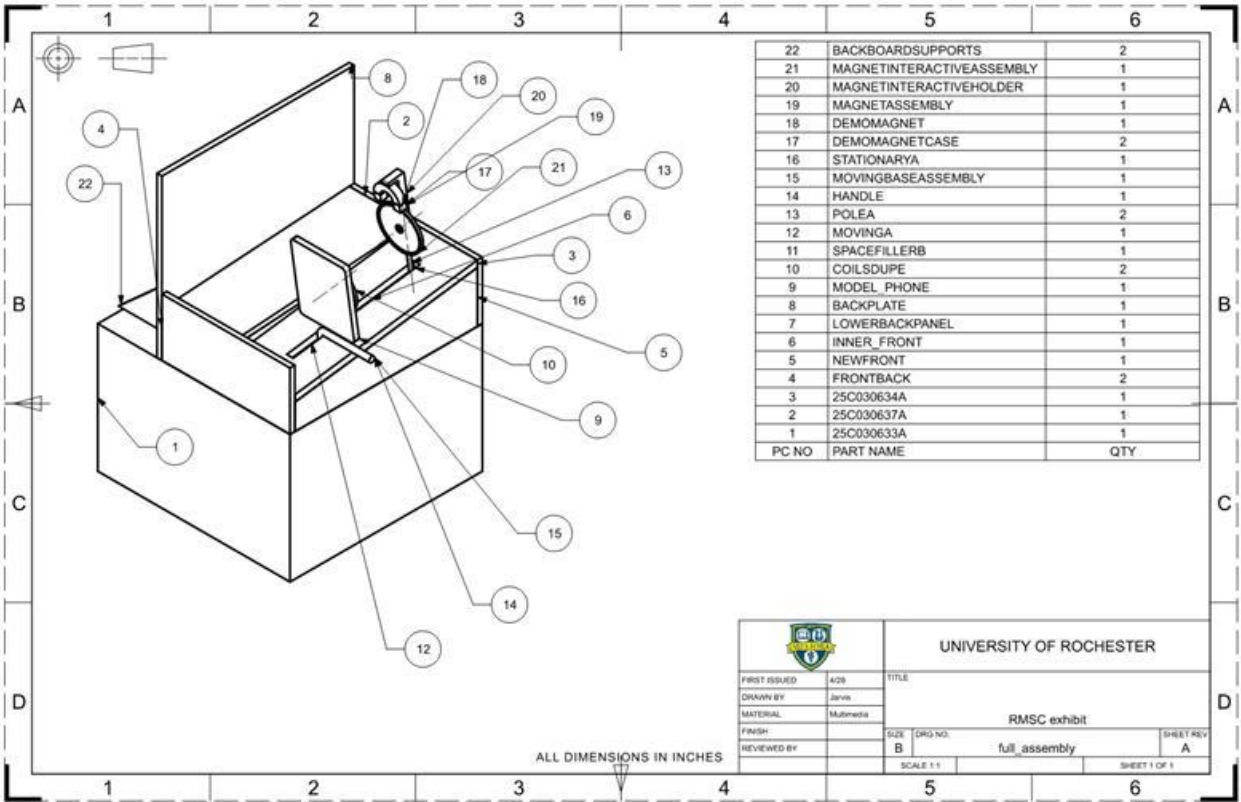
- 2 circular polycarbonate coil holders with an opening in the middle

## Magnet Interactive:

- 1 Magnet Base
- 1 Magnet Case
- 1 Magnet
- 2 Magnet Holders

## Knob:

- 1 Spherical PLA ball with a 1 inch hole in the center

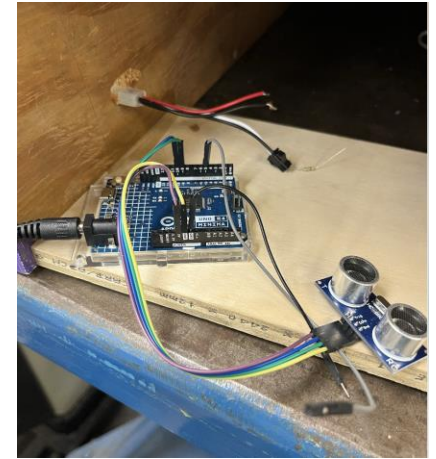




# Current Project Status (Backboard/Circuit Diagram)

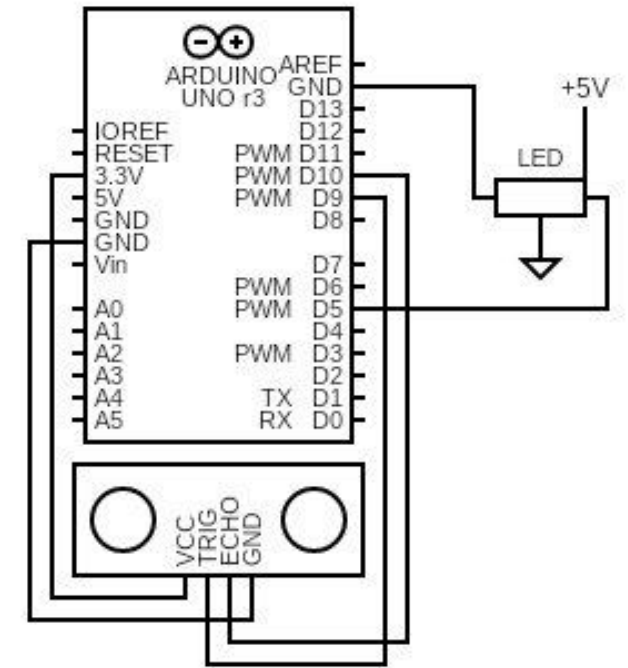
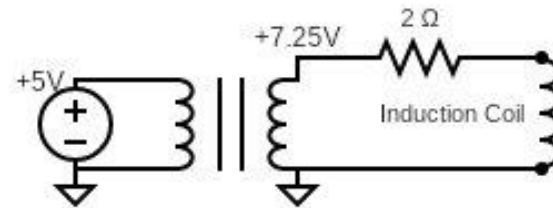
## Backboard:

- 4 wood pieces to build the backboard
  - 1 Vertical Piece
  - 2 Triangle supports
  - 1 Horizontal Connector Piece



## Circuit Diagrams:

Schematic of circuit to power the coils and the connection to the Arduino Board/LED lights



## Current Project Status (Simulations, Analysis)

### Tolerance Analysis:

- Inconsistent hole sizing between parts led to fit issues:
  - Longer curing time, tight fit that made assembly difficult
  - Range of 0.8248" to 0.8648" with tolerance of 0.02"

### Physical Durability Testing:

- Analysis on pulling the handle and bases were conducted to ensure it can a longstanding exhibit

### Fastener Torque Analysis:

- Proper torque is essential for secure attachment of the PVC board to the steel drawer sliders (using a 6-32 SAE Grade #8 screw and calculated 9.3 lb-ft of Torque)

### Materials Section Analysis:

- Material choices were based on functionality, cost, availability, and educational value (PVC, Plywood, Cooper wire, polycarbonate)





# Current Project Status (Simulations, Analysis)

## Structural Finite Element Analysis:

- A structural FEA analysis estimated a 0.0961" deformation under magnet load since (added glued components will increase stiffness and reduce actual deflection)

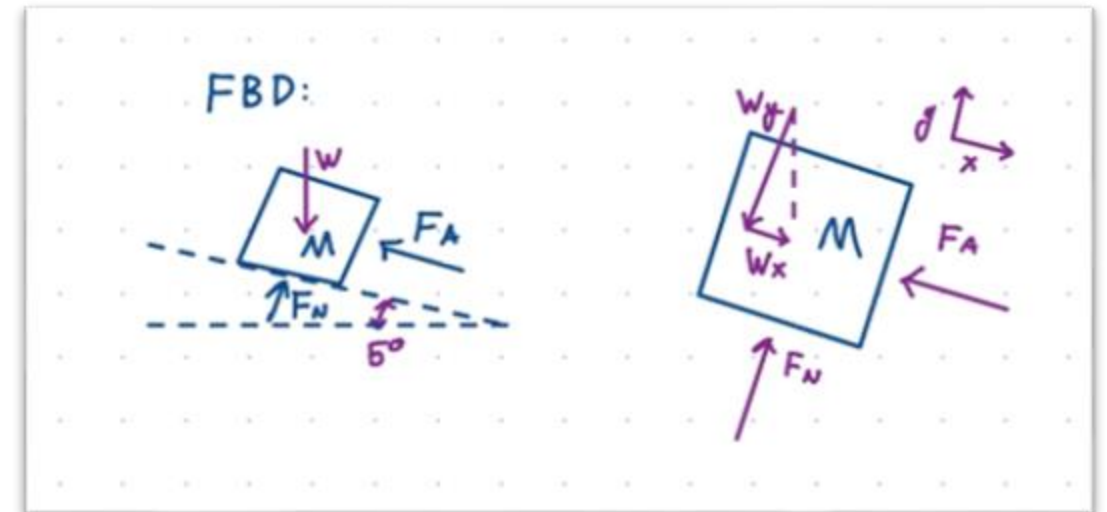
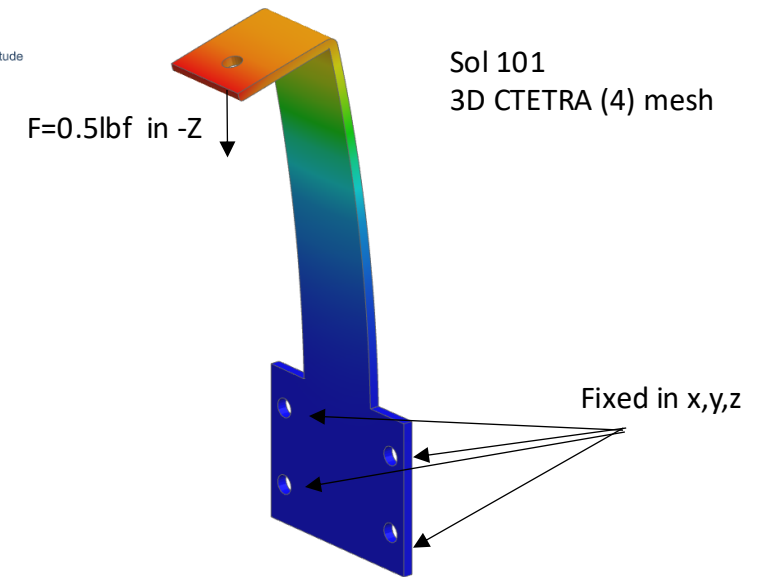
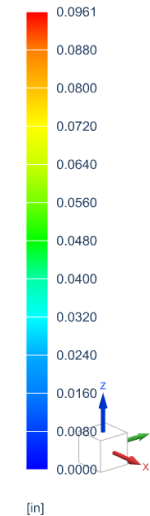
## Fundamental Mechanical Analysis:

- A statics analysis confirmed the exhibit meets ADA accessibility requirements
  - Force of 0.4448 lbf (5 lb limit)

## Magnetic Field Analysis:

- Maintaining a 6-inch distance from the powered coil keeps magnetic field exposure within safe limits for medical device users

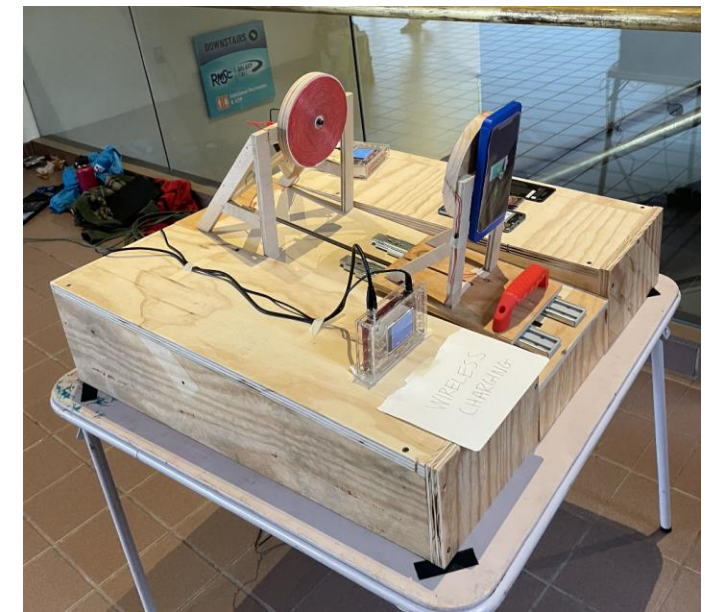
Magnetholderbase\_sim2 : Solution 1 Result  
Subcase - Statics 1, Static Step 1  
Displacement - Nodal, Magnitude  
Min : 0.0000, Max : 0.0961, Units = in  
CSYS : Absolute Rectangular  
Deformation : Displacement - Nodal Magnitude



# Current Project Status (Public Testing Observations)

## Observations:

- Oscilloscope was hard read, understand, and see on the table especially for young kids
- Words on the poster were positioned in a way that's hard to read
- Pushing the handle from the front made it hard to see the phone
- Connection of wireless charging to phone was unclear



## Adjustments:

- Added lights to exhibit
- Changed view a different side to allow better view of coils
- Added a magnet interactive
- Made phone model bigger
- Redesigned coil stands



# Conclusions/Future Work

## Conclusions:

- Testing is an incredibly important aspect of user design
- Time is never enough
- Communication is essential when working within a team

## Future Work:

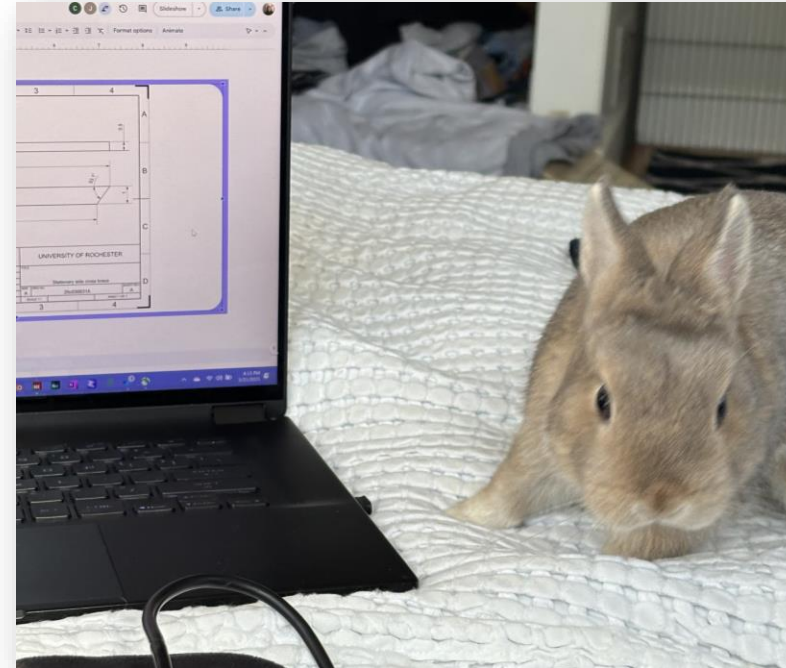
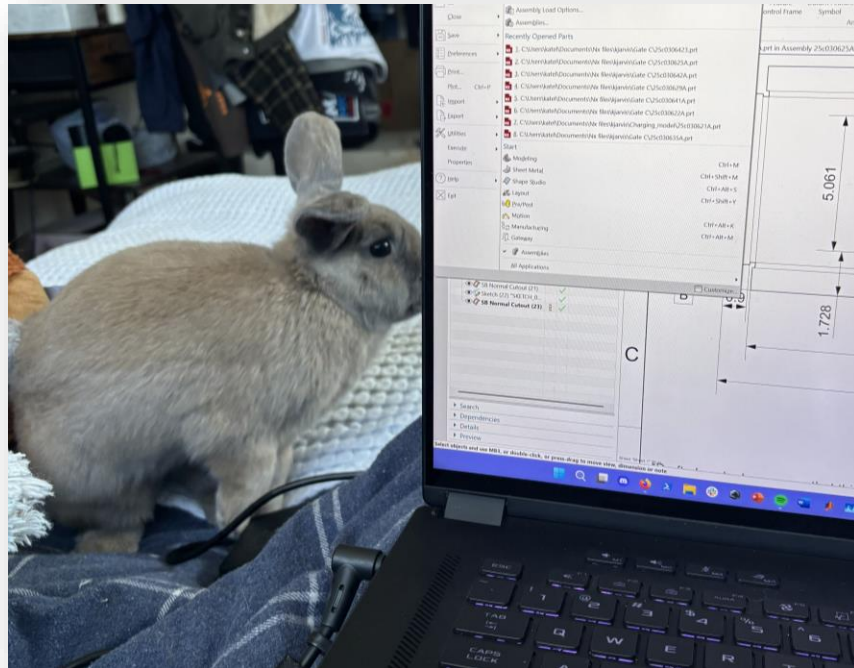
- Adapt circuit to utilize the induced current in the second coil
  - (As opposed to now – using proximity as an input)
- Improve visual aids to show electron movement in the coils
- Add some way to shut off coil when not in use
- Conduct more audience testing
  - Will be taking notes during Design Day
- Katie will be interning at the RMSC this summer





# Acknowledgements

Thank you to our sponsor, Calvin Uzelmeier and the RMSC as a whole; our supervisor Christopher Muir; Sam Kriegsman and Alex Prideaux for their incredible patience and mentorship; our teaching assistant Sandhya Vaidyanathan for her guidance; Edward Herger, Paul Osborne and Douglas Kelley for contributing to diagnosing our LED circuit; and Chris Pratt, Jim Alkins, and Bill Mildenberger for their manufacturing support and advice.



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