

# Scriptapedia: A Digital Commons for Documenting and Sharing Group Model Building Scripts

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## Abstract

Modelers facilitating group model building (GMB) sessions often draw on a set of sophisticated pieces of small group processes called “scripts” (Andersen & Richardson, 1997; Vennix, 1996). Andersen and Richardson (1997) have proposed that documenting the scripts that modelers use will help advance the field and practice of GMB by making the process more transparent and replicable. However, no common format or central library yet exists whereby scripts can be shared. This project responds to this need by proposing Scriptapedia, an open source Joomla based digital commons for documenting and sharing GMB scripts.

## Vision for Scriptapedia

### Script Template

Use of a standard template will ensure that GMB processes are clearly documented and easy to replicate

### Sample Agendas of Scripts

Practitioners can provide or follow samples of GMB project agendas, showing how projects have been structured and the scripts that were used.

### Glossary of GMB Terms

This index and definition of common GMB terms will promote a shared language and common understanding.

### Open Source

Scriptapedia will be entirely open source, promoting the free exchange of ideas and innovative techniques.

### Searchable

Scripts will be searchable by author and title.

## Using Scripts



Behavior Over Time Graphs Script

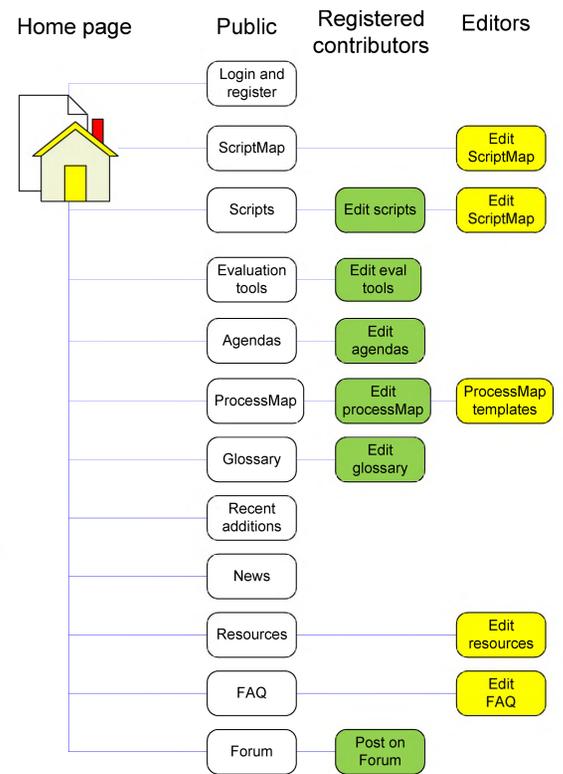


Structure Elicitation Script

## Script Template

<b>Description</b>	1-2 sentence brief overview
<b>Context</b>	When should this script be used?
<b>Purpose(s)</b>	Delete the bullets below that do not apply <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Framing the problem</li> <li>Initiating mapping</li> <li>Eliciting variables</li> <li>Deciding the reference modes for the study</li> <li>Eliciting feedback loops</li> <li>Eliciting stocks</li> </ul>
<b>Nature of group task</b>	Delete the bullets below that do not apply <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Divergent:</b> activity designed to produced an array of different ideas and interpretations</li> <li><b>Convergent:</b> activity designed to aggregate and merge ideas and interpretations.</li> <li><b>Evaluative:</b> activity designed to evaluate and choose between options and ideas</li> </ul>
<b>Time</b>	Preparation time: Time to complete steps in script: Follow up time:
<b>Materials needed to complete script</b>	E.g. markers, overhead projector, flip chart
<b>Inputs from other scripts</b>	E.g. behavior over time graphs, concept model, or “none” if this is a starter script
<b>Outputs from this script</b>	List specific products such as BOTG, system maps, etc and how these products will be used in the context of the whole project.
<b>Modeling team roles required and expertise needed</b>	E.g. Facilitator/elicitor- expert in SD
<b>Who is in the room?</b>	List of people who should be in the room, e.g., “gatekeeper”, “modeler”, “clients”
<b>Steps</b>	Detailed how-to’s explaining sequence of actions and who does them. Be as specific as possible, e.g., 1, 2, 3, ..., 10
<b>Evaluation criteria</b>	How do you know that the session has been successful? E.g. behavioral changes of participants, learning goals achieved, etc.
<b>Author(s)</b>	First and last name of persons writing this script along with their email and the date that this version of the script was written , e.g., “Jane Smith ( <a href="mailto:smith@university.edu">smith@university.edu</a> ) March 2, 2010”
<b>History &amp; Basis for Script</b>	This can include previous scripts, articles, other types of small group exercises, etc. The history should provide a name and date citation, and retain the entire history of the script, not just the previous version.
<b>Revisions</b>	Briefly describe what changes have been made between this version and earlier versions
<b>References</b>	List any publications or references to additional documentation using this script and cited in the history of the script. E.g, if this script is based on another script that was described in peer reviewed research, then mention this under the “History” section with an author/year citation, and provide the full reference here in the references section.

## Proposed Site Design



## Next Steps

**Build Site and Joomla Modules**

**Pilot Script Template**

**Generate Site Content**

**Develop Site Rules and Policies**

**Establish Editorial Structure**

## References

- Andersen, D. F., & Richardson, G. P. (1997). Scripts for group model building. *System Dynamics Review*, 13(2), 107-129.
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- Rouwette, E., Vennix, J. A. M., & Mullekom, T. v. (2006). Group model building effectiveness: A review of assessment studies. *System Dynamics Review*, 18(1), 5-45.
- Vennix, J. (1996). *Group model building*. New York: John Wiley & Sons.

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