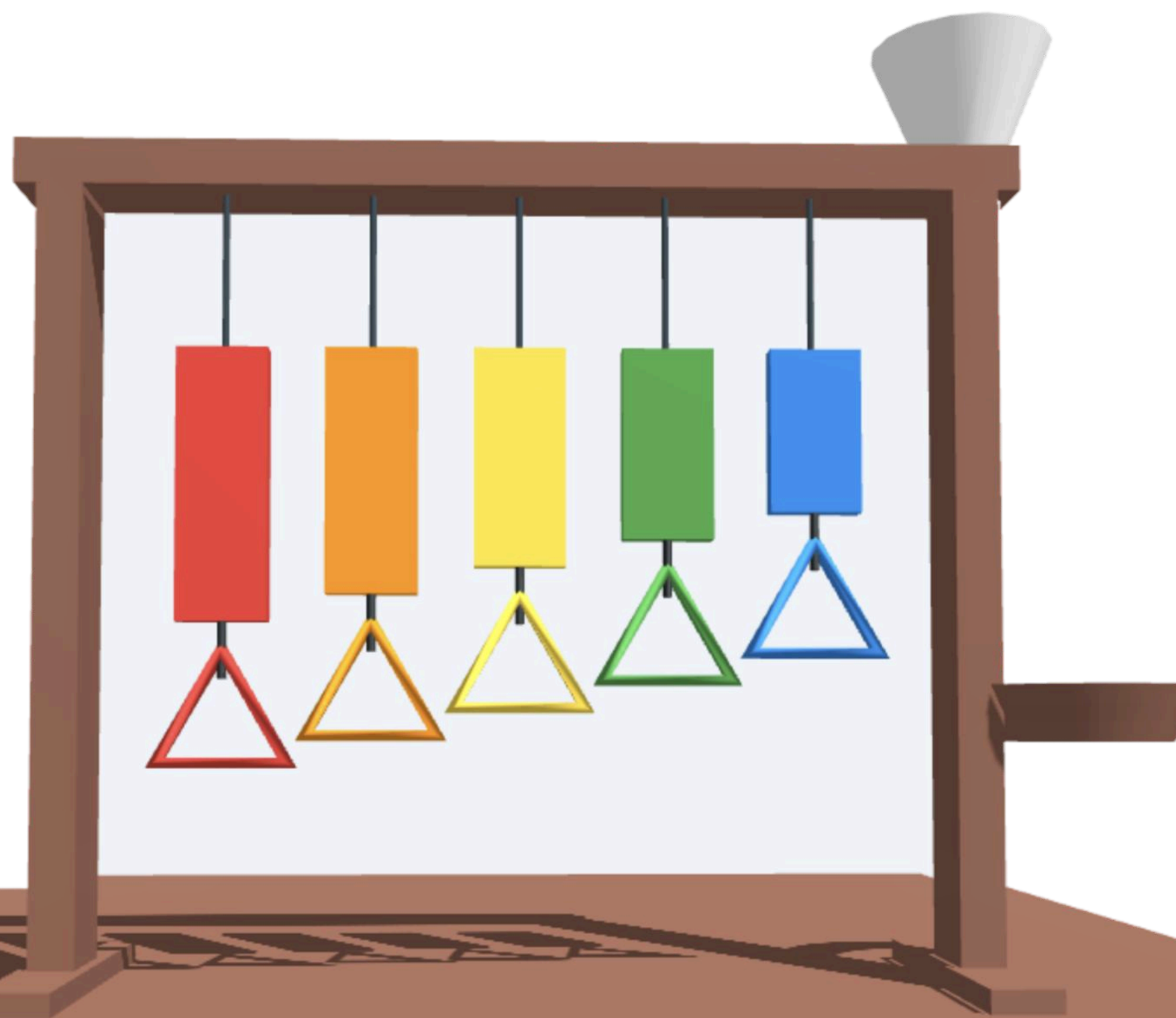


AXI: Alpaca Xylophone Interaction



Secondary Research

- About their Origins
- Bio-profile of an Alpaca: Their vision, hearing, physiology, etc
- Signs to observe for an ethogram: Body language, sounds
- Current Technology & Research: Mostly benefits humans

Ethogram

**Rough insights based
on hours of alpaca
recorded videos,
livestreams**

- Resting 35%
- Grazing 35%
- Grooming / Self-care 11%
- Standing 8%
- Ruminating (Chewing the cud) 6%
- Socializing / Social contacts 4%
- Moving / Locomotion 1%



The Crystal Diva:

Highly intelligent, verbalizes concerns, expects human feedback(treats).

The Shy Explorer:

Initially avoids contact; requires patient, incremental, reward-based thresholds.

The Reactive Guardian:

Alert and easily startled; requires very gentle visual and auditory cues to avoid triggering herd-wide alarms.

Personas

Ideation Sketches



**While some were ACD
(Alpaca Centered Design)**

Musical instruments for Alpacas



for vocalizations



Snout-powered
xylophone

Alpaca Arcade



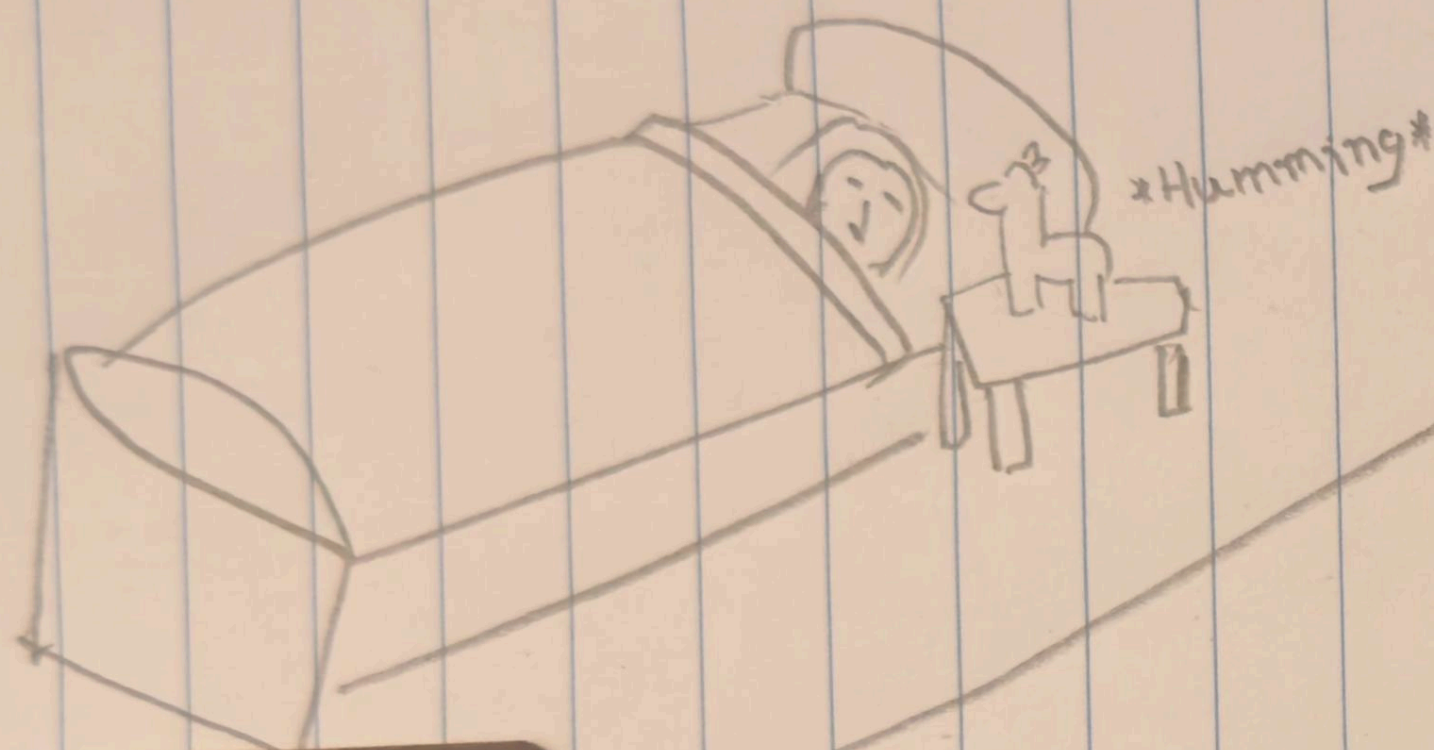
Kick-a-mole



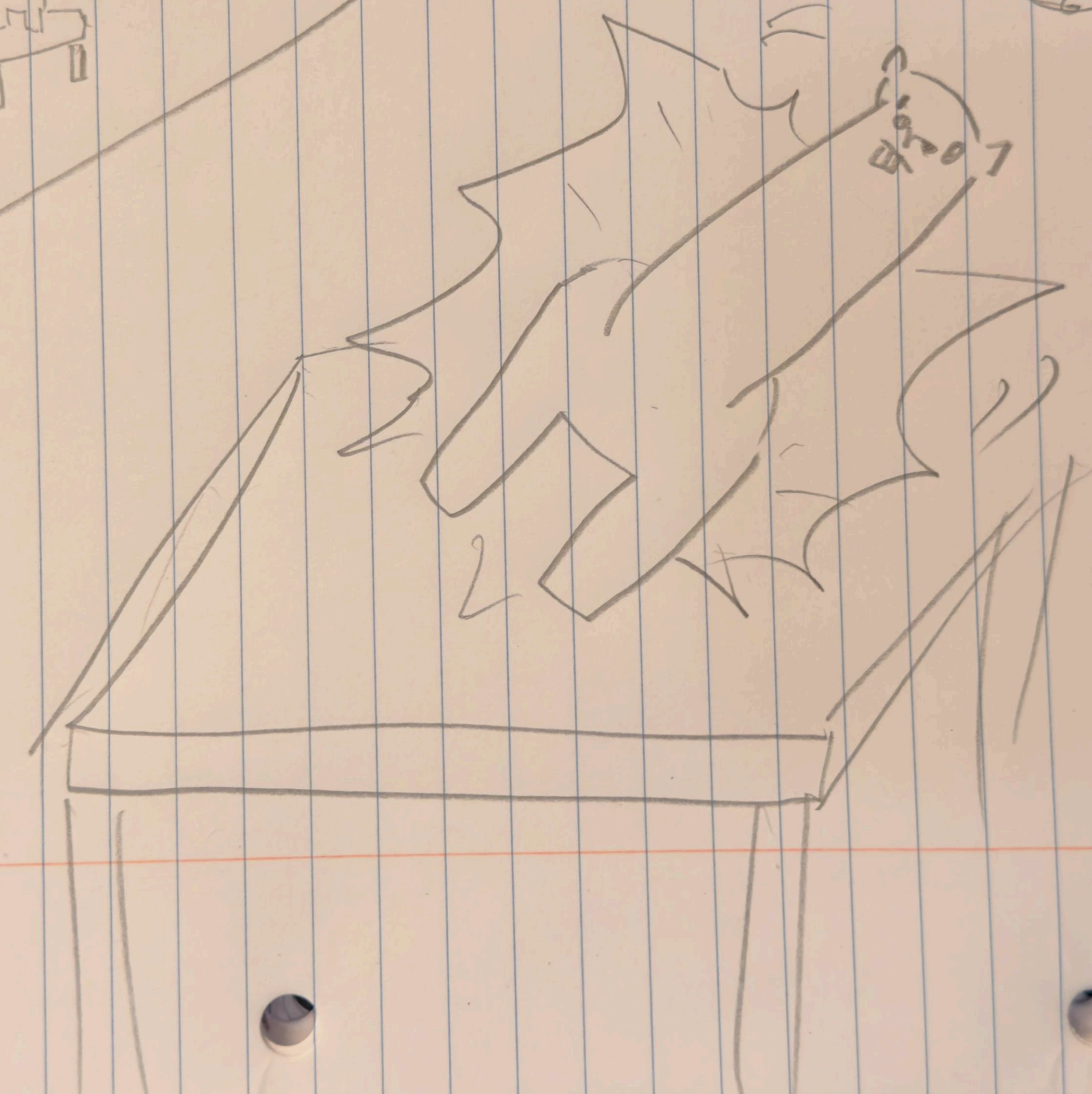
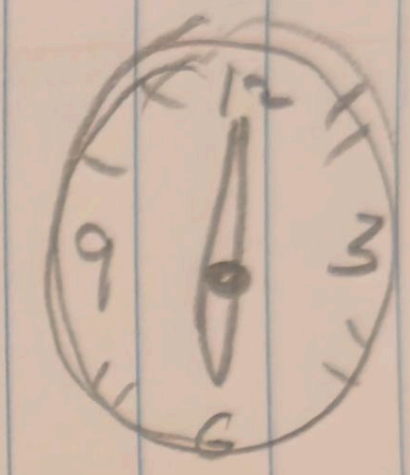


**Most were still
Human Centered**

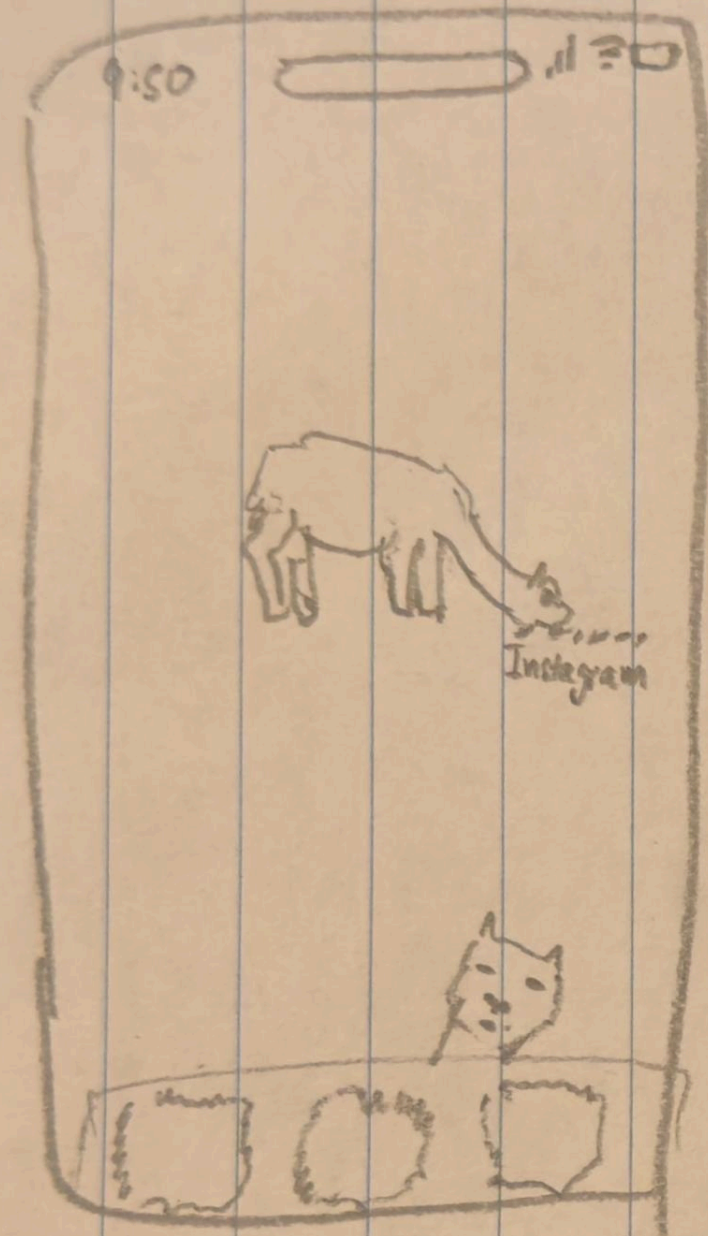
Alpaca white noise machine / Alarm



Screeching



TouchGrass OS



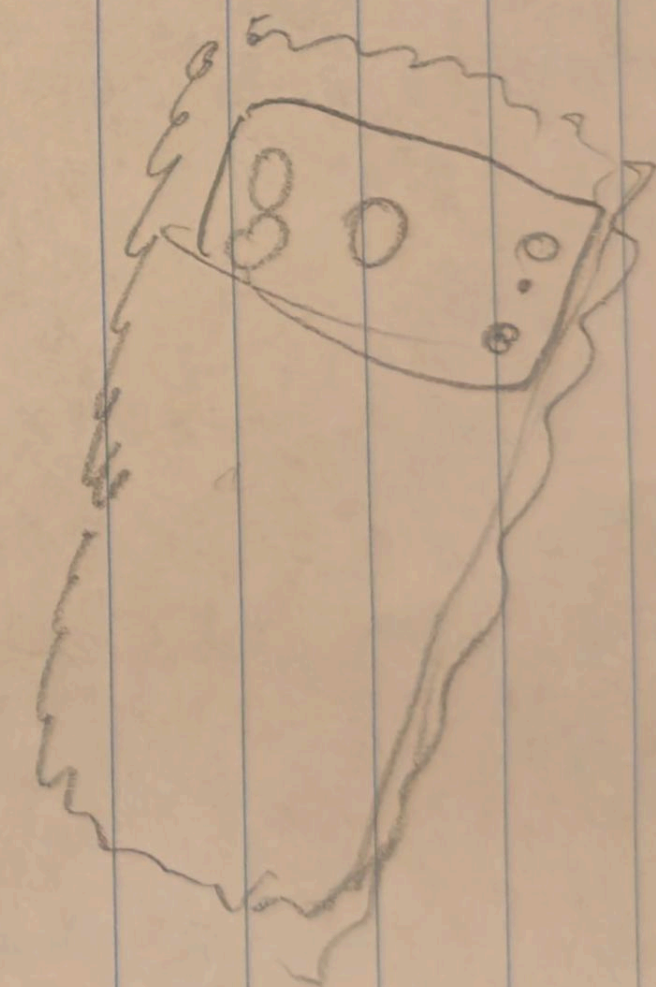
Recreates nature

Alpaca ate your app: Locked out for the day

Judgemental Alpaca: disappointed in your app use



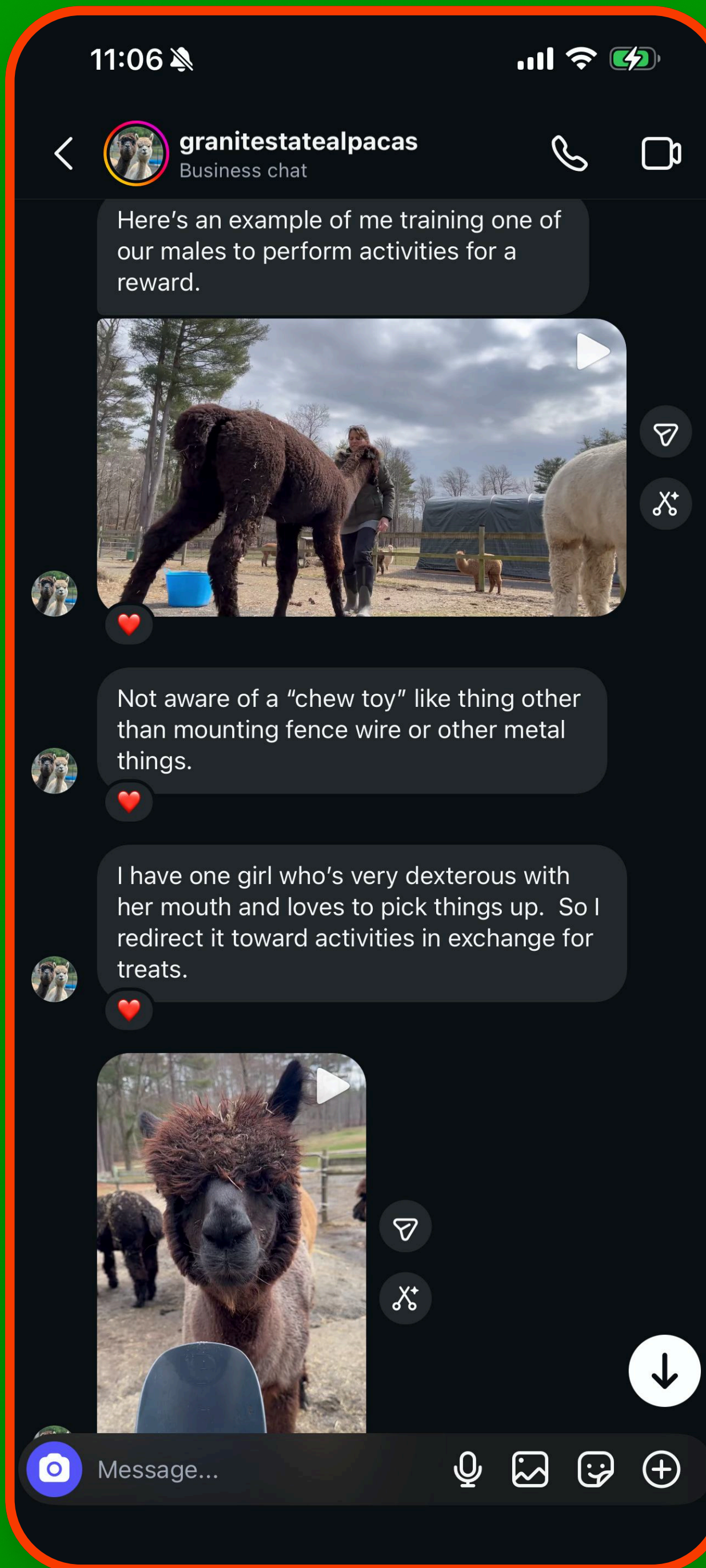
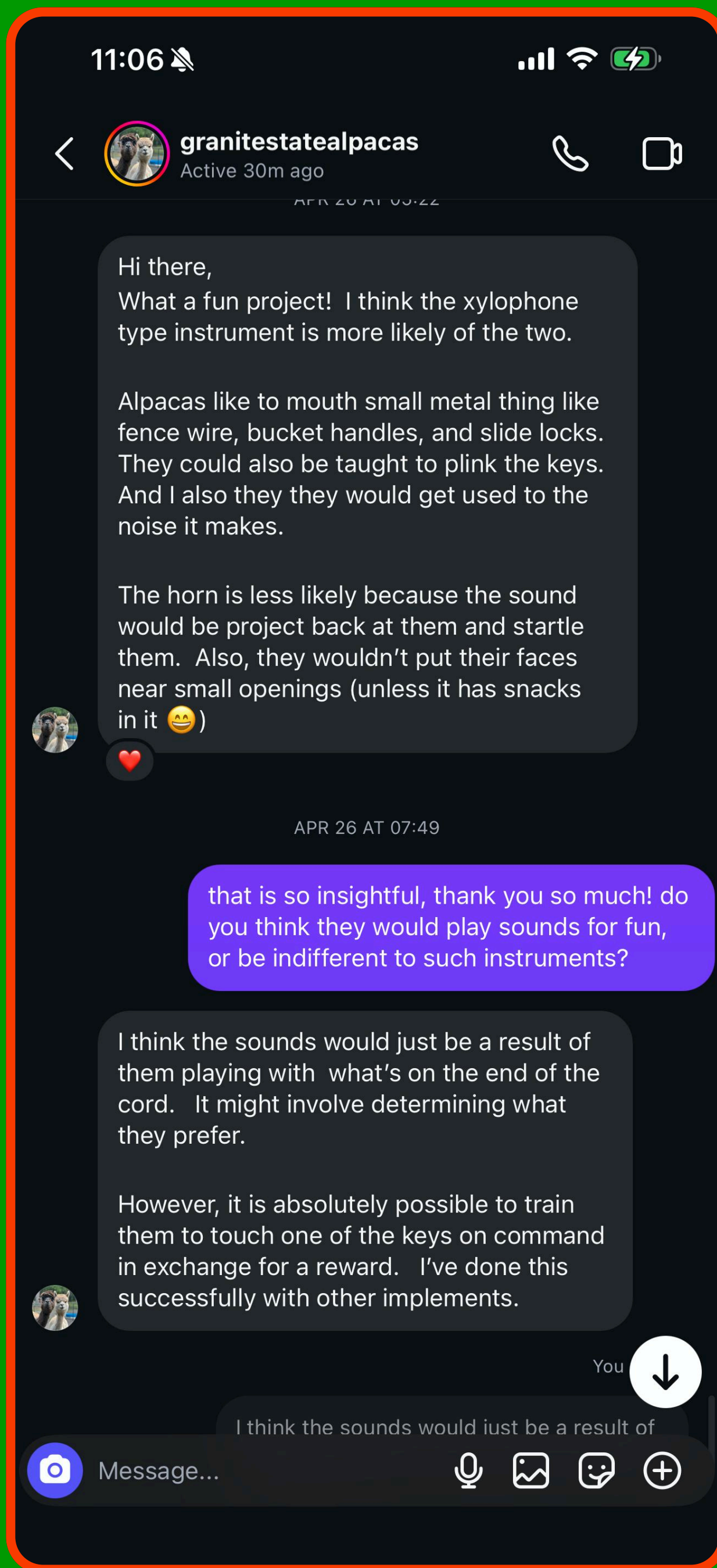
phone lock box
spits at you



Fair
Phone
Cases



Checking in with the experts - The Alpaca Community



I got in touch with over 6 different alpaca farms around the world - and asked them what they thought about these musical instruments.

Granite State Alpaca farms sent many videos showcasing Alpaca behavior.

Most of those interviewed agreed on the following points:

- For Alpacas, the snout is most favorable to interact with things.
- Alpacas love enrichment-training but treats are mandatory
- Alpacas may not like loud sounds/ startling things.

The Prototype

durable • ergonomic • pleasant • dispenses treats!

For the ‘handles’:

Triangles vs rings:

”Fence-wire”-like material and diameter preferred by Alpacas
A flat base allows it to be pulled like a handle

Automatic Treat dispensing:

Can be adjusted over the device’s

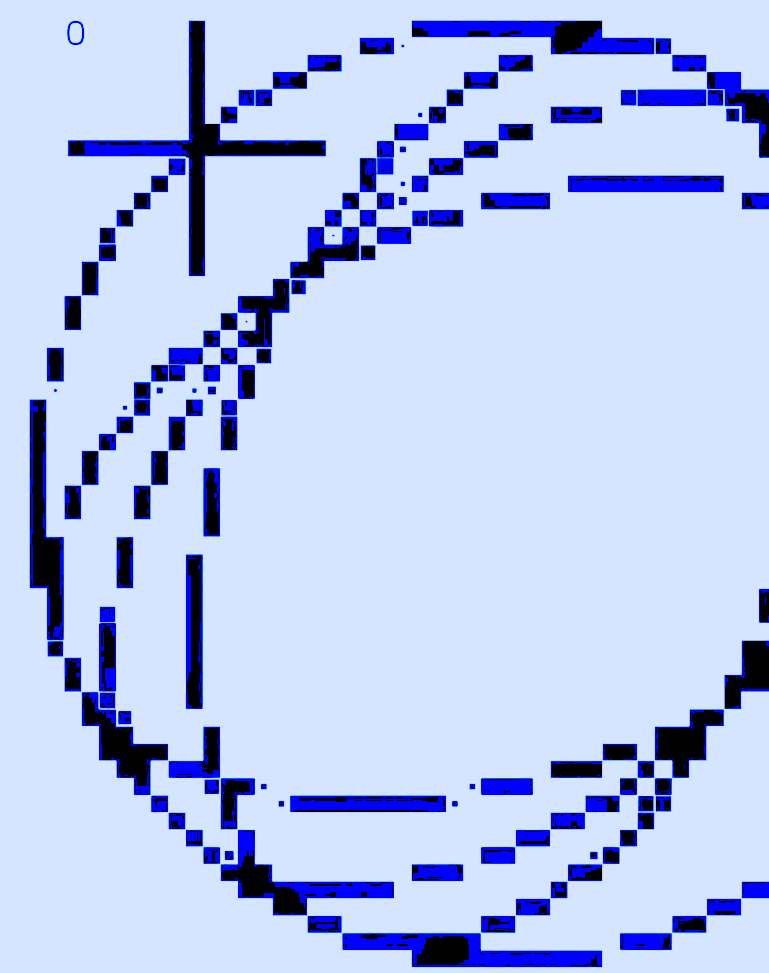
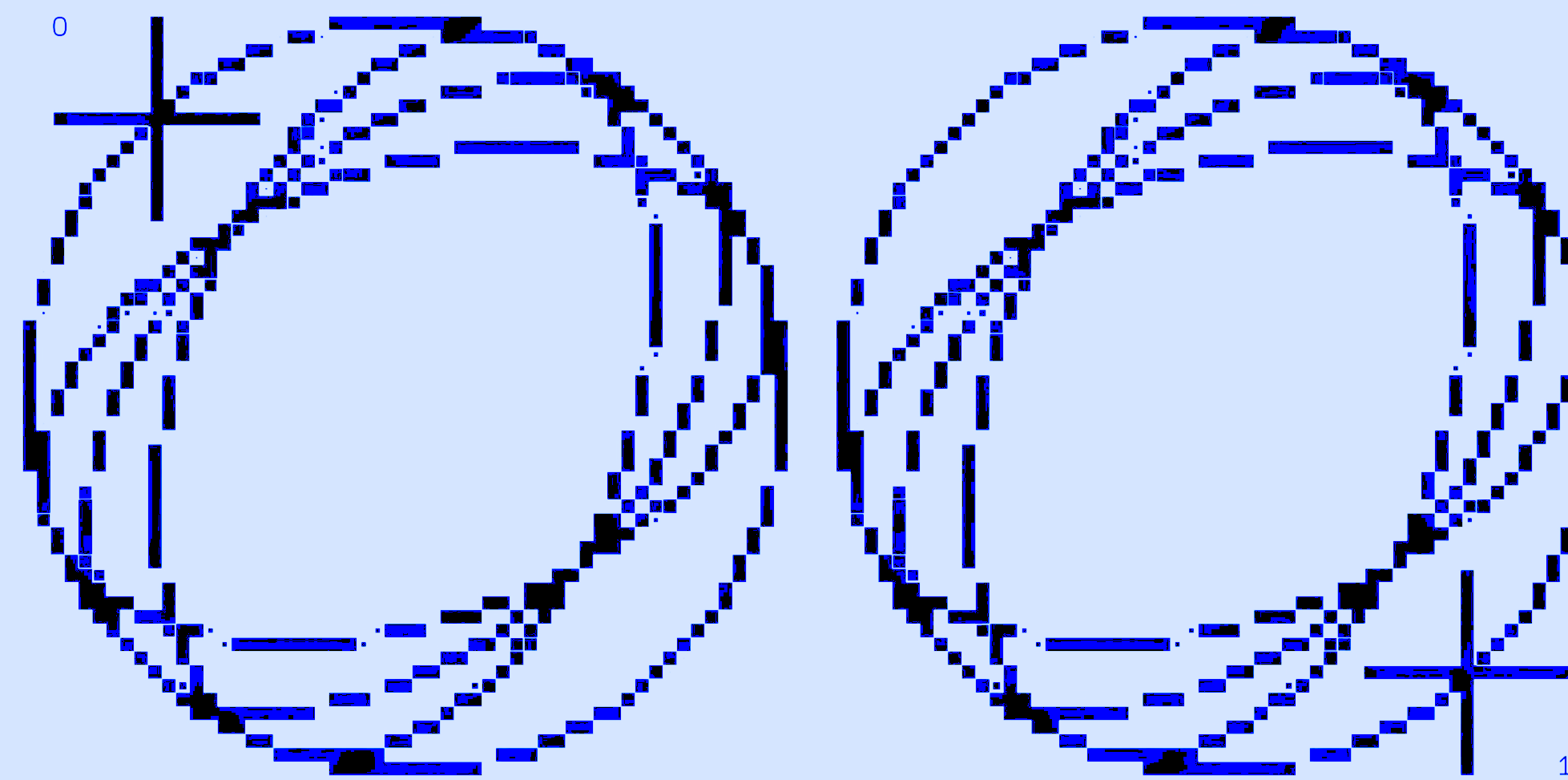
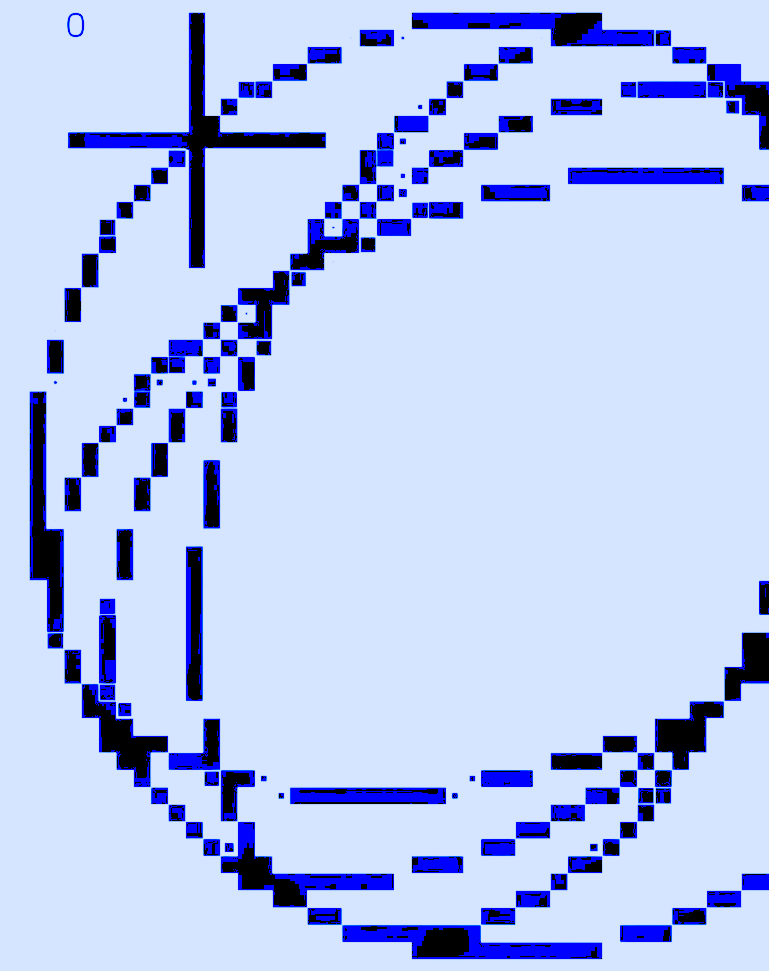
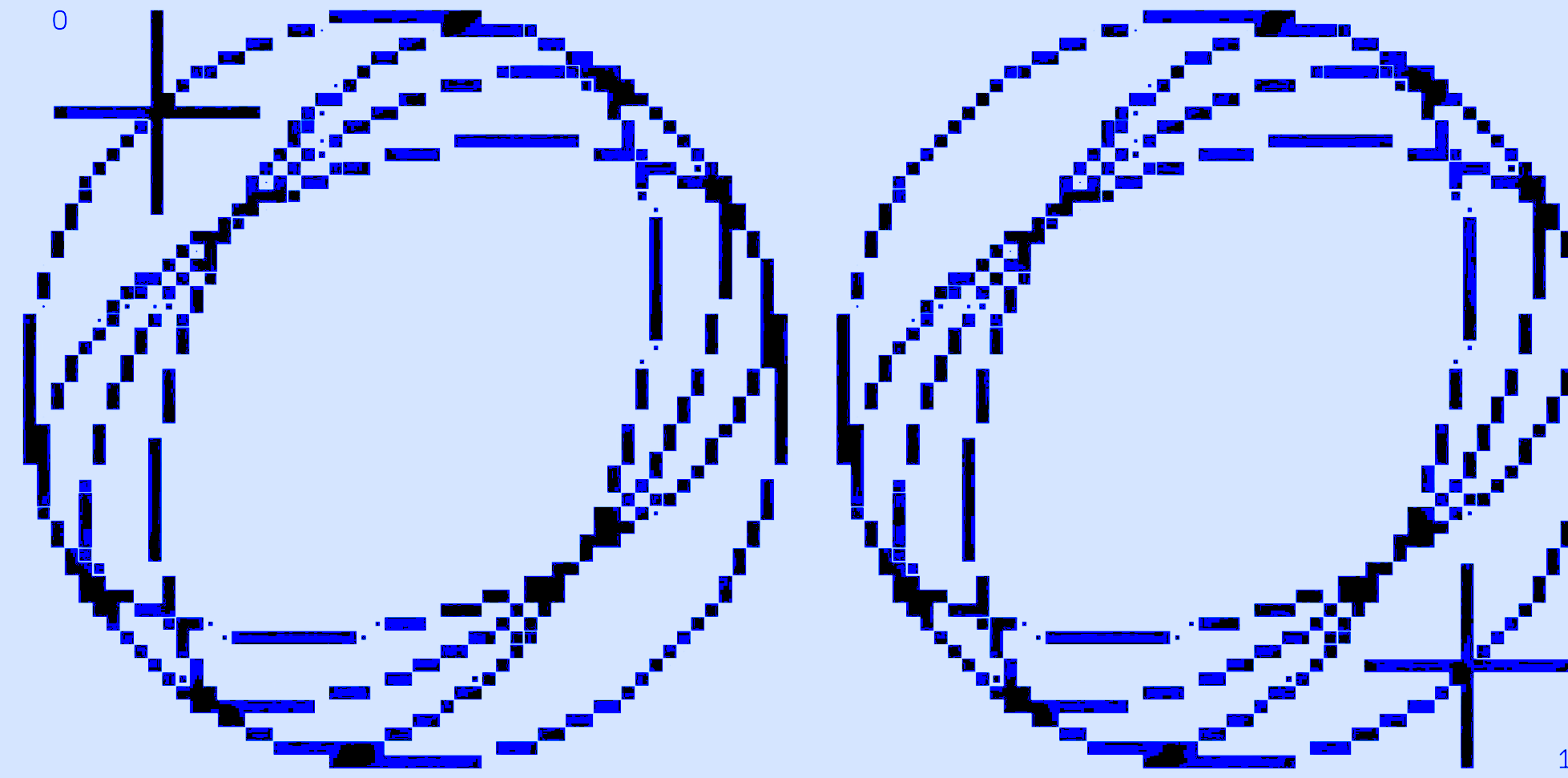
lifespan for different phases:

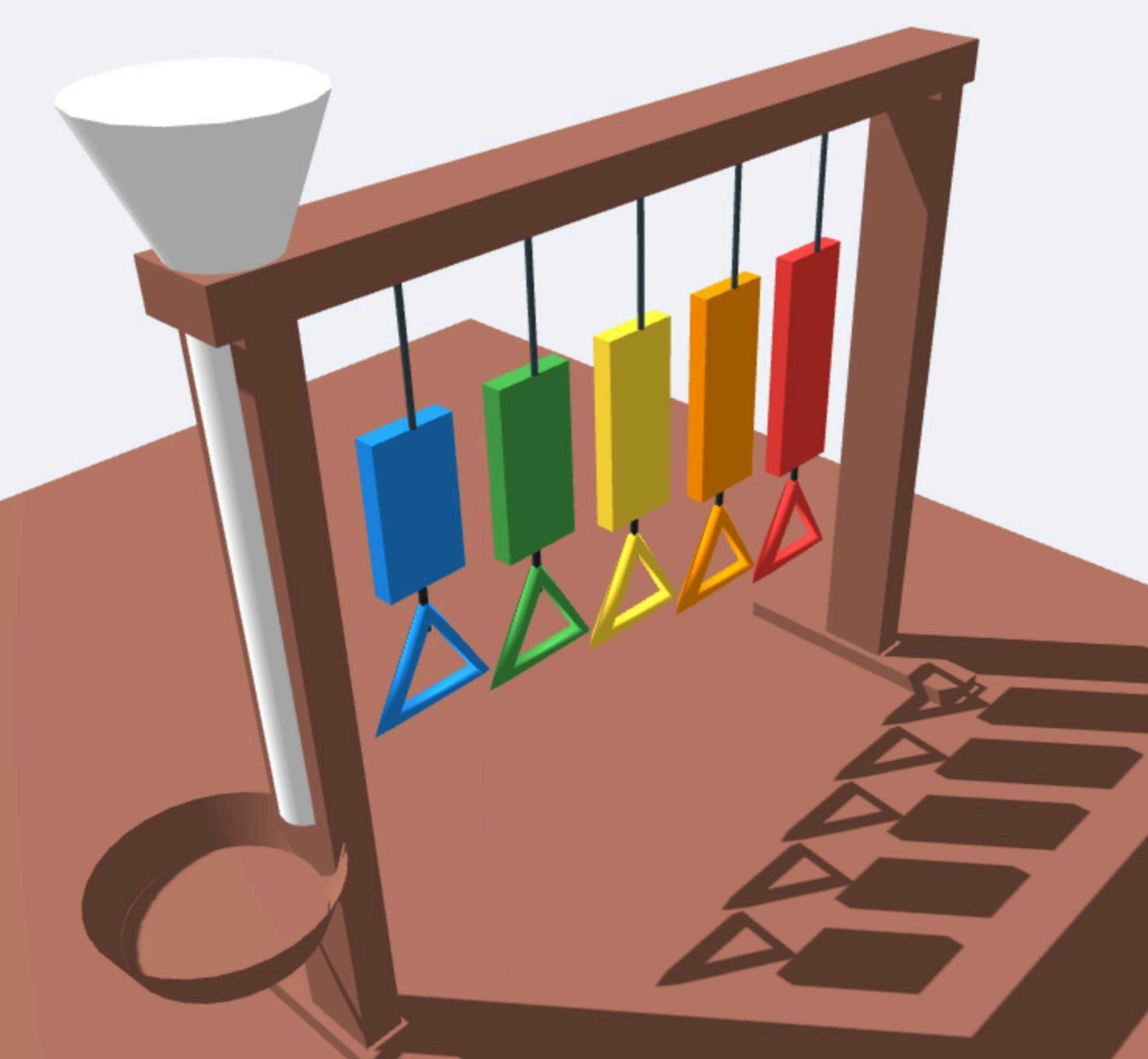
Introduction, training, normal use,
“old toy” phase.

Maybe more frequent treats during training?

“King of the Hill”

An elevation-based wooden platform build would encourage play and attract Alpacas to this device





THE CONCEPT

Snout-Powered Xylophone: durable for the outdoors. Uses Rings for mouth control. The wire-like feel with the easy triangular base allows ergonomic use.

Dispenses treats

Plays pleasant notes

TRY IT OUT!

<https://www.archishmandurbha.com/alpaca/alpaca-xylophone.html>

