Public Engagement Activity Example: Wriggling Rangoli

Our long term aims

- To share knowledge and raise awareness of parasitic infections and their links to global poverty.
- To gain relevant insights into the experiences of those who have lived in areas affected by parasitic infections.

Our activity objectives

- To facilitate in partnership with local community organisations, a two-way engagement activity to share knowledge and experiences with local women and children who have lived experiences.
- To inspire the women and children to create a traditional rangoli mural during a one day community festival.
- To engage festival visitors with the issues and challenges of parasitic infection.

What our activity will look like

Parasitic Infection Workshop – to foster a dialogue between researchers and local women about parasitic infections, posters and visuals will be used to explain the science then the women will be invited to share their own experiences. After a shared lunch, participants will be invited to draw 'rangoli' designs based on what they have experienced and learnt about parasitic infections.

Community Festival Rangoli – the workshop designs will be scaled up as a rangoli on the pavement in front of the local library as part of the Festival. The women and their children will be joined by PhD students and visitors will be encouraged to participate in the creation of the rangoli. All round the area posters about parasitic infections will be displayed and researchers will be available to talk to people and answer questions.

What is a rangoli?

A rangoli is a traditional Indian decoration made with ground rice, particularly during festivals

