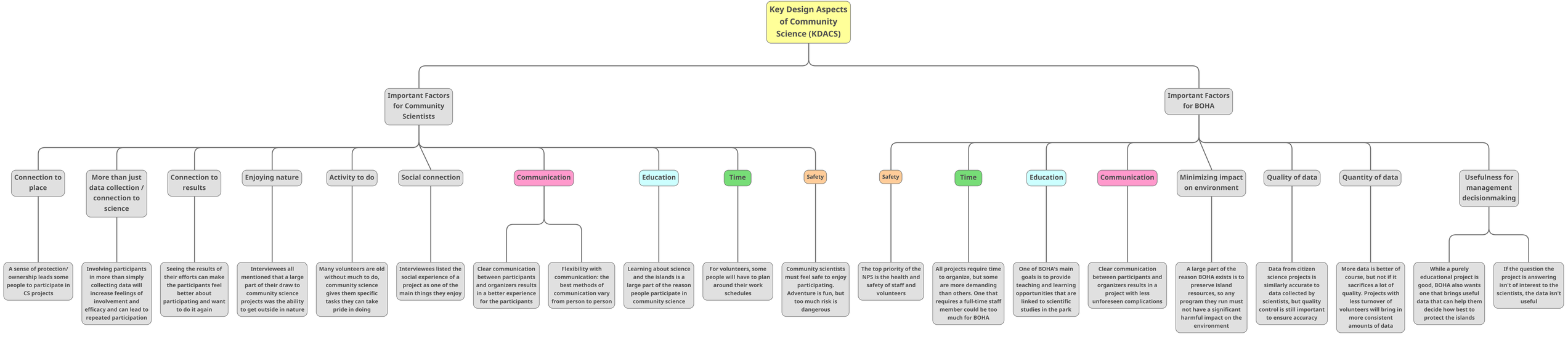
Key Design Aspects of Community Science (KDACS)
Important Factors for Community Scientists
Important Factors for BOHA
Connection to place
A sense of protection/ ownership leads some people to participate in CS projects
More than just data collection / connection to science
Involving participants in more than simply collecting data will increase feelings of involvement and efficacy and can lead to repeated participation
Connection to results
Seeing the results of their efforts can make the participants feel better about participating and want to do it again
Enjoying nature
Interviewees all mentioned that a large part of their draw to community science projects was the ability to get outside in nature
Activity to do
Many volunteers are old without much to do, community science gives them specific tasks they can take pride in doing
Social connection
Interviewees listed the social experience of a project as one of the main things they enjoy
Communication
Clear communication between participants and organizers results in a better experience for the participants
Flexibility with communication: the best methods of communication vary from person to person
Education
Learning about science and the islands is a large part of the reason people participate in community science
Time
For volunteers, some people will have to plan around their work schedules
Safety
Community scientists must feel safe to enjoy participating. Adventure is fun, but too much risk is dangerous
Safety
The top priority of the NPS is the health and safety of staff and volunteers
Time
All projects require time to organize, but some are more demanding than others. One that requires a full-time staff member could be too much for BOHA
Education
One of BOHA's main goals is to provide teaching and learning opportunities that are linked to scientific studies in the park
Communication
Clear communication between participants and organizers results in a project with less unforeseen complications
Minimizing impact on environment
A large part of the reason BOHA exists is to preserve island resources, so any program they run must not have a significant harmful impact on the environment
Quality of data
Data from citizen science projects is similarly accurate to data collected by scientists, but quality control is still important to ensure accuracy
Quantity of data
More data is better of course, but not if it sacrifices a lot of quality. Projects with less turnover of volunteers will bring in more consistent amounts of data
Usefulness for management decisionmaking
While a purely educational project is good, BOHA also wants one that brings useful data that can help them decide how best to protect the islands
If the question the project is answering isn't of interest to the scientists, the data isn't useful