

Flemingsberg Day, 16 September 2017

What does KTH (Kungliga Tekniska högskolan) HEADS students have in common with the Panetoz music group? Both caught the audience's interest in "One day for Flemingsberg". "This is not the right environment to hold lectures. Therefore we bring some stuff to make our research easy to understand and entertaining for the kids." said Zhou Zhou, HEADS PhD student at Neuronik Unit at KTH.



It's cool to make the kids perceive how a brain feels like while touching. At KTH's table, there are two brain halves made of jelly. Many children and their parents were surprised to know the brain was a soft and fluid-like material. "It feels pretty soft and sloppy. A little disgusting while I touch it," said by the one of kids.

What many families like a lot are the various interactive games that can be played on KTH's large touch screens. Annaclaudia Montanino, HEADS PhD student, collaborated with the Logistics and Informatics group in KTH and developed an interactive quiz in the touch screen. The questions are simple and varied: What does a green buckle mean in a helmet? If you have torn and struggled with your helmet, will you still buy a new one if it looks alright? What does the law on helper use mean?



Another HEADS student, Mohammadi Reza, explains the helmet structures to the children using some cut-open helmets. To better explain the helmet protection mechanism and the need to wear a helmet, Reza



showed some accident simulations comparing the brain response without helmet, with a normal helmet, and with MIPS helmet (Multi-directional Impact Protection System). “It is really exciting for me knowing that helmets can play such an important role in protecting my brain. Wearing a helmet is more than looking cool, also protect my smart brain from injury” a teenage cyclist remarked.

Shiyang Meng, a HEADS researcher based at AGV – an Italian helmet manufacturing company - also brought his research to this event during his visiting in Stockholm. By dropping a ball to a flat plane and an oblique plane, Shiyang explained that, under the current safety standards, the helmet was only tested for vertical impact. However, the head is more likely to suffer from oblique impact in reality.



All of this took place in a playful, relaxed and exciting atmosphere. The hope is to have more children and families developing interests to research and to make them aware that research is not far from them. That's why it's extra fun that more children want to stay at KTH's table even when the popular band Panetoz goes on stage and lets the audience dance and pause.

