
Exhibit Interpretation follow up resources

From : Cooper, Beth <Beth.Cooper@sos.nj.gov> Fri, Sep 11, 2015 11:52 AM
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I hope we were able to provide what you were looking for in your class today. Based on the discussions and questions I have put together a list of suggested ideas for digital interactives. I am also including links to some articles that explore object interpretation, storytelling and sparking imagination.

Every object has multiple stories:

- Who made it
- Who used it
- Why it's important
- How it got to the museum
- Etc.

Finding the most compelling angle and narrowing down the story is the key.

Students can think about objects individually or group them together by theme and tell a story that way.

Ideas captured today:

- Curator Facts turned into a smart phone tour
- Use an object as a jumping off point to highlight NJ History
 - o baseball vase (Baseball in NJ)
 - o Trenton vase (battle of Trenton) etc.
 - o Furniture shipped by Roebling (story of NJ connection to Titanic)
- Group objects to tell a story
 - o Ceramics industry in NJ
 - o Iron industry in NJ
 - o Whaling industry in NJ
 - o Innovation (railroad ties, Edison phonograph, craftsman cabinet)

Links to resources on our website:

- Pretty Big Things scavenger hunt and curriculum guide:
http://www.nj.gov/state/museum/dos_museum_school-resources.html
- Exhibit descriptions: http://www.nj.gov/state/museum/dos_museum_exhibit.html

Online articles:

- Imagining the Possibilities (Exhibitionist Magazine fall 2007) PDF http://name-aam.org/uploads/downloadables/EXH.fall_07/EXH_fall07_Imagining%20the%20Possibilities_McRainey-Bedford-Spock-Anway.pdf
- Telling Great Ideas and Stories that Stick (TheMuseumoftheFuture.com December 8, 2010)
<http://themuseumofthefuture.com/2010/12/08/telling-great-ideas-and-stories-that-stick/>
- On Objects and Storytelling (Center for the Future of Museums blog April 30, 2013)
<http://futureofmuseums.blogspot.com/2013/04/on-objects-and-storytelling.html>

I had fun today, hope it was useful to you.

Beth C.



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