

FINDING SIGNIFICANCE

OVERVIEW

Finding Significance was a research project conducted at the Exploratorium between 2000 and 2004, funded by the National Science Foundation.

Our main goal was to study different techniques that have been used in museums to try to encourage visitors to make deeper or more personal meaning from exhibits. The techniques we chose fell into two main categories: (a) “narrative,” or personal storytelling, and (b) “inquiry,” invitations to explore or think about an exhibit in greater depth. We created video enhancements that incorporated either narratives or inquiries, and we incorporated them into existing exhibits, so we could study their effects on visitors' engagement, meaning-making, and learning.

The report includes video clips of the actual enhancements created.

THIS STUDY MAY BE ACCESSED IN TWO WAYS:

- Visit the [website](#) for highlights of the study or to view the [videos](#)
- Order the [full publication](#)