Making an Impact in Multiple Ways

The Exploratorium’s hundreds of hands-on exhibits empower people of all ages to think for themselves and see the world in new ways. But we’re much more than a physical museum. The deeply impactful work we do—in education and learning, science, and the arts, plus our global reach and partnerships—extends far beyond our walls.

Education and Learning

We work with teachers and district leaders to support inquiry-based learning in K–12 classrooms worldwide. And our two Explainer programs engage staff in learning by doing.

- **The Teacher Institute (TI):** Supports middle- and high-school math and science teachers in incorporating hands-on, inquiry-rich experiences into their classrooms.
- **The Institute for Inquiry (IFI):** Leads a longtime professional development program that addresses the theory and practice of inquiry-based science education.
- **Teacher Induction Program:** Supports more than 400 novice science teachers in their first years in the classroom. Studies show that 90 percent of new teachers trained by us remain in the field after five years.
- **High School Explainers**
  Offers a diverse group of young students an employment opportunity to learn by doing as they engage with visitors at exhibits, lead demos, and run museum operations.
- **Field Trip Explainers**
  Provides experienced educators with extensive training and reflective practice as they interact with approximately 129,000 school-aged kids yearly.

Science

Along with art, science is at the core of what we do. Our exhibits, projects, and programs focus on these areas—and more:

- **Life sciences:** Exploring life from DNA and cells to organisms and ecosystems
- **Landslides:** Uncovering the history, geography, and ecology of the Bay Area
- **Human phenomena:** Experimenting with thoughts, feelings, and social behavior
- **Tinkering:** Thinking with your hands and exploring creativity
- **Physical sciences:** Exploring motion, mechanics, electricity, magnetism

Arts

The arts are a fundamental method of discovery at the Exploratorium. We engage artists in every facet of our work to inspire curiosity and to further an interdisciplinary approach to seeing and understanding the world.

- **Center for Art & Inquiry:** A research-and-development center for the arts, expanding our focus on art as a medium for exploration, inquiry, and discovery.
- **Artist-in-Residence Program:** Engages individuals and artist groups who are drawn to collaboration, interdisciplinary dialogue, and developing new working methods.
- **Over the Water:** Brings temporary, large-scale artworks to our dynamic site at the edge of the city and Bay.
- **Cinema Arts:** Presents films as active viewing experiences and views the projection screen as a portal to investigation.

Global Reach

Our original, hands-on exhibits are on display in more than 1,000 venues around the world—including 80 percent of the world’s science centers—reaching more than 200 million visitors each year.

- **Global Studios:** Partners with organizations and people worldwide, focusing our expertise in creating innovative, curiosity-driven exhibits and programs on each project’s unique needs.
- **Science Snacks:** A digital collection of tabletop exhibits or explorations of natural phenomena that teachers, families, and students can make using common, inexpensive, easy-to-find materials.
- **Videos and webcasts:** A vast collection that focuses on on everything from the 2016 total solar eclipse to recordings from our Resonance contemporary music and sound art series.

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