## **Preamble**

We are a group of students from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in MA. We are designing a portable water exhibit for the Santa Fe Children’s Museum. For this interview, we wanted to ask you about [INSERT TOPIC]. The interview will be about 30 minutes. Your name will be kept confidential unless you give us permission to use it. This interview is voluntary. You may skip any questions that you do not wish to answer. You may also stop at any time. This research will be available to the public via the WPI Library. Please feel free to ask any questions you have about this research at any time. You may also contact our research advisors, Prof. Zoe Eddy and Melisa Belz, at [zeddy@wpi.edu](mailto:zeddy@wpi.edu) and [mbelz@wpi.edu](mailto:mbelz@wpi.edu), or our group at [wpi@santafechildrensmuseum.org](mailto:wpi@santafechildrensmuseum.org), with any questions you have about this process.

## **Sample Interview Questions**

Children

1. How old are you?
2. Who did you come to the museum with?

General Visit Questions

* 1. What is your favorite exhibit at this museum?
     1. What do you like about it?
  2. What is something you learned at the museum today?
     1. What exhibit did you learn that from?
  3. Were there any exhibits you did not like?
     1. What didn’t you like about it?

Exhibit-Specific Questions

1. Did you know about [exhibit topic] before using the exhibit?
2. Do you like the exhibit?
   1. What did you learn from the exhibit?
   2. What parts helped you learn that?
   3. What about the exhibit do you like/dislike?
   4. What would you change about the exhibit?

Parents/Guardians

1. How old is/are the child(ren) that you are here with?
2. How often do both/all of you visit the Santa Fe Children's Museum?
3. Which exhibit did the child(ren) seem to enjoy the most?
4. How do you believe the child(ren)’s age impacts them interacting with the exhibit?
5. What did the child(ren) communicate that they learned today?
   1. What were the facts? (Analyze exhibit to understand how information was portrayed)
6. Did you and the child(ren) have fun?
   1. What did you observe that makes you say that?
   2. [If no] What can be changed to help improve the experience?
7. Would you bring the child(ren) back here to play with this/these exhibit(s) again?
   1. Why/why not?
8. Are you comfortable with the idea of the child(ren) getting messy at a children's museum?
9. How effective would you say the “go-bags” from the museum are? Do you use them at home at all?

Educators

1. Could you confirm your job title? What is your role?
2. What grade do you teach?
   1. Could you explain your curriculum?
   2. What exercises do you do in class?
3. Have you found that certain activities attract childrens’ attention more than others?
4. What did your students communicate that they learned today?
   1. What were the facts? (Analyze exhibit to understand how information was portrayed)
5. What exhibit do you believe your students enjoyed most? (Physical Appeal)
6. Which exhibit do you like for your students to look at/play with from an educational perspective? (Educational Appeal)
   1. What about this exhibit makes you want students to see it?
7. What improvements can be added to this exhibit?
8. What do you wish was considered when creating this exhibit?

Museum Staff

1. Could you confirm your job title? What is your role?
2. How long have you worked at this museum?
3. What would you estimate the average age of children that come here to be?
4. Which exhibits do you personally enjoy most?
5. Which exhibits do children tend to gravitate towards?
   1. What emotions do children display at these exhibits?
6. If any, what are the museum exhibits that are not as popular? (Analyze the similarities)
7. Would it be inconvenient for the exhibit to have water/dirt/sand in terms of maintenance?
8. Would you say more children come here on field trips or with their families? (Guiding factors)
9. Are there any exhibits that you believe best educate children in an impactful way?

Experts

1. Water Experts
   1. Could you confirm your job title?
   2. What components of the water system do you deal with?
   3. What is the most prominent issue within the Santa Fe water system?
   4. How has the water system in Santa Fe changed since you began working here?
   5. In your perspective, what is the most effective way to represent water conservation in an exhibit?
2. Water Conservation Educators
   1. Could you confirm your job title?
   2. What have been the methods of teaching children on water conservation?
3. Exhibit Design Experts
   1. Could you confirm your job title?
   2. What are your prior experiences working with exhibits?
   3. What is the standard procedure when designing and building an exhibit?
   4. What is the most important aspect we should consider when designing our exhibit?
   5. What are some safety concerns that we should be aware of when designing a water exhibit for children?
   6. Are there any significant differences between designing exhibits for adults and for kids?

**Sample Focus Group Questions**

1. Raise your hand if you had fun. Put your hands down
2. Raise your hand if you learned something today
   1. Did anyone learn anything new? (*Knowledge Retention)*
3. Who wants to tell us about their favorite exhibit or activity?
   1. What did you like about it? *(Components/Features)* (Give out candy or incentive)
4. Raise your hand if you played/worked with another kid  *(Shows Collaboration)*
5. If you guys could make an exhibit what would you put in it? (*Components/Features*)
   1. \*Give Paper\* draw your own exhibit!
6. Go around the circle and tell us about your exhibit.

| **Timeline** | | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Order | Activity | Duration (min) |
| 1 | Instructions | 5 |
| 2 | Exhibit 1 | 5-10 |
| 3 | Exhibit 2 | 5-10 |
| 4 | Exhibit 3 | 5-10 |
| 5 | Discussion Questions 1-5 | 10 |
| 6 | Drawing Time | 5 |
| 7 | Question 6 | 5 |

**Sample Survey Questions**

\*Note: these questions will be formatted once we discuss with Hannah and receive more details on how the focus group will run

* How long have you been a resident of New Mexico? *(Friendly opening)*
* Do you think about water conservation in your daily routine? *(Gauge awareness)*
* How much water do you think you use on a daily basis? *(Self-Awareness)*
* Have you ever been informed on what water conservation is? *(Public-Awareness)*
  + Where did you learn about it? *(Source of information)*
    - School
    - Museum
    - Article/Website
    - Community Event
    - Other
    - Never been informed about it
* Do you think the state of New Mexico does a good job of informing the public about water conservation? *(Public opinion)*
  + Yes
  + No
  + (optional) Explain
* List various and expected daily routines that involve water consumption and ask about awareness of water conservation through ranking *(Current Water Conservation Habits)*
  + Ranking
    - Yes, I am aware and I do this
    - Yes, I am aware and I do not do this
    - No, I am not aware and I do this
    - No, I am not aware and I do not do this
  + Routines
    - Brushing teeth
    - Showers
    - Washing Dishes
    - Using the Restroom
    - Washing Clothes
    - Watering Plants