

# TexNET Project Outline

Fort Worth will contract with the Exploratorium to build three exhibit sets for annual rotation among partners. Fort Worth and the Exploratorium will provide maintenance, logistics, and marketing resources.

In year 1, all partners will participate in capacity-building and staff development workshops. The Exploratorium begins building exhibit sets. Evaluators lay groundwork for measuring the success of program goals. Fort Worth and the Exploratorium begin consulting with staff from the Discovery Science Place, Laredo Children's Museum, and Science Spectrum, starting with a series of TexNET institutes.

At the end of year 1, Fort Worth will host all three exhibit sets for three months in its temporary exhibition space. Staff from the three partners will attend a kick-off exhibit-based training workshop in Fort Worth to become familiar with the exhibits sets.

Starting in year 2, exhibit sets will begin annual rotation. Every installation will be accompanied by exhibit-based training led by Fort Worth with support from the Exploratorium. Workshops will focus on the science behind and demonstrations built around exhibits, and will move to programming for specific audiences (visitors, teachers, students). Capacity-Building Workshops, starting year 2, will address audience cultivation, museum profile building, and staff development. Evaluation will occur throughout.

# Work Plan

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial advisory meeting and TexNET partner meeting in Fort Worth, attended by three representatives from each partner (month 1)</li> <li>• Fabrication of exhibit sets at the Exploratorium (month 1)</li> <li>• Compiling of teaching resources and development of Web resource (month 1)</li> <li>• Institute 1 at Exploratorium attended by 3 representatives of each partner (month 3)</li> <li>• Institute 2 at Fort Worth attended by 3 representatives from each partner (month 6)</li> <li>• Exhibit sets shipped and installed at Fort Worth by Exploratorium staff (month 9)</li> <li>• Exhibit-based training workshop held at Fort Worth. Co-led by Fort Worth and Exploratorium staff. Attended by three staff from each small museum (month 10)</li> <li>• Exhibit sets shipped and installed by Fort Worth and Exploratorium (month 12)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three educators (two from Fort Worth, one from the Exploratorium) conduct exhibit-based training workshops at each small museum. (month 13)</li> <li>• Institute 3 at Science Spectrum. Attended by 3 staff from all partners (month 14)</li> <li>• Fort Worth and Exploratorium maintenance staff (one from each museum) conduct on-site routine exhibit maintenance and inspection (month 15)</li> <li>• First set of Specialized Capacity-Building Workshops facilitated by Fort Worth and Exploratorium (month 18)</li> <li>• Institute 4 at Laredo Children’s Museum for 3 staff from all partners (month 19)</li> <li>• The 5<sup>th</sup>, and final, Institute at Discovery Science Place attended by 3 staff from each partner (month 23)</li> <li>• Fort Worth staff de-install and install exhibits at each museum partner (month 24)</li> <li>• Evaluation of ideal conditions for sustainability.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fort Worth educators lead exhibit-based workshop at each museum (month 25)</li> <li>• Fort Worth exhibit maintenance staff (two) conduct routine exhibit maintenance and inspection at each partner site (month 27)</li> <li>• Second set of Specialized Capacity Building Workshops held at three small museums. Facilitated by Fort Worth and Exploratorium staff (month 30)</li> <li>• Fort Worth staff de-install and install exhibits at each museum partner (month 36)</li> <li>• Planning for post year 4 sustainability.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two educators from Fort Worth conduct exhibit-based training workshops at each small museum partner (month 37)</li> <li>• Fort Worth staff (two) conduct exhibit maintenance and inspection (month 39)</li> <li>• Third, and final, set of Specialized Capacity Building Workshops at the three local museums. Facilitated by a Fort Worth and Exploratorium staff (month 42)</li> <li>• TexNET program moves into post-NSF funding phase (month 48)</li> </ul>