

Working with Multipliers

Programs for Educators and Museum Professionals

A single teacher may impact many...

For many years, the Exploratorium has had a strong commitment to educators and museum professionals

- **Institute for Inquiry** – focus on elementary school teachers, administrators, and museum educators
- **Teacher Institute** – focus on middle/high school teachers, administrators, and museum educators

Inquiry at the Heart of Learning

- About asking questions rather than giving answers
- Learner-driven experience
- Non-traditional; can be perceived as challenging to existing structures and teaching methods
- Workshops and field trips support teachers and create a path to new ways of learning within the formal education system

Institute for Inquiry

- **Workshops, forums, and resources** support an international community dedicated to developing innovation and leadership in science education
- Based on the **Scientific Process** of asking questions and seeking answers
- Direct participants include **>6,500 lead teachers** and professional developers from 46 states and 12 countries
- Influenced **>190,000 teachers and 5.7M students**
- Online curriculum funded by NSF has been downloaded for free around the world at **exploratorium.edu/ifi**

Exploratorium Teacher Institute

- Supports teachers to incorporate hands-on, inquiry-based experiences into their classrooms with easy to replicate snacks and activities
- More than 500 teachers attend each year
- **Summer Institute** is the foundational program that helps teachers develop their skills as facilitators of inquiry-rich, authentic student learning experiences
- **Beginning Teacher Program** supports novice science teachers during critical first two years
- **Teacher Leadership Program** trains most experienced science teachers to serve as mentors and coaches

Museum Educators, Local Teachers

- Opportunity for science centers, especially new or emerging, to connect with local teachers and formal education
- Museum educators and “early adaptor” teachers are good candidates
- These teachers can become change agents
- Workshops may be tailored and conducted in SF or abroad

Mishkat Example

- Important Considerations
 - Audience – cultural context
 - Content relevance --- Alternative Energy
 - Goal to put power of learning into teachers' hands
- Details
 - Participants included Executive Director and 4 teachers
 - 100 hour, 3-week program – immersed with SF teachers
 - 1-week focused workshop
 - Challenged viewpoints of teachers
 - Mishkat participants also provided an excellent educational seminar for Exploratorium staff