



Peabody Museum
of Archaeology and Ethnology at Harvard University

Collections Exercise – Collections as a Collection

Activity

Your instructor should have a group of collections prepared for you, from which each student should select one.

If there are more items present than students, this will mean creating a “subset” group. If there are more students than items, more than one student may select the same item. Not every item must be selected.

As a class, discuss the physical properties and known information of each individual item, as individually observed and as provided by your instructor.

Silently examine and reflect on the items you and your classmates have grouped together. Consider in particular the item that you personally selected, and how it may relate to each of the other items present.

Attempt to create a narrative out of all the items present, with the one you selected at the center of your story.