

TINY CRYSTALS, SNOW GLOBAL IMPACT

EXHIBIT

Snow: *Tiny Crystals, Global Impact* is a 2,500 ft² traveling exhibition about: how snow shapes and sustains life on Earth, the impacts of climate change on snow, and the importance of our collective engagement to take action.

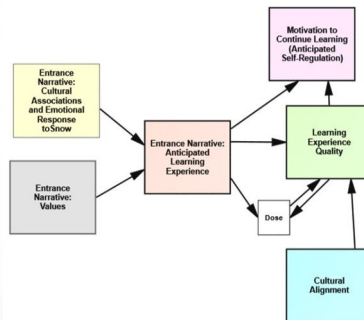
The exhibition will be installed at OMSI during winter 2021-2022 for summative evaluation and learning research.



Snow floor plan at OMSI

RESEARCH

Question: How do cultural relationships to a topic, expectations about a learning experience, and the learning experience itself interact and contribute to visitors' motivation to continue learning?



Our progress so far:

Through factor analysis (n=600) and cross validation (n=600), we developed five scales with psychometrically robust dimensions. Exhibition-focused data collection will help answer our research questions and provide predictive and concurrent validity.

OUTREACH

UAF's outreach program for remote villages engages adults and children in science activities focused on snow and climate change.



Students at Tanacross School investigate a snow pit with snow scientist Matthew Sturm in February 2020.

Project team shifted to meet Covid challenges.

The UAF team switched their efforts to the development of written and on-line material and kits that would facilitate informal investigation of snow in villages, primarily through the school system.

Evaluation focused on documenting the many pivots of the program, including:

- using emergent opportunities to reach individual classrooms
- completion of the project content web site
- development of interactive online activity modules
- shifts in COSI's methods to all-online survey implementation