Exploring The Field
Chaperone Guide

<table>
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<th>EXPLORING ARTIFACTS FROM THE PACIFIC</th>
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| Grade Level | Ideal for 9th-12th grade
|            | Appropriate for ages 12-18 |
| Exhibitions | Pacific Spirits
|            | Maori Meeting House |
| Time       | 1 hour |

Overview
In this exploration, students will observe and analyze artifacts from the Pacific Islands in order to create claims, based on evidence, about how these cultures viewed the world.

Guiding Questions
What can we learn about a culture through the materials they created?
How can we interpret beliefs through artifacts?

Key Words
Artifact - a handmade object, typically an item of cultural or historical interest
Maori - the indigenous people of New Zealand

Connections to Standards
Illinois State Standard for Social Sciences
16.A.5a: Analyze historical and contemporary developments using methods of historical inquiry (pose questions, collect and analyze data, make and support inferences with evidence, report findings).

Trip Tip: When students first enter an exhibition, encourage them to look around freely before asking them to concentrate on completing this guide. Becoming familiar with their learning space will help students focus.
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Map
Exhibitions:
Pacific Spirits (Upper Level)
Maori Meeting House (Upper Level)

If you have extra time, visit some other cultural exhibitions:
North American Indians (Main Level)
Northwest Coast and Arctic Peoples (Main Level)
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Trip Tip: Before you begin, find a quiet spot. Give students an overview of the activity and discuss the Think questions.

Trip Tip: This exhibition displays spectacular masks and ritual sculptures that blend art, theater, and dance with social and spiritual meaning. Most of these artifacts were created about 100 years ago. Students may choose to observe masks, instruments, and malanggans, which are memorial carvings created to honor deceased relatives.

Guiding Questions: What is the texture of the material? Do the materials remind you of anything you use in your daily life?

Trip Tip: If students are unsure how to answer one of the questions based on observations and signage, ask them to make inferences to answer each question as best as they can.

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Student Guide
NAME__________________________

Think (before you explore)
There are more than 25,000 islands in the Pacific Ocean. Think about some of these islands, like the Hawaiian Islands, Papua New Guinea and Fiji. What types of plants and animals live in the Pacific Islands? What is the climate like? At The Field Museum you will observe artifacts made by people from the Pacific Islands to collect evidence and make inferences about how they viewed the world.

Observe and Explain (in the exhibition) – Part A
Travel to the Pacific Spirits exhibition located on the Upper Level. Find an artifact that you find interesting. Make observations about the artifact and complete the chart below. (If you are not sure how to answer one of the questions, make an inference.)

Trip Tip: Students can work individually on this part of the activity. Encourage each student to choose a different artifact. You may want to set a meeting time and place before students spread out to make individual observations.
Location Tip: The Maori Meeting House is located to the left as you exit Pacific Spirits.

Trip Tip: The Maori Meeting House was created in New Zealand to honor the ancient hero Ruatepupuke and it is a sacred space. Explain to students that they are to remove their shoes as a sign of respect.

Guiding Question: Are there any similarities between the artifacts that students observed, such as color, material, decoration, or use?

Trip Tip: Encourage students to write at least three similarities for each overlapping section of this Venn diagram.

Trip Tip: Visit The Regenstein Laboratory (Artifact Conservation Lab), located in Traveling the Pacific to see anthropologists at work!
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Observe and Explain (in the exhibition) – Part A
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- **Artifact Name**
- **What materials were used to make this artifact?**
- **Why was this artifact created? How was it used?**
- **How was this artifact created?**
- **Where and when was the artifact created?**
Share and Compare (after you explore) – Part B

Walk to the *Maori Meeting House* located behind the *Pacific Spirits* exhibition. Once you arrive, **please remove your shoes**. Then sit down and share information about your artifact with two other students. Compare and contrast the three artifacts below.

How did the people who created these artifacts view the world?

Write two claims below and support each claim with evidence and your reasoning.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Claim</th>
<th>Evidence and Reasoning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Example:</strong> I think the people who built the <em>Maori Meeting House</em> valued community.</td>
<td><strong>Example:</strong> I think the Maori people valued community because they built a large, elaborate house in which to meet.</td>
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