

Show-and-Tell

In-Class Activity

*Students will come to class having explored for homework Jenny Odell's [Bureau of Suspended Objects](#) modern art exhibit. They are asked to bring to class an object that holds memory for them.

Instructions

Discussion

1. Divide into two groups: the first group will be in charge of preparing a 5-minute “time and place” presentation on Odell and her work; the second group will be in charge of generating at least 5 discussion questions based on the reading.

Show-and-Tell

2. Following discussion, write a short object biography in the style of [Odell's archival bureaucratic descriptions](#). This should include when you first received or acquired the object, the materials it is made out of, the country it was made in, damage/decay it has experienced, if it is still being mass produced, how much it is worth, and its original function. Share the description with your group.
3. Then describe to your group the memory that object holds for you in as much detail as possible—remember to use all 5 or 6 senses.
4. Rotate objects in your group, so you are now holding and experiencing someone else's object. Write down the memory associations this foreign object brings up for you.
5. Share-out to class.