# Interium

A mobile application that incorporates gameful features into museum visiting experiences.

## Frame the Design Problem

**Interium is a mobile application for 3rd-6th grade students to enhance their engagements of visits to the U-M Museum of Natural History in Ann Arbor. The primary goal of Interium is to ensure our target audience gains as much knowledge, offered by the museum, as possible with use of our application.**

We visited the museum and conduct 3 interviews with museum staffs in the efforts to inquire and gauge the level of engagement children currently have at the museum. At this early design stage, we still put our target user as 3rd-6th grade students, but later we switch to focus on a specific group: 3rd-6th grade students based on the analysis of the interviews.

One of the design problem we found from the interview is that children always passively received the knowledge from museum tour and it is not interesting and fun for them in most of the time. The museum wants to have a more engaging and immersive solution to arouse children's initiatives and interest on museum learning experience . we also find out that there is limited interactivity between the students and the museum. Plus, due to their young age and cognitive abilities, no method of education surpasses the potency of hands on learning.

**Most Museums have a learning tour at the start**

**User's learning engagement is low and hard to find self-interested knowledge**

**User lacks of Interactivity with other students and museum.**

## Understand The Users

**After we set up with the design problem & goal, we are focusing on children within the 3rd-6th grades as our primary learner audience.**

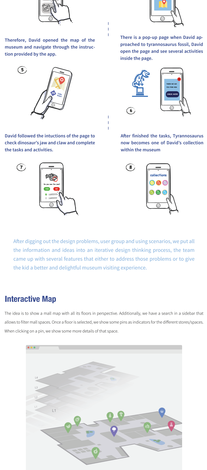
We have found that children generally within this grade group are exposed to field trips to different types museums throughout their elementary school years according to our interview findings. Also, we believe that this group of children have adequate literacy and technology skills that enable them to use our application and learn with it.

We also need to consider our users even more carefully because the audience are learners. Therefore, learn-ha-ator and 2 personas from the research data to further explore the goals/needs, expectation, and diversity of the users, personas were well created and then forgotten. By using this UX tool through all design steps, it helps the team in these aspects:

- **Make every team member on the same page, to avoid any self-referential design.**
- **Validate the design decision and prioritize the app features by referring to personas.**

## Narrate the Experience

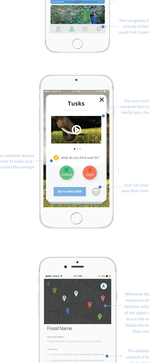
As the personas created, we started to think about the whole user experience for the personas as well as to envision the user's behavior and the app's features. We decided to draw a scenario/storyboard in order to articulate our desired user flow of the app. Support idea of this approach is especially helpful for team to focus on the features and interactions itself (we still talk about UI and design), but it's not the major focus in this stage. Furthermore, when I designed the storyboard with a finalized design scope and user group, the team and I could have a second brainstorm session and it generated a lot of better ideas that we discussed in the early design session. Also, by telling the story of the users, we could refine our initial ideas about the features and information architecture of the app.



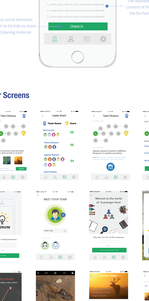

After digging out the design problems, user group and using scenarios, we put all the information and ideas into an iterative design thinking process, the team came up with several features that either to address those problems or to give the kid a better and delightful museum visiting experience.

## Interactive Map

The idea is to draw a mail map with all its floors in perspective. Additionally, we have a search in a sidebar that allows to filter mail spaces. Once a floor is selected, we show some pins as indicators for the different stores/spaces. When clicking on a pin, we show some more details of that space.



## Discovery-Based Experience




## Other Screens