SCIENCE, MUSEUMS AND THE PUBLIC

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The changing face of Science Museums

Perceived as boring, unimaginative places
CHALLENGE FOR MUSEUMS IS TO CHANGE

Develop changing exhibitions
Exciting, vibrant, “alive”
Interactive
Showcase science and research
Cater for all audiences
Script style needs to be friendly
Content should be relevant
Supplementary activities
Iziko Museums of Cape Town, South African Museum

Past 18 months
- 5 new exhibitions
  Mineral Mania
  Blombos artefacts
  Planet earth
  Fossil stories
  Go Bats

- Several public lectures, workshops, guided tours
Biology of bats
Fun, popular culture, Mythology & art
Interactive elements

Plus Videos, music,
Internet connection
Various suppl. activities
Behind the scenes tours

Public lectures

Respond to high profile research

Museums are much more than a collection of objects