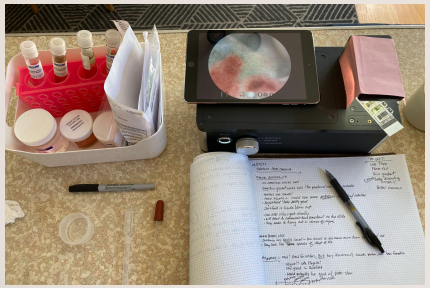
Seeing Scientifically: Scaffolding Scientific Observation

A collaboration between the Exploratorium, BioBus, The Noyo Center for Marine Science, and U.C. Berkeley

Award # 2005893

Project goals:

- Develop an interactive microscopy exhibit platform
- Design the platform to work for various types of microscopic samples
- Create a platform that is accessible and extensible to small- and mid-sized ISE venues
- Better understand how to scaffold scientific observation, esp. with image recognition technologies



Project Partners:

The Exploratorium - San Francisco

BioBus - New York City

The Noyo Center for Marine Science - Ft. Bragg, CA

The Fletcher Lab - UC Berkeley

Where we're at:

- Chose organism that works for all three ISE partners and evaluated selection with online users across sites
- Collectively defined hardware needs using an early microscope prototype from UCB
- Building a second iteration of the microscope hardware based on partner feedback

What's next (this year): Prototype the first exhibit iteration to

- Refine optics and technical design
- Assess use and adaptability at all three ISE sites
- Iteratively define and refine scaffolding approach across ISE audiences
- Identify and build image recognition algorithms to support informal learners in seeing scientifically