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Title: If our objects could speak, what would they say about us?

In this paper we use a collaborative visual narrative method to share our research encounter during the workshop: Exploring academic identities and fostering shared values across diverse contexts. We came from diverse higher educational backgrounds, disciplines and institutions to meet for two days. During this workshop the object inquiry guided our use of dialogue, with each other and with our objects, as we expressed our experiences and understandings of social cohesion. We came to understand dialogue between self and objects as an indigenous way to co-create new knowledge/s. As we moved out of the workshop space into a virtual engagement we became aware of the impact of time and distance on our work. The paper that resulted from our research encounters is informed by arts-based and post qualitative methods of inquiry. We found the dialogue helped us to meet each other and emerge differently as academics. The objects also helped us to think of ourselves as unexpectedly entangled with each other in time and place. Our final collaborative artwork shows how our diverse academic identities might connect us to each other, to our context, to our history and to our work in unexpected ways.