**Database Basics**

**Q: What’s a database?**

A: A database is like a storage container for all the museum’s information. In the storage container, there are bins with specific things. These are the tables of a database. For this site, those bins hold information on Exhibits, Play, and Activities.

**Q: How are the tables connected?**

A:Each exhibit, type of play, or activity has an ID, and, in this database, there is a table entitle Connections that lists the IDs of each activity, what play type it corresponds to, and the exhibit it goes with.

**Q: How does the database get information to our website?**

A: Databases perform queries to retrieve specific data from the database. The query allows the database to talk to the website. In this case, we programmed the queries to retrieve the correct piece of data, so that it may be displayed on the website.

**Q: How do I access the database?**

A: Don’t worry! You will never need to access the coded database. We used SQLite to create this website’s database, meaning it is already coded into the site. The admin page of the site will allow you to see the information stored in the database in a more understandable fashion. When an admin adds to or edits any information on the website, it gets changed in the database (even though you aren’t writing the code for it to do so!)

**Q: Do I need to worry about the security of the database?**

A: No! The database is secure in the Django framework because it uses “query parameterization” to protect itself from malicious users. This means it separates the query from the function that uses the query to add extra security! Our database also doesn’t track any personal information, which ensures little to no security threat.