

# Concept

1

## Before it was in your house

The question of this concept is: "How have objects in our lives developed from past designs through these collections?" This will be explored using the Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum collection, categorized by keywords associated with each object. I will narrow the scope to focus on household furniture to better connect with users.

The dataset includes 1,204 records related to furniture, though some entries are textbooks that are not useful for visualization. I will filter these out and organize the data by individual furniture items. I plan to use a timeline and clustering for data visualization to show how each item has developed over time and by style. Additionally, images of each item will be included to provide an overview of design trends across decades and invite users to explore the evolution year by year.

2

## How cat & dog lives in the museums

This concept began with the idea of finding an entry point for users to explore the museum and highlight notable collections from the Smithsonian Institution. It evolved to focus on how cats and dogs are displayed in museum collections, using data from various Smithsonian museums including the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum, Freer Gallery of Art, Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, and Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. The dataset comprises 4,913 records of online visual materials related to the keywords "cat" and "dog."

Key features include name, date, and object type, which will be used for visualization. I will first group the records by type of artwork, then display them on a timeline to show their evolution over time. Additionally, I will use a Sankey diagram to illustrate the relationships among the artworks, such as whether they depict solitary animals, groups, or interactions with humans or other animals. Note that some records may include sketches or place names associated with "cat" or "dog" that may not be useful for visualization. These might be challenging to extract due to their representation in names or other keywords.

3

## From mammals to human

I try to challenge myself with a collection I am not familiar with to find ways to connect with it. I believe this approach may also help users relate to the collection. To address the question of how humans relate to mammals, I will use the dataset from the NMNH - Vertebrate Zoology - Mammals Division. This dataset includes 542,039 records of online visual materials with taxonomy keys for grouping species by phylum, family, order, and class.

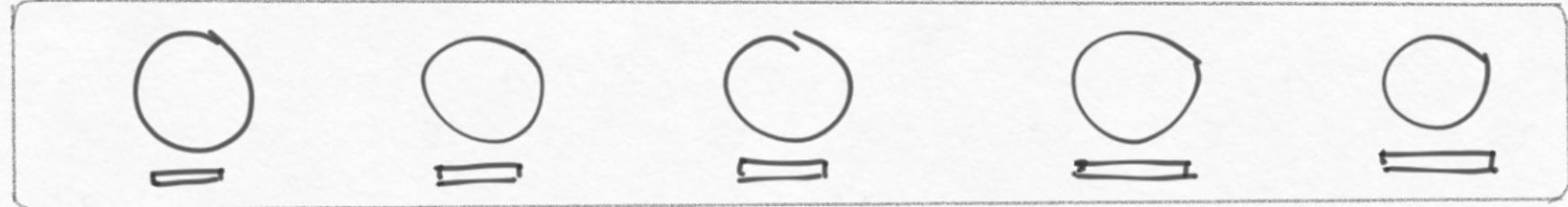
However, some entries are textbooks that are difficult to view on screen and may need to be filtered out later. To display these connections, I will use diagrams to illustrate the relationships between species and their connection to humans. Additionally, I will provide a summarized view of species numbers and their connections.

1

Before it was in your house



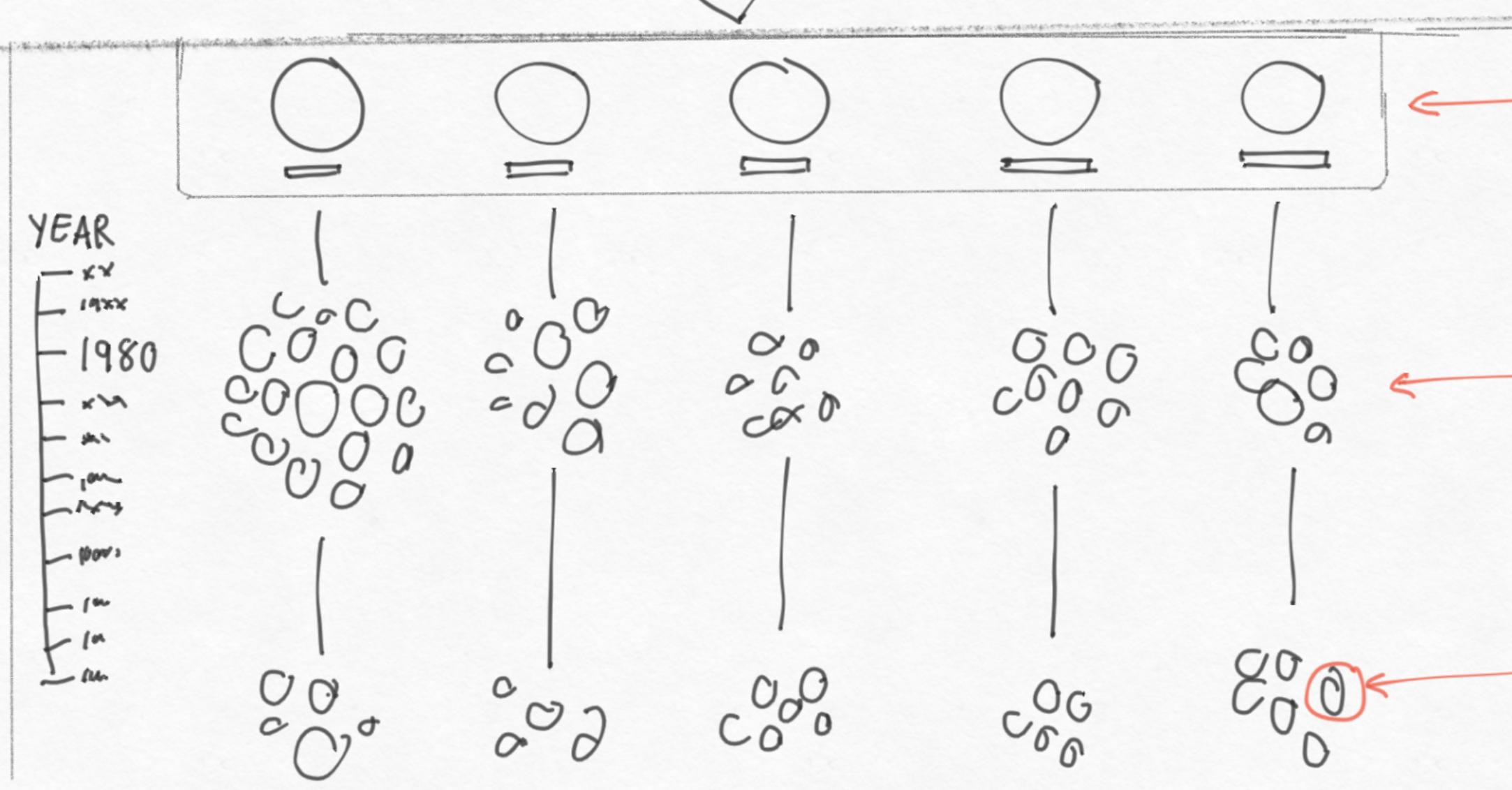
select furniture near you to see how it was in the design history



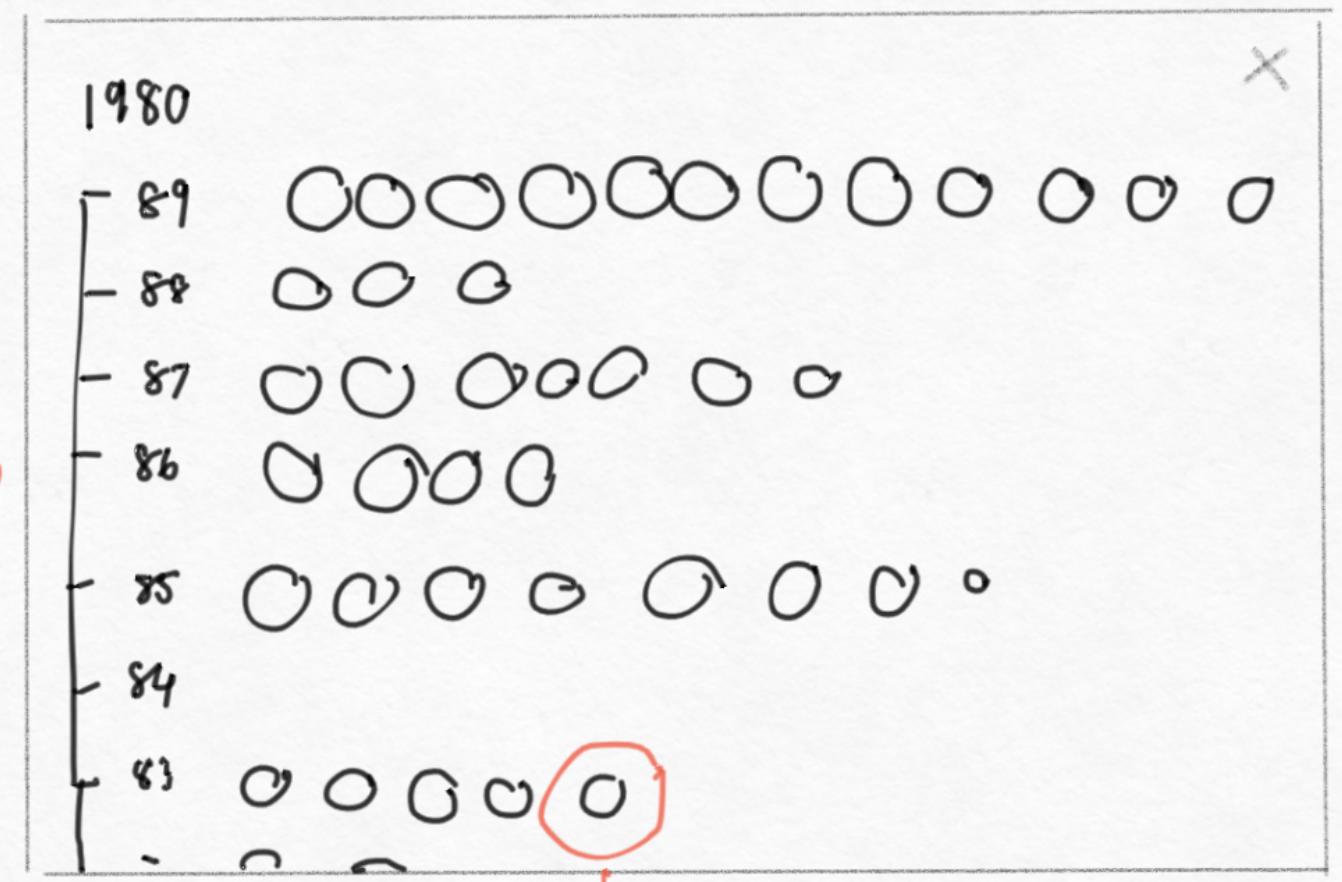
Select object by typing  
+ show img of recent design



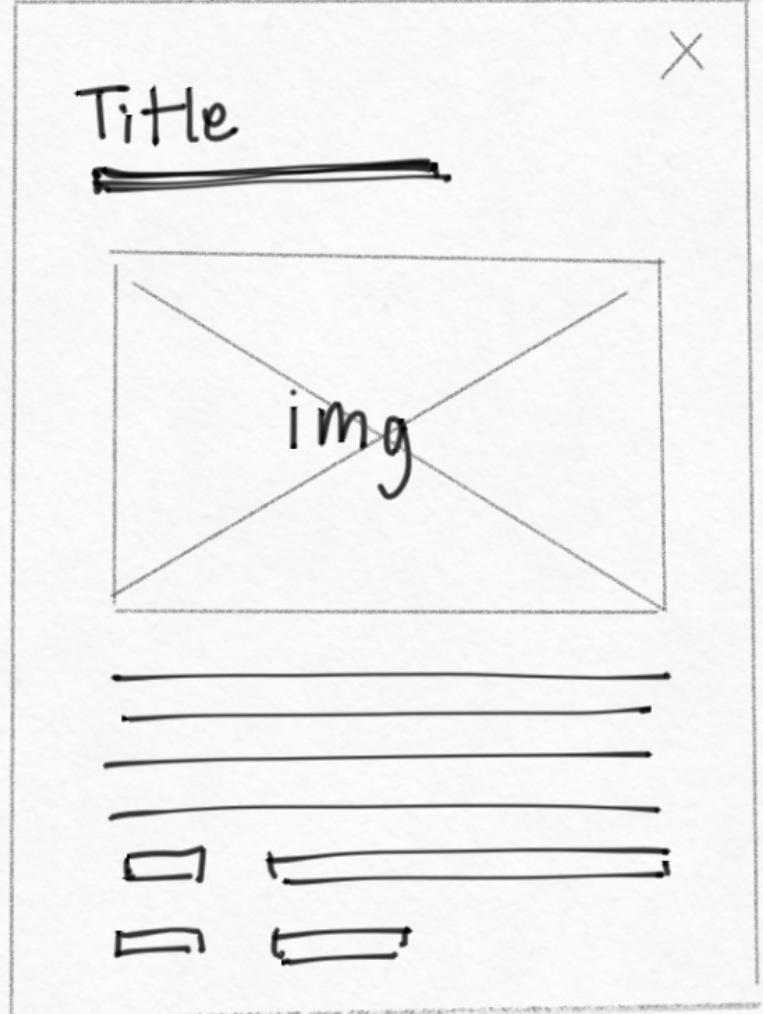
scroll down



zoom in view to see the cluster



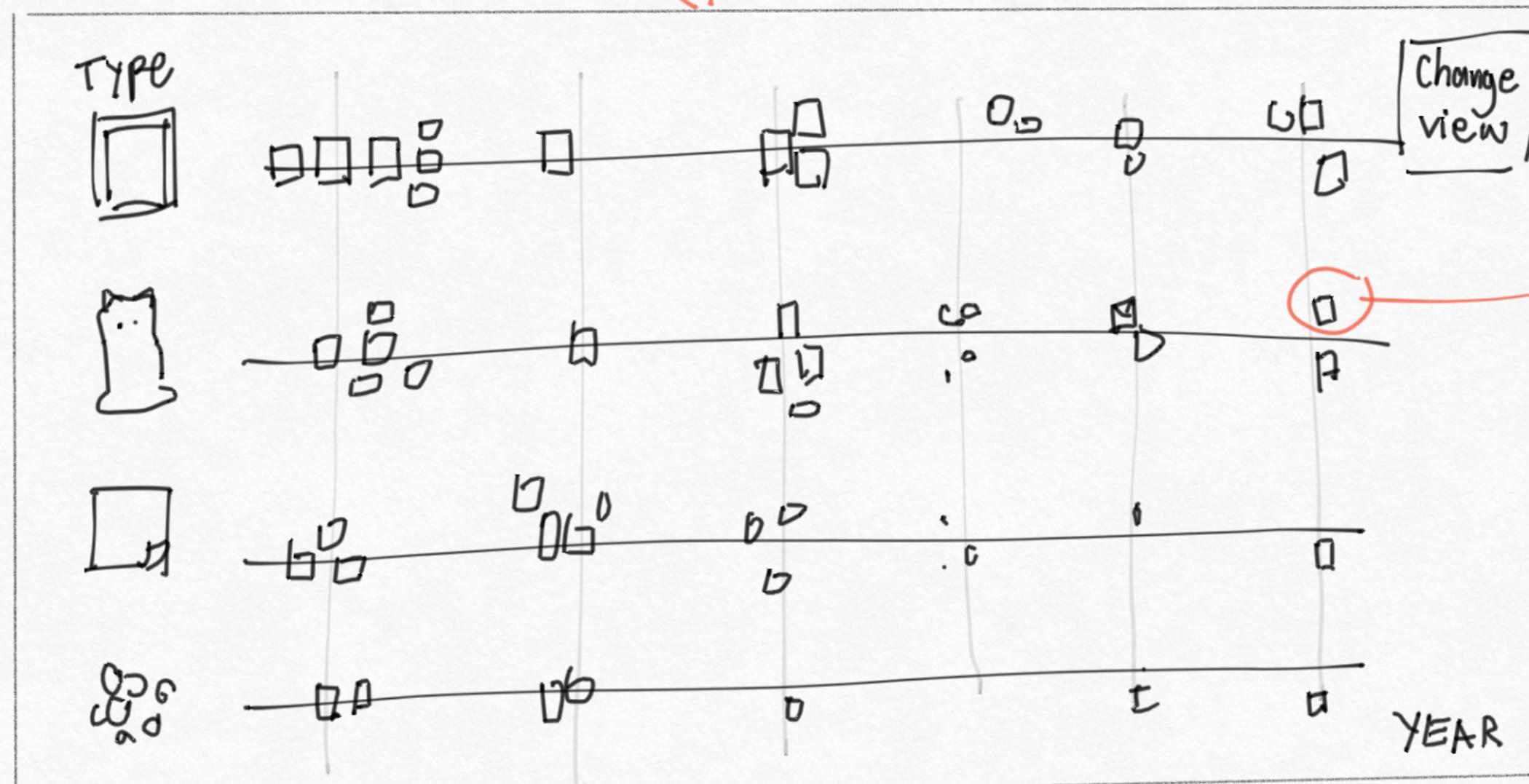
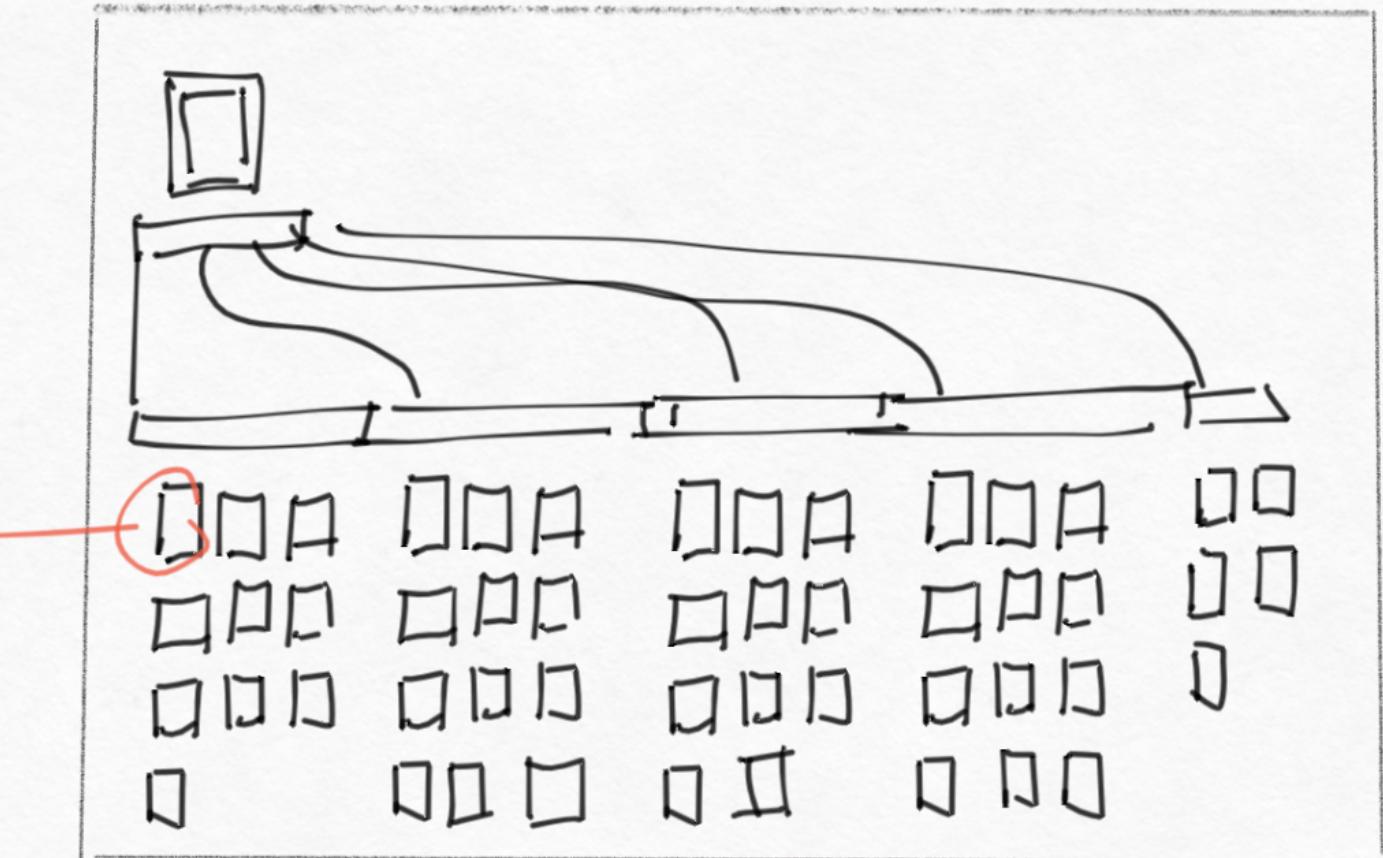
pop-up detail



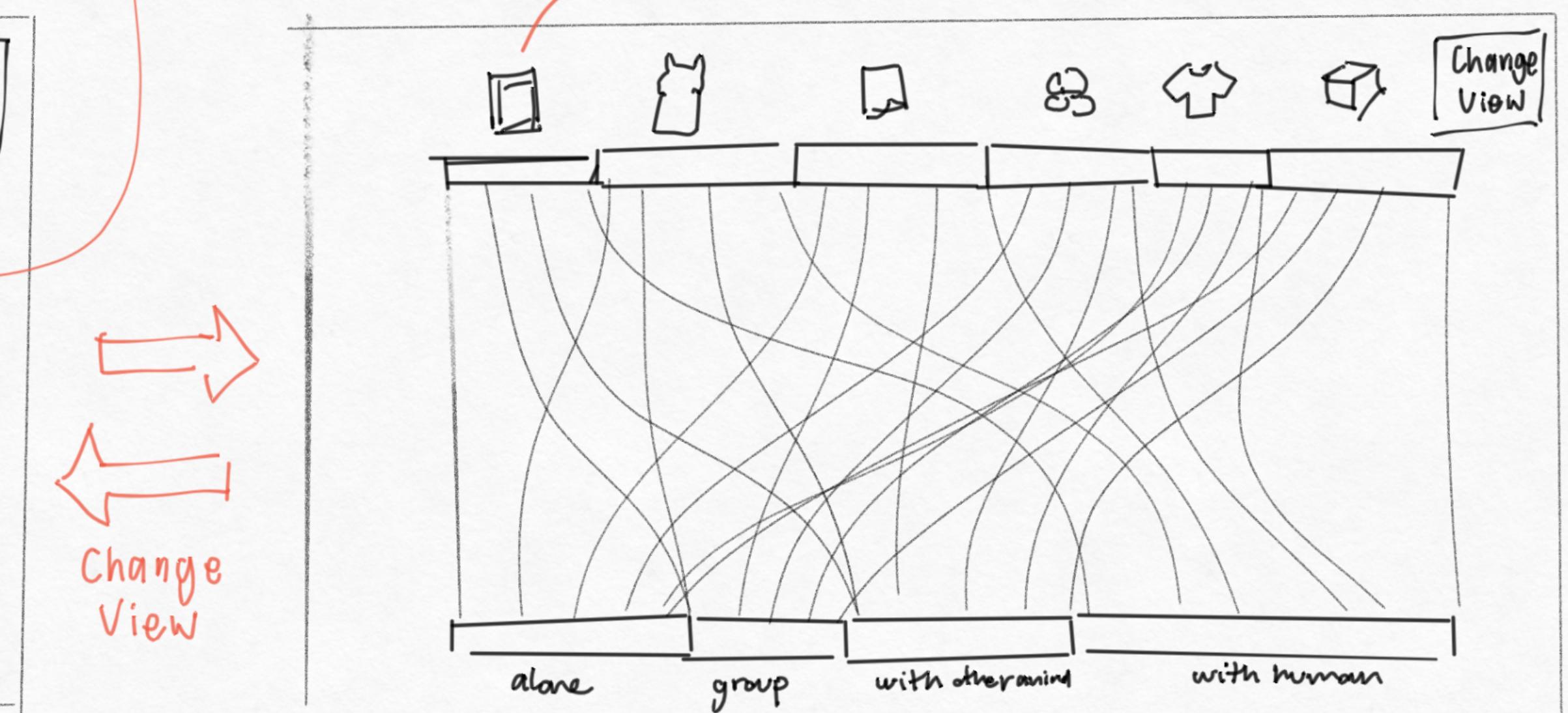


Start explore by grouping in type of item

Click each type to zoom in items

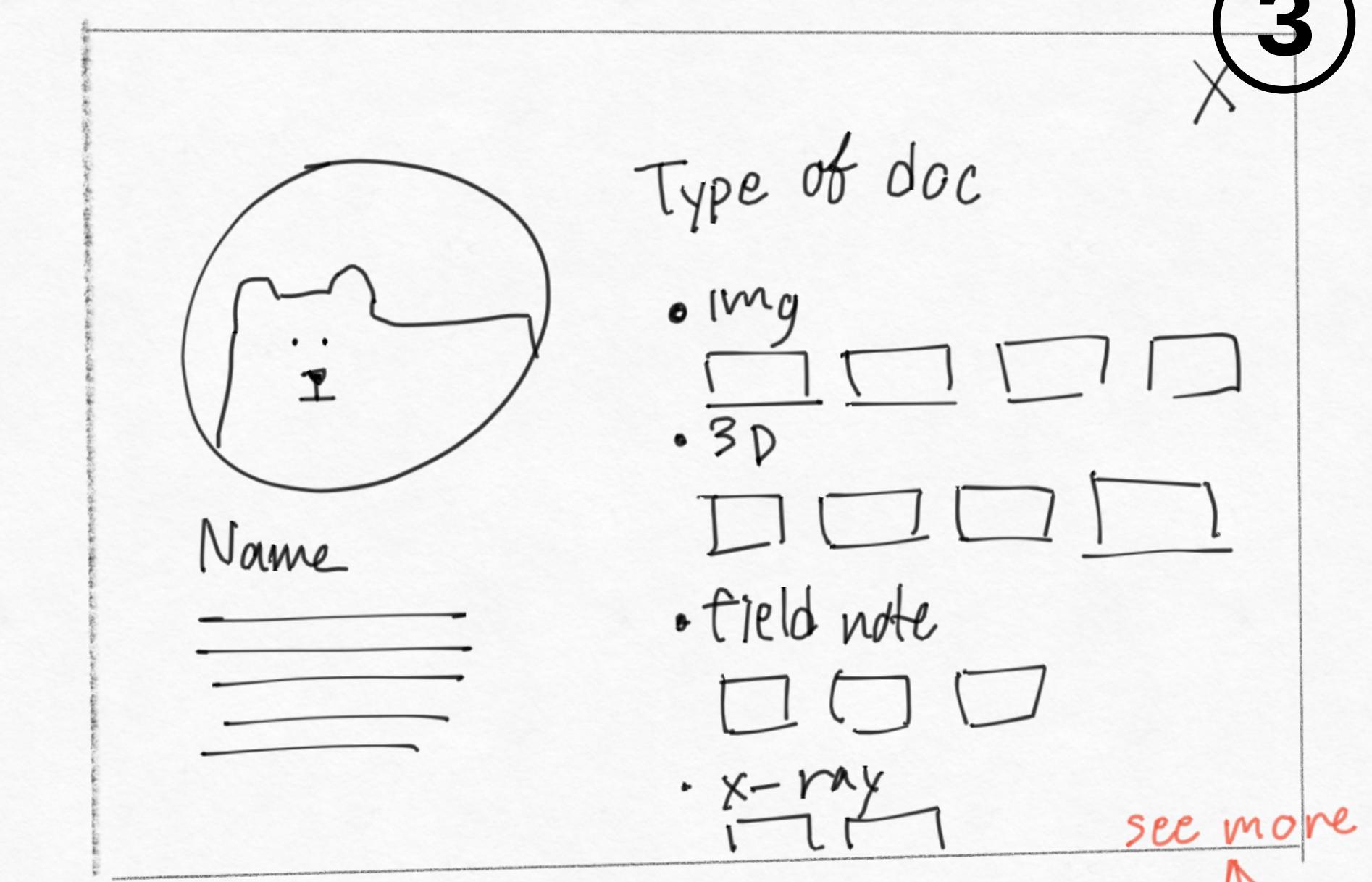
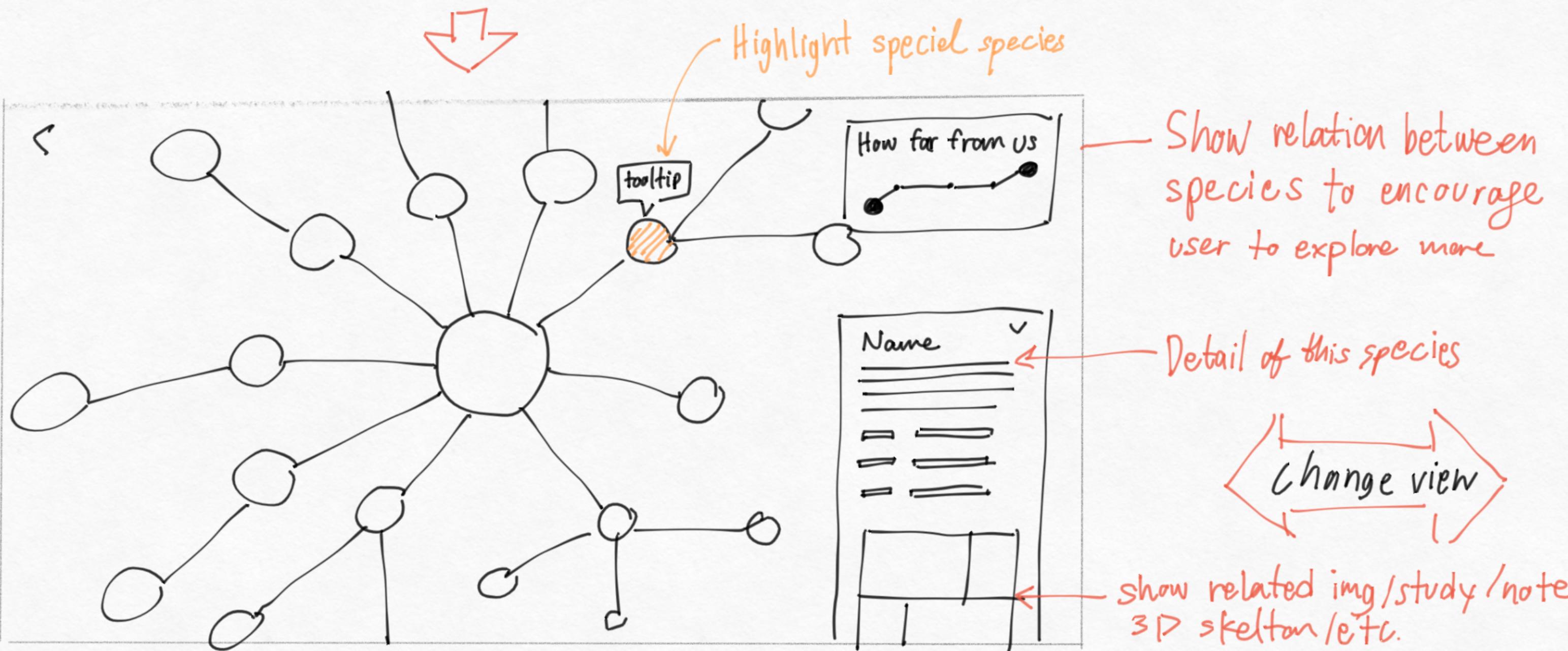
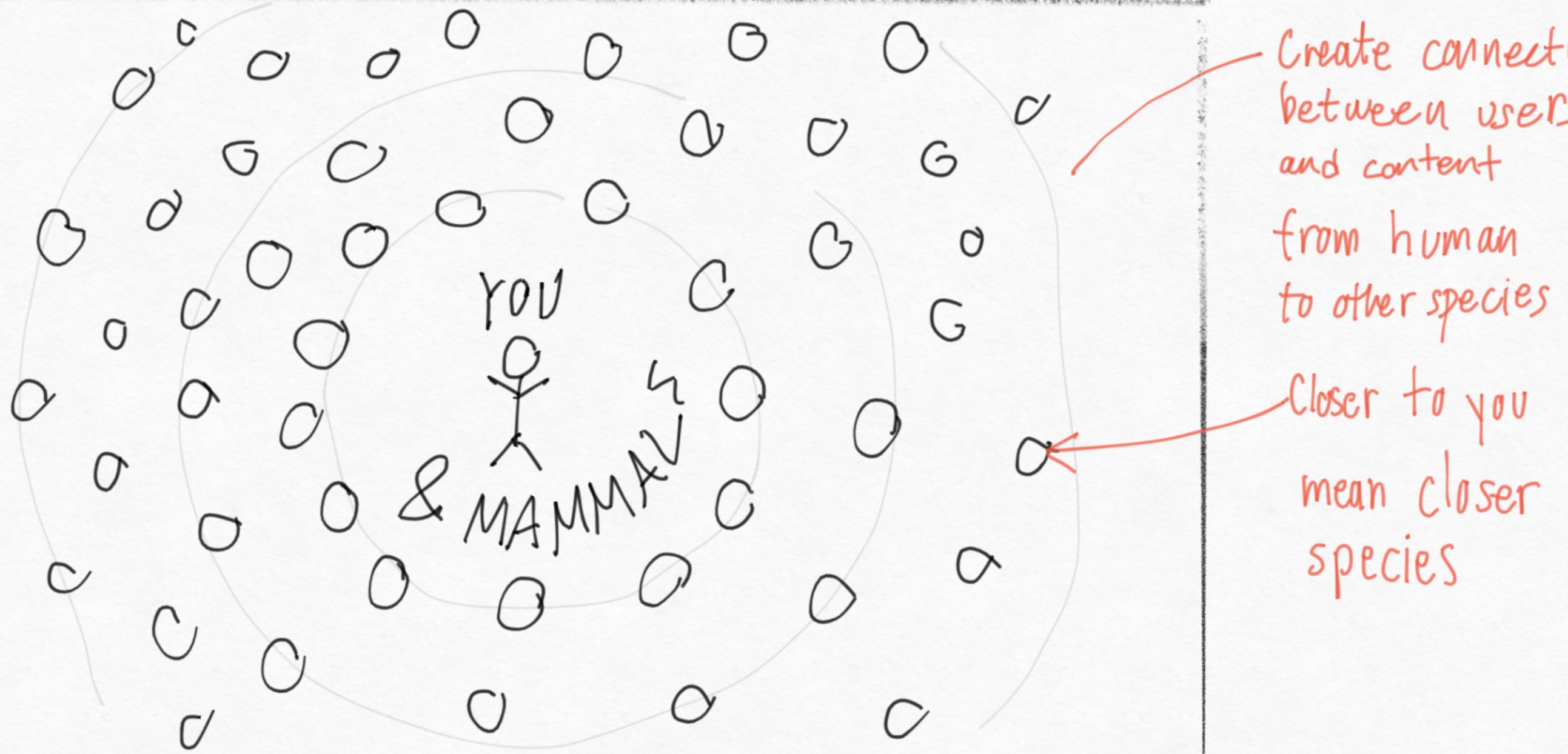


explore each type by year



explore type with relation

3



Summary view of species + relation

