The Institute of Interesting Things

1. We have to know where all the items, sometimes called artifacts, are.
   1. They have a description, date acquired, value and date lost.
   2. Most items are not lost, of course. Will that work, technically?
2. Most of the items are in the rooms.
   1. When the items are not on display, they may be found in storage, in restoration, or on loan.
   2. The rooms all have names or numbers.
   3. Whether the item is on display in a room, in storage, in restoration or on loan, we may have a detailed description of its location. For example, “In the corner by the window.”
   4. Wherever it is, these locations sometimes get reused. However, the location need not be shared between rooms.
   5. If an item is in storage or restoration, it may also have a detailed description of the location (“shelves 12B, fourth drawer down, red box”).
   6. The museum often runs reports to determine all the items currently on display and their locations.
   7. The museum often runs reports on particular locations to determine what items were there over time.
3. The employees all have titles. Some are ticket booth operators, some are gift shop attendants, some are tour attendants, some are PhD’s, and so on.
   1. We track their first name, middle name, last name, salary, up to three phone numbers, the address, city, state and zip. We don’t ever want this information to be lost, even if they stop working with us.
   2. Sometimes the employees leave, but then come back to us so we don’t ever want to delete an employee permanently.
4. Our employees also appraise items, which may or may not be items in the Museum.
   1. We need to know if it’s an item in the Museum or not.
   2. For items not in the Museum, a detailed description is kept. For items that are in the Museum, we just use the description that is already associated with the artifact
   3. We need to know which employee, or employees, appraised the item. Clyde hardly wanted to come in to work last week because he had so many items to appraise. He enjoys determining the value, but the paperwork adds up quickly. (This establishes that an employee can appraise many items and many employees can appraise a single item.)
   4. The dollar amount of the appraised item is of course kept.