

Display Your Data

Choose a question that you think is interesting and that you do not know the answer to. You will gather data relevant to this question by either doing an experiment or researching available data, so choose a reasonable question.

1. Write your question.
2. What do you predict you will learn from the data?
3. Next, gather your data. Then choose one of these options for displaying your data and answer the questions about it.

Option 1: Create a display that shows the distribution of the data. Include both measures of center and measures of variability.

- Why is the data display you selected the best way to summarize your data?
- Is any of the data surprising?
- Are there any outliers? If so, tell their story. If not, why do you think not?
- Describe the shape of the distribution.

Option 2: Use an infographic to summarize what you found.

- Why is an infographic the best way to summarize your data?
- Is any of the data surprising?
- What story does your infographic tell?

4. Now that you have seen some data, is there another, related question you would like to study or some additional data you would like to collect?

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1. What are some questions that you might be able to answer with the given data?
2. Choose one of your questions to try to answer. What do you predict the data will tell you?
3. Look for data that's relevant to your question. You might have to change your question a little if you can't find the data you need to answer the original question. When you have an answer, choose a way of displaying the data that will help other people understand what you learned.

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