Dear Data

Classroom tool for data literacy

Adaptable for all grade levels

The Value in Data literacy

Science & Engineering Practices

Ask questions and define problems
Develop and use models
Plan and carry out investigations
Analyze and interpret data
Use mathematics and computational thinking
Construct explanations and design solutions
Engage in argument from evidence
Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information

Math Practices

Reason abstractly and quantitatively
Real world statical information gathering
Data expression

Crosscutting Concepts

Patterns
Cause and Effect
Structure and Function
Systems and System Models
Stability and Change
Scale, Proportion, and Quantity
Energy and Matter

Why Choose Dear Data?

Engage students with data in a fun and individualized way

Strengthen data literacy skills

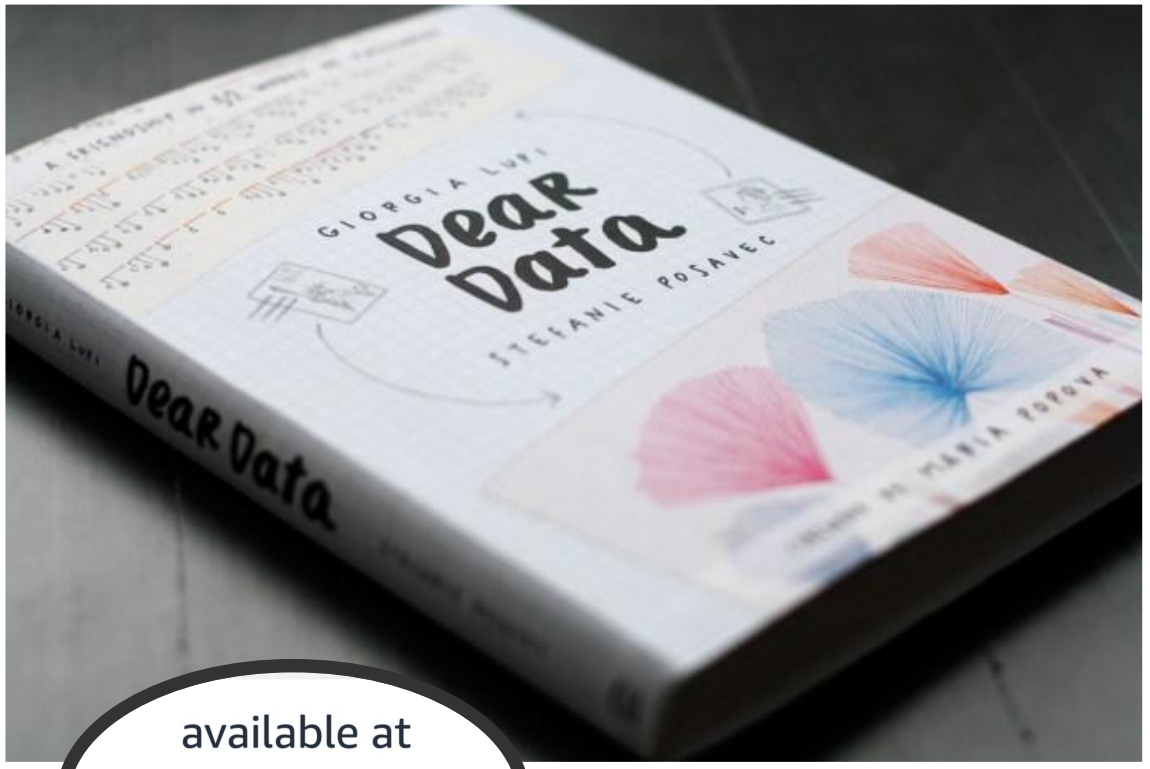
Use to build relationships

What is “Dear Data”?

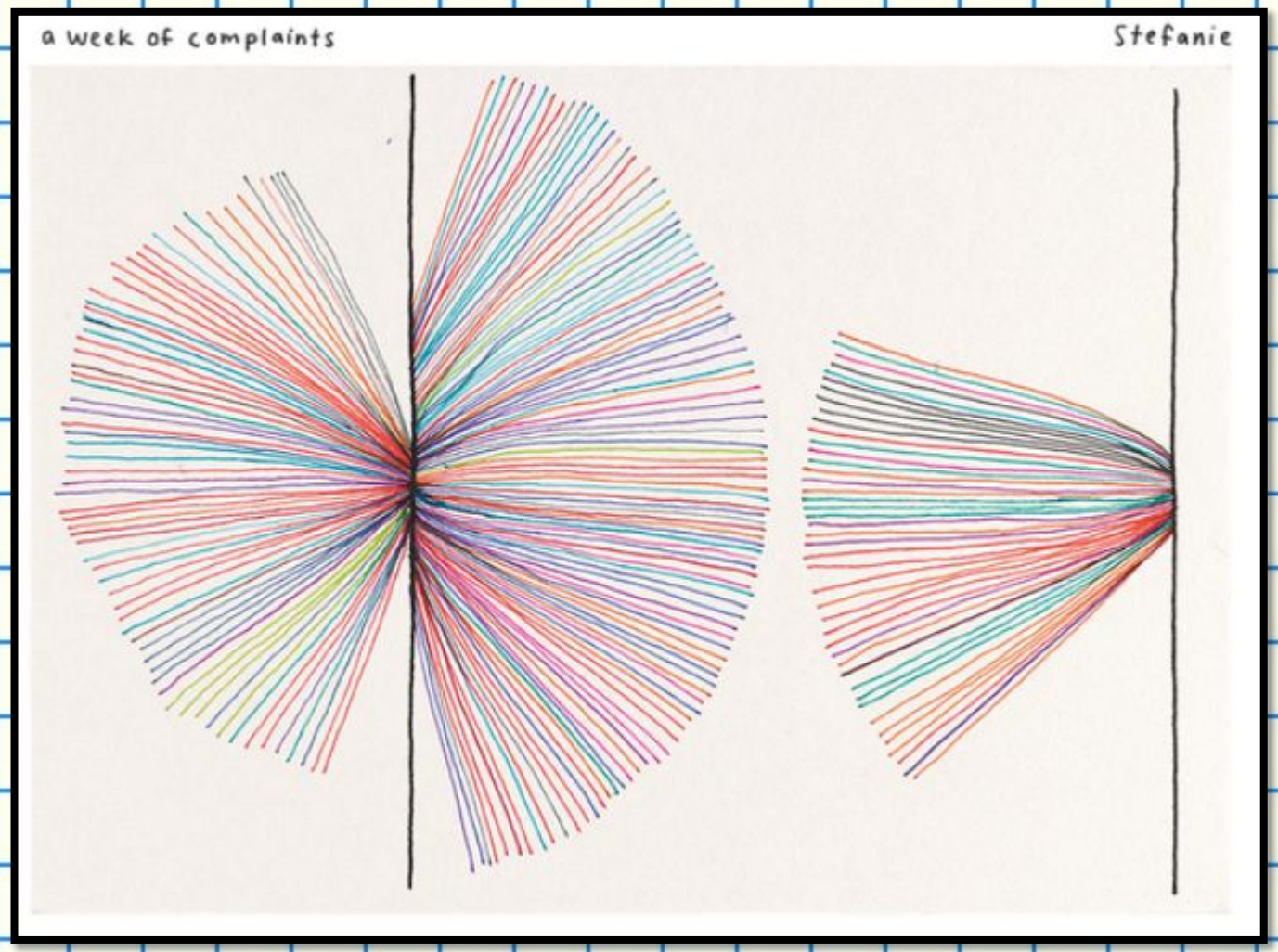
Dear Data was a pen-pal data sharing project between two friends.

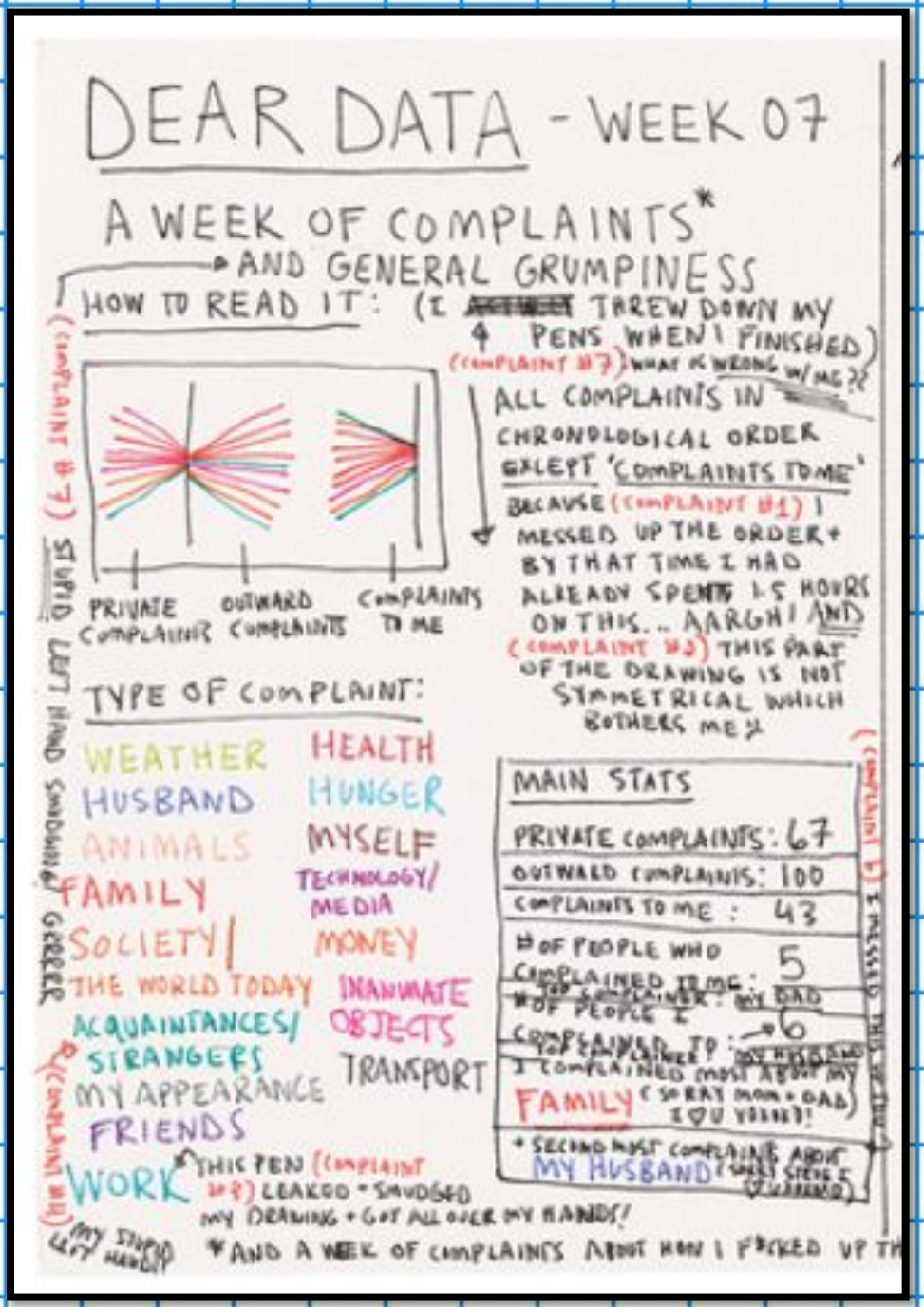
“Each week, and for a year, we collected and measured a particular type of data about our lives, used this data to make a drawing…”

“We hope Dear Data inspires you to slow down, take stock, and draw – to see the world through a new lens, where everything and anything can be a creative starting point for play, expression and connection.”



Author's Example





Student Instructions

Step 1: Introduce Dear Data Project

Step 2: Students collected personal data for 7 days.

Step 3: Use class materials to complete a graph

Step 4: Gallery Walk sharing

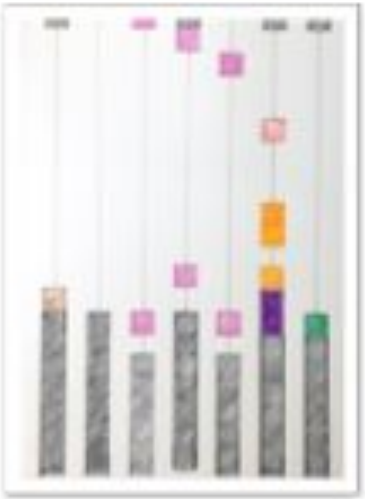
Dear Data Introductions

The purpose of this assignment is to share something about you through a creative graph. The type, subject, and style of graph you choose is entirely up to you.

Here are some ideas (or you can choose your own) on how to share something about yourself with a graph:

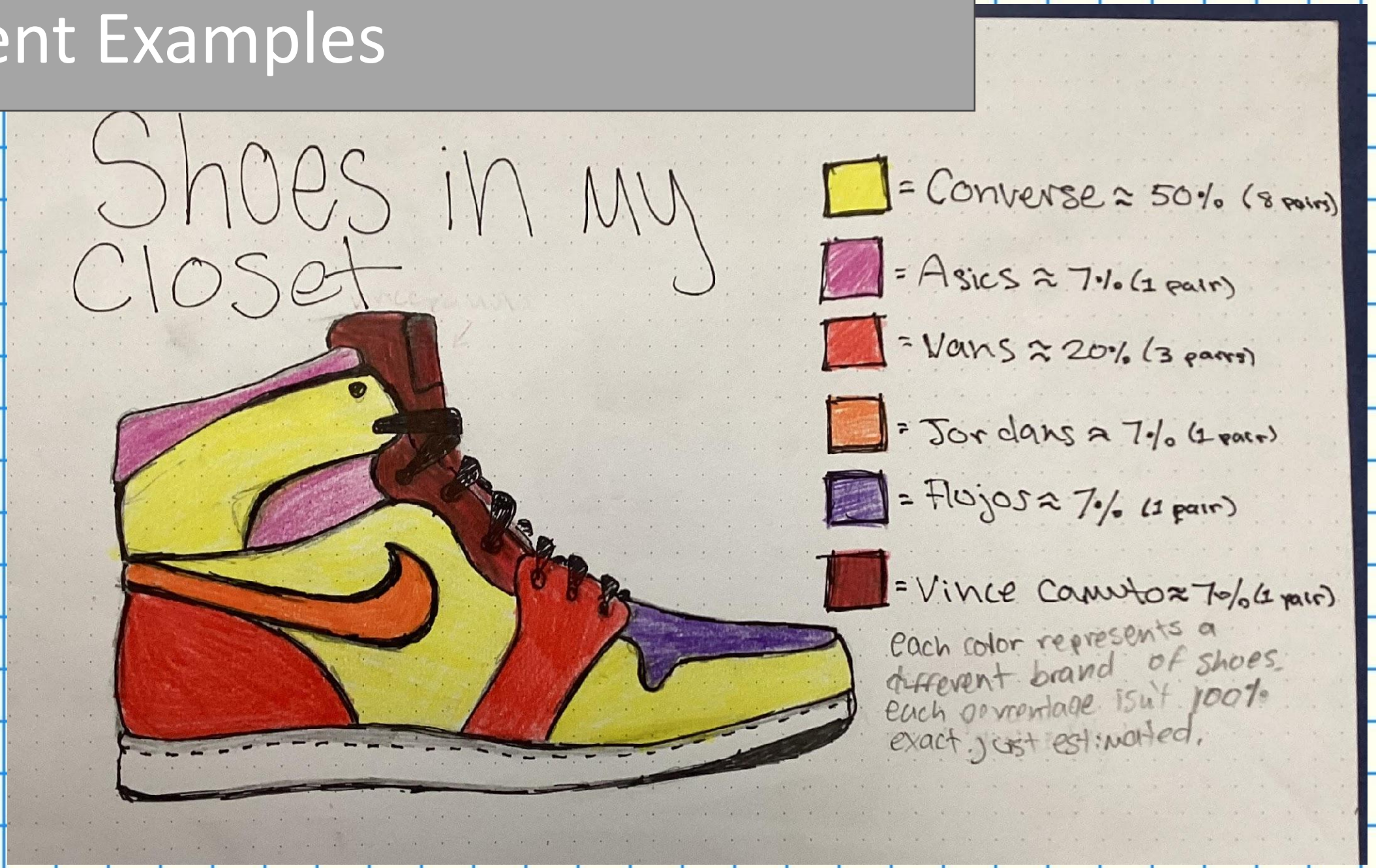
How often I check myself in a mirror
Which apps I use the most on my phone
Which hours of the day I'm on my phone
My hourly s
Types of clot
Shows I wat
Types of pict
YouTube cha
What I read
Items I spend
Books or mus
Types of music on my phone
Time I spend alone

Download and print



- Think about a typical week timespan for the data, or begin today for the next week.
- Write down the data about your given topic
- Make necessary observations each day
- Start to visualize how you want your data to look, you can draw circles, squares, lines, shapes, etc.
- Try to avoid a typical style graph like bar graph, pie chart, line graph, etc.
- Create a final graph of your data and check:
  - ✓ Is it neat and understandable?
  - ✓ Do you need a key or a legend to add more detail?
  - ✓ Can I learn something about you with the graph?
  - ✓ Is your name and on it?

Student Examples



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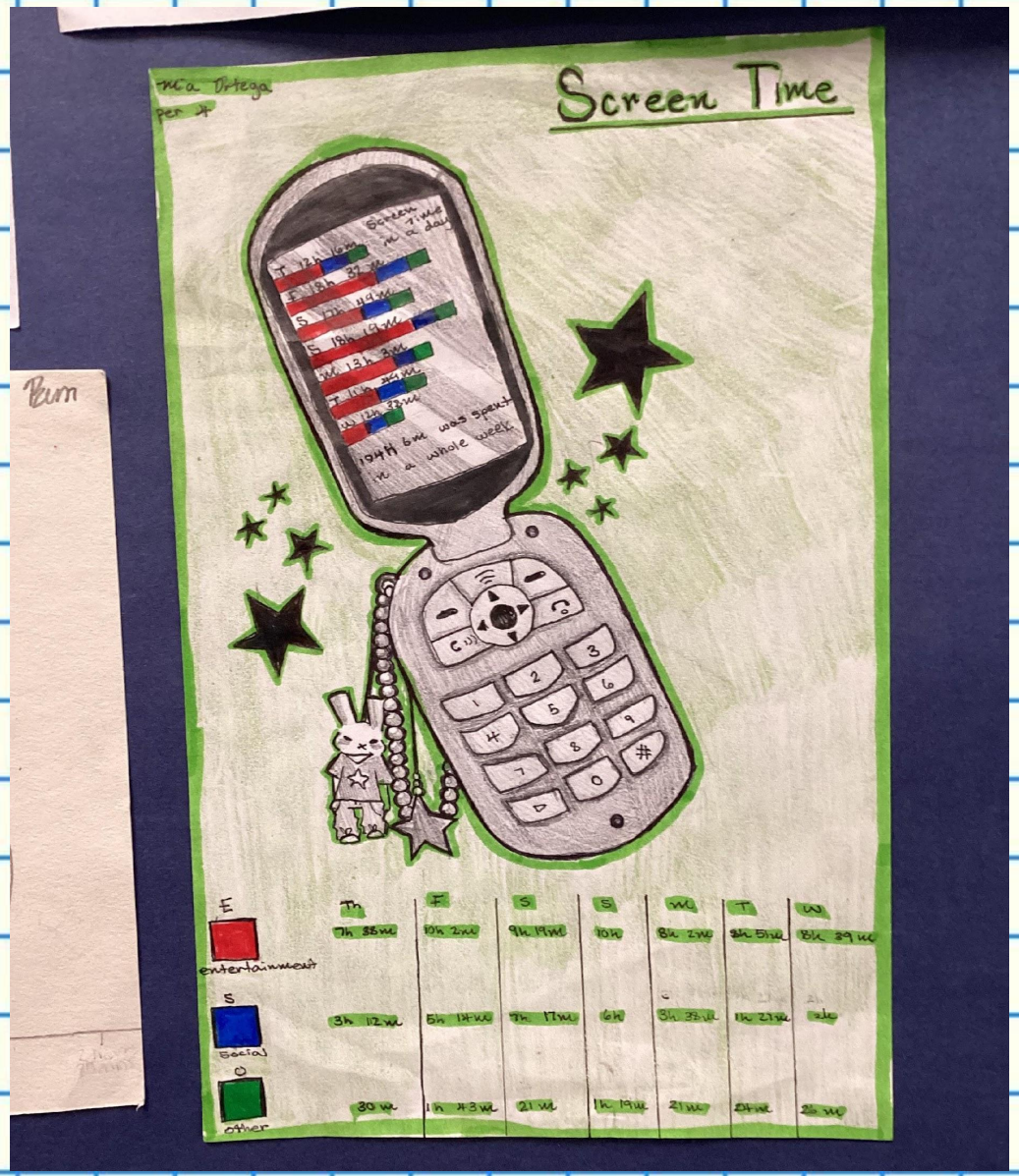

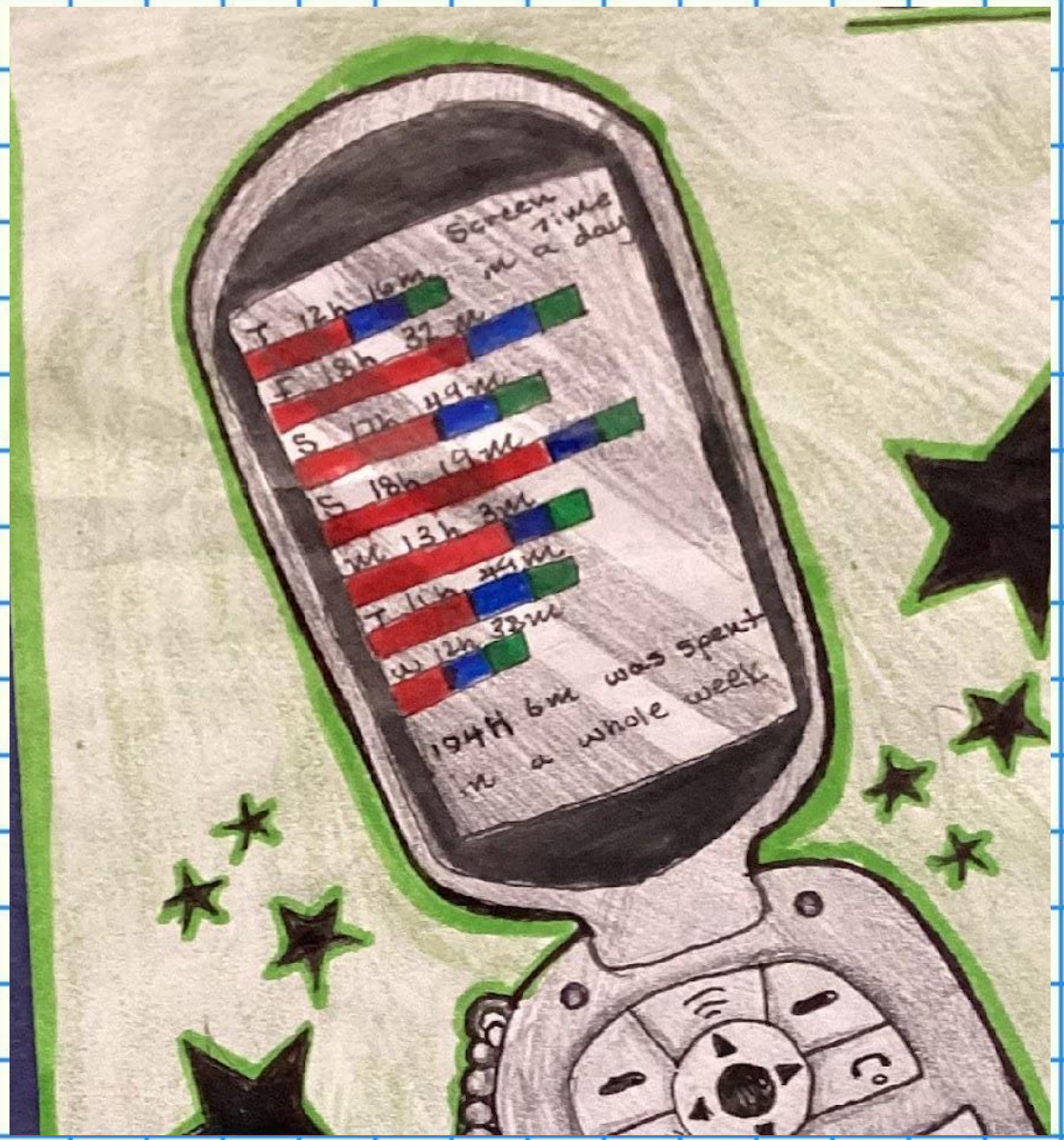

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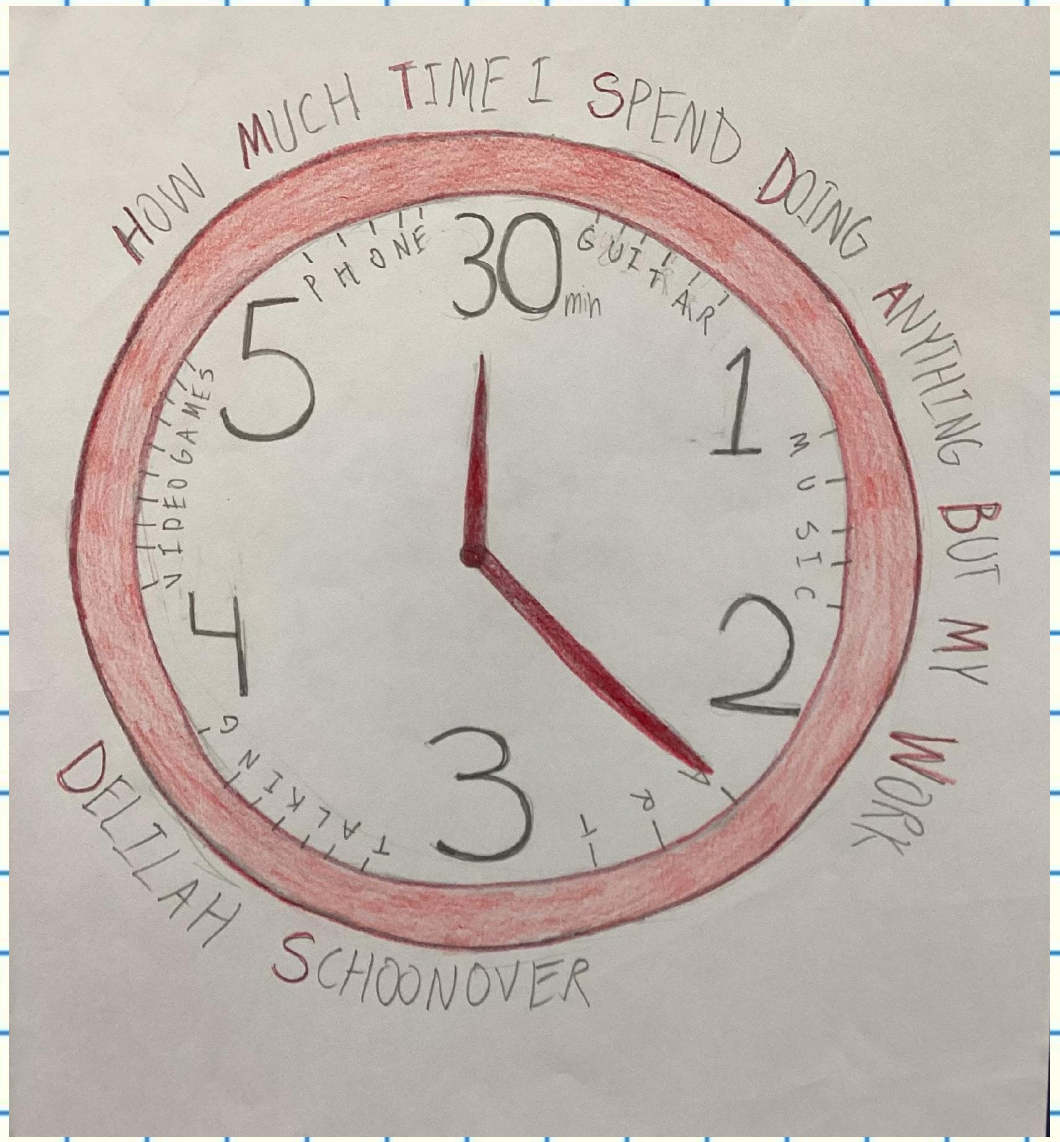
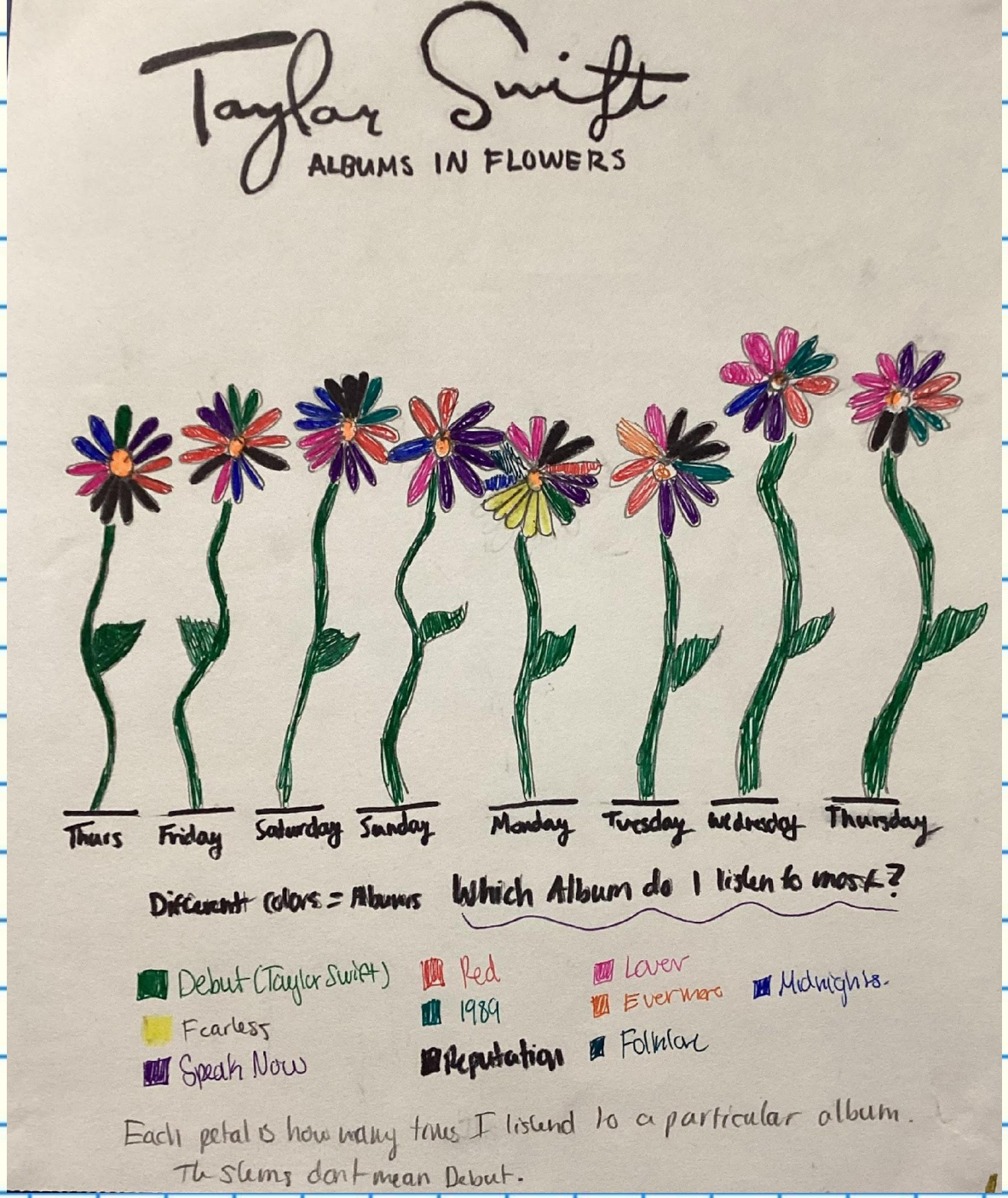
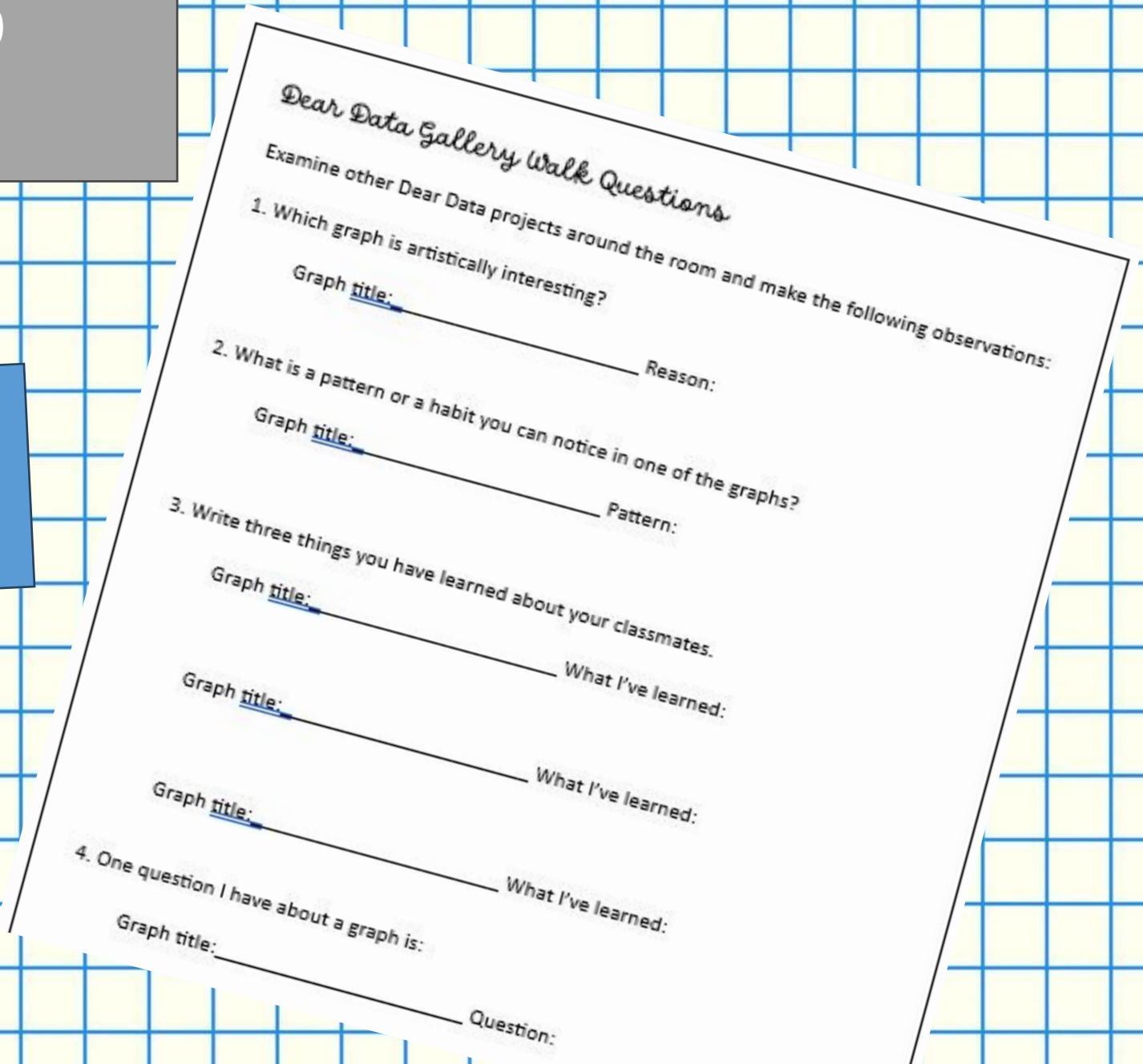




DEAR DATA
8th Grade Science
Statistical information can be artistic and reveal hidden patterns in the smallest details of our lives.
What Apps I Use In A Week
GRAPH
Screen Time!
Key
The bigger apps are the ones I use the most.
DEAR DATA PROJECT
KEY
Hugs
Key

Gallery Walk follow-up class activity

Download and print



Dear Data Gallery Walk Questions

Examine other Dear Data projects around the room and make the following observations:

1. Which graph is artistically interesting?

Graph title: _____ Reason:

2. What is a pattern or a habit you can notice in one of the graphs?

Graph title: _____ Pattern:

3. Write three things you have learned about your classmates.

Graph title: _____ What I've learned:

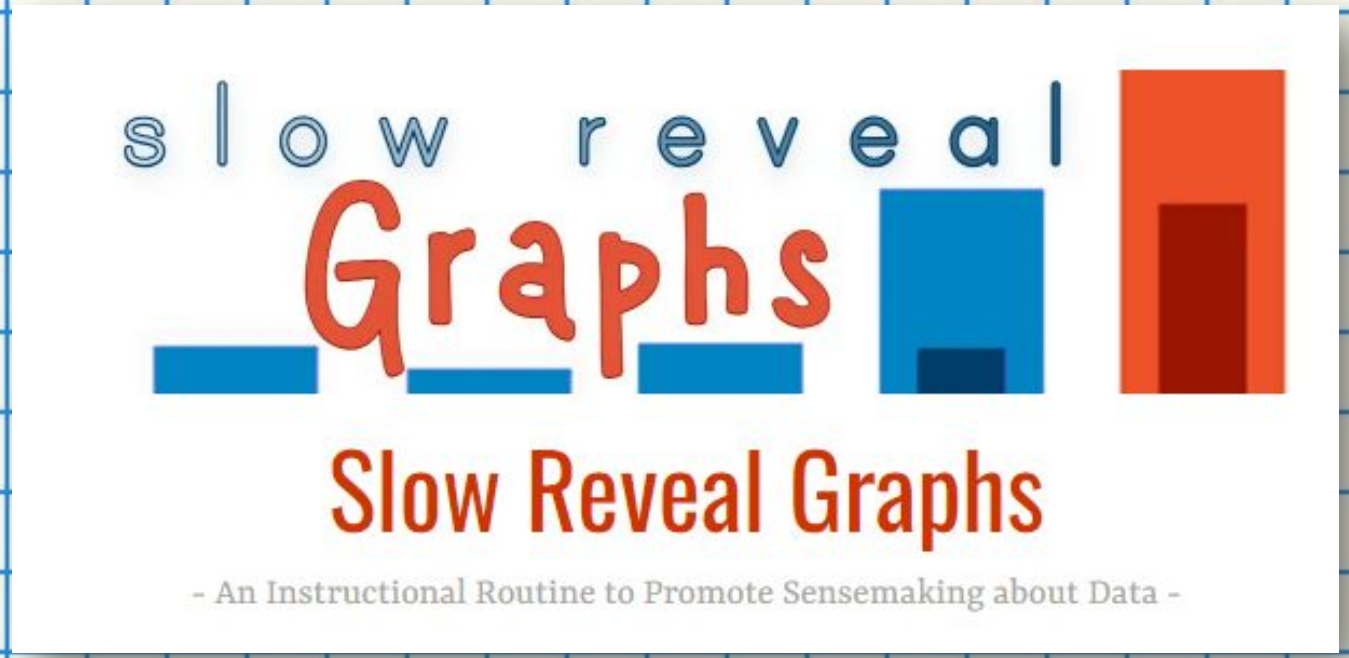
Graph title: _____ What I've learned:

Graph title: _____ What I've learned:

4. One question I have about a graph is:

Graph title: _____ Question:

Extension Resources

https://slowrevealgraphs.com/

https://www.nytimes.com/column/whats-going-on-in-this-graph