

Name _____

**Chapter
2**

Data Displays

Dear Family,

Mathematical literacy is a key skill students should learn to make sense of the world. We are bombarded every day with information: about the economy, the environment, even about simple pleasures like sports and the foods we eat.

How can we think critically about the information we receive? Spend some time with your student reading the paper or watching the news. Chances are that you will be presented with a graph, a table of facts, or a statistic. Is the information fully explained? Could there be more than one way of interpreting the data? Choose a newspaper article that contains graphical information. Here are some questions you can ask your student about the article.

- Did the author choose the best graph for the data? What other types of graphs could have been chosen?
- Does the graph make the information clear? Is any part of it misleading? How could the graph be improved to make the information more clear?
- Is any of the data based on a survey? If so, does the sample represent the population described in the article? Could there be other conclusions that the sample supports? Does the article make any conclusions that the sample does not support?

Every type of graph shows some types of information better than others. What else would be interesting to learn about the topic in the article? You and your student can use the Internet or the library to find out more about the subject at hand.

Conversations with your student will be more interesting when you know the facts are solid.

Have fun researching!

Lesson	Learning Target	Success Criteria
2.1 Stem-and-Leaf Plots	Display and interpret data in stem-and-leaf plots.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can explain how to choose stems and leaves of a data set. I can make and interpret a stem-and-leaf plot. I can use a stem-and-leaf plot to describe the distribution of a data set.
2.2 Histograms	Display and interpret data in histograms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can explain how to draw a histogram. I can make and interpret a histogram. I can determine whether a question can be answered using a histogram.
2.3 Shapes of Distributions	Describe and compare shapes of distributions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can explain what it means for a distribution to be skewed left, skewed right, or symmetric. I can use data displays to describe shapes of distributions. I can use shapes of distributions to compare data sets.
2.4 Choosing Appropriate Measures	Determine which measures of center and variation best describe a data set.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can describe the shape of a distribution. I can use the shape of a distribution to determine which measure of center best describes the data. I can use the shape of a distribution to determine which measure of variation best describes the data.
2.5 Box-and-Whisker Plots	Display and interpret data in box-and-whisker plots.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can find the five-number summary of a data set. I can make a box-and-whisker plot. I can explain what the box and the whiskers of a box-and-whisker plot represent. I can compare data sets represented by box-and-whisker plots.