A to Zines:
Creative Approaches to Data Literacy

Public Library Association
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A bit about me...
Civic Information Services at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

When: 2017

Where: Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - Main Branch

Who: Civic Information Services Department (interns and Data Manager)

Why:
- Use data to help patrons feel connected to their community and enact change
- Create spaces where people can explore, question, and challenge data
- Build awareness of the data people create and how to protect it
- Engage patrons of all ages in data conversations
Civic Data Zine Workshop

**Setting:** Labs Summer Intensives

**Audience:** Teens

**Timeframe:** One week

**Partner:** PublicSource

**Origin:** MLIS project
Woah woah woah...what’s a zine?
So...why zines?
Curriculum

Big Goals:

...identify data as it impacts our everyday lives;
...think critically about data;
...practice storytelling using data;
...examine a personal, civic, or national issue through the lens of data
...create a Data Zine that documents not only our findings, but our process.
Smaller Goals:
I LEARNED
   ...a new skill, dataset, or resource
   ...more about my community
I MADE
   ...a Data Zine
   ...discoveries in data
I HELPED
   ...my community through civic data
Requirements

In order to be a Data Zine, each zine must include:

- A graph, chart, or some other form of data visualization
- A survey, interview, or some other form of qualitative data
- A map of some kind
- Our finding process
- Any sources we used
Civic Data Field Guide

ASK A QUESTION!
- What's something you've always been curious about?
- Is there anything you want to investigate?
- Think about a change you'd like to see, or something that confuses you.

DO SOME DIGGING!
You might start by:
- Searching local database repositories
- Calling your representatives
- Asking a librarian
- Clicking around your city's website

COMPILE YOUR FINDINGS!
Your final product should:
- Detail your search and upon you found out.
  - Did you get an answer? Did the question change?
  - Reflect you, your process, or your community?
  - Make this time your own! Go wild! Be creative!
  - Serve as a resource for other curious citizens.
  - What advice can you give to people who have questions?
  - How is your data presented in an effective way?

SHARE IT!
- Tell your family, friends, and teachers about your project.
- Share your community have a zinc lining? See if you can donate your go in a zinc shop!
Open Data Sources

US Census
NYC Open Data
Google Trends
Week-long Workshop

DAY 1 - DATA RESOURCES
DAY 2 - DATA COLLECTION
DAY 3 - DATA STORIES
DAY 4 - WORKING WITH DATA
DAY 5 - PRESENTING DATA
Short Workshop

FIRST STEP
Get your zine ready
Determine your topic

NEXT STEP
Dig into the data
Compile your findings

LAST STEP
What was interesting?
What questions do you have?
Copy your zine and share
Let’s take a look!
Additional Resources

Data Zine Workshop Curriculum: https://tinyurl.com/9kymb7ty

Youth Data Literacy Project: https://www.youthdataliteracy.info

Data Literacy with, for, and by Youth: https://www.informalscience.org/data-literacy-and-youth-exploring-how-teens-co-design-after-school-programs-sites-critical-data

Multiple Literacies Lab: https://multipleliteracieslab.unt.edu/data-literacy
Books

Thanks!
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