

Observation



- <u>Observation</u> is describing an object or event using your five senses (*what you see, hear, smell, taste, touch*) or measurement (*numbers*).
- Information gathered during an observation is called data (sing. *datum*).

Observation does not include opinion (how you feel or what you think)!

Describe the Baby Elephant



It weighs 480 kilograms. It has large ears and long trunk. It has gray wrinkly skin.



It is young. It is about 1.5 yards tall.

Qualitative vs Quantitative Data

<u>QuaLitative</u> (letters)

- Descriptions using words.
- Data which can be observed but not measured.
- What the object is *like*: colors, texture, smell, taste, appearance, etc.
- Subjective, relative

<u>QuaNtitative</u> (numbers)

- Specific **numbers**.
- Data which can be measured.
- Length, height, area, volume, weight, speed, time, temperature, humidity, sound levels, cost, age, etc.
- Objective, specific

Qualitative observations are subjective

That girl is

so short!



Quantitative observations are objective





Yes, that girl is 4 feet tall.

DIY: Monarch Butterfly

common morph (form)



rare Hawaiian white morph



Make one qualitative observation about each picture above. Explain why this is a qualitative observation.

Make one quantitative observation about each picture above. Explain why this is a quantitative observation.

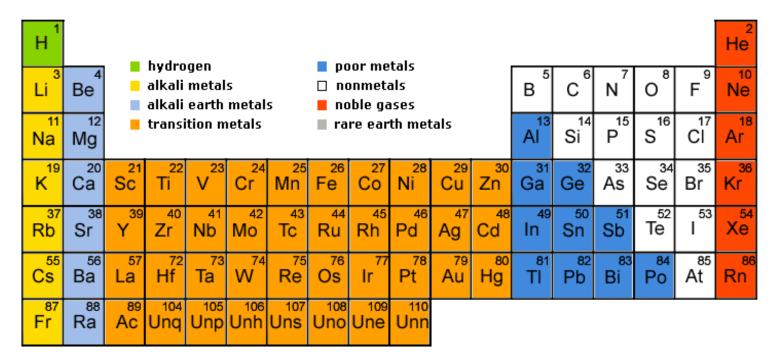
Working with your observations

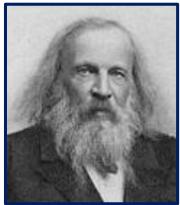
Excellent way to <u>organize</u> your data: a table.

Table 1. My School Nova classes enrollment.

YEAR	EARTH SCIENCE	SCIENCE
2014/2015	15	8
2015/2016	14	13
2016/2017	10	16
2017/2018	12	4
2018/2019	23	22
2019/2020	20	20

Famous Table: The Periodic Table of Elements

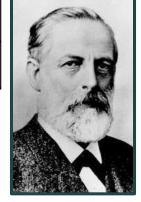




С	58 e	Pr	Nd	Pm	62 Sm	Eu	Gd ⁶⁴	Tb ⁶⁵	66 Dy	67 Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	71 Lu
т	90 h	Pa Pa		93 Np	94 Pu	Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	Of 98	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No	103 Lr

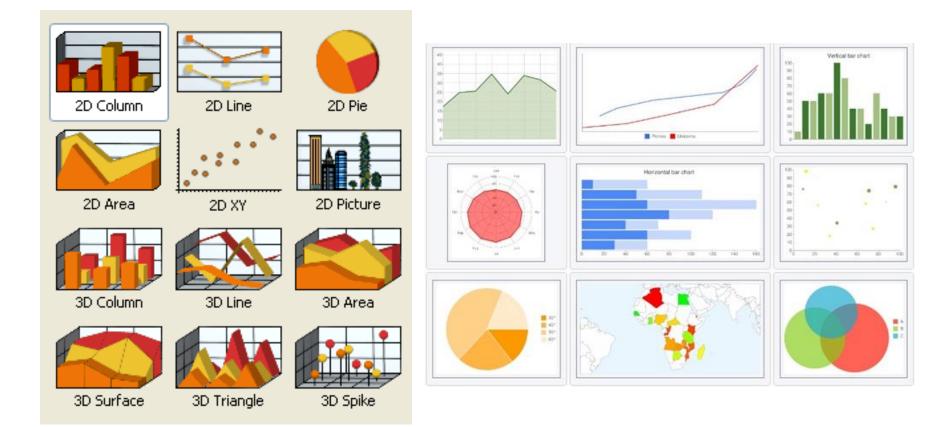
and Julius Lothar Meyer (1870)

Dmitri Mendeleev (1869)



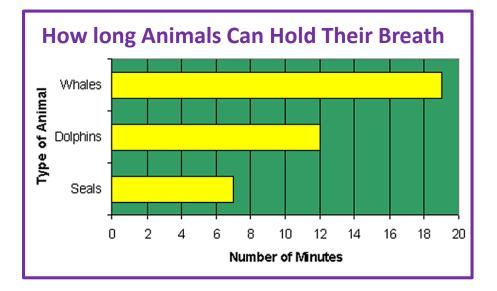
Working with your observations

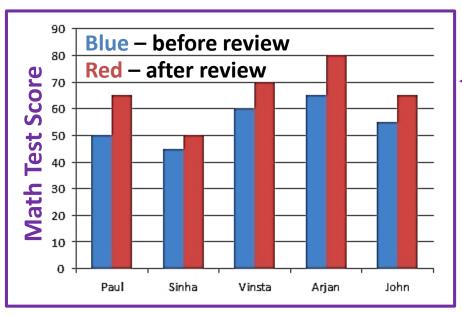
Excellent way to <u>display</u> your data: a graph.

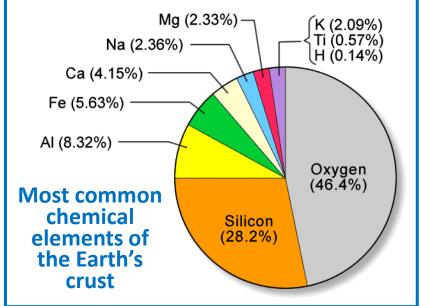


Different types of graphs are appropriate for different experiments!

Types of graphs







Bar graphs and circle – graphs should be used to represent categorical data (comparison, sometimes called "side by side" data).

Types of graphs

