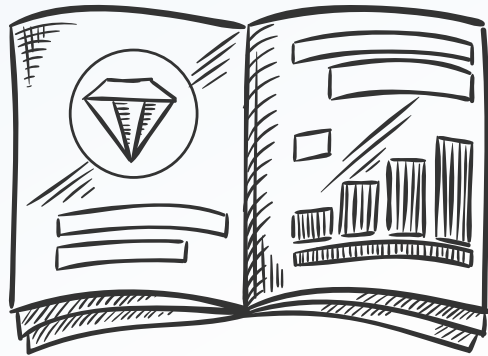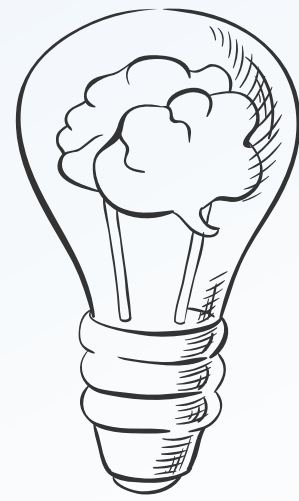# Steppingblocks

What it means to be
DATA LITERATE

And how to spot fake news. You don't need to be a data scientist to become data literate, but ask yourself these questions before embarking on any data analysis.

What questions are you hoping to answer?

01

By clearly understanding what you're looking for, data becomes less intimidating and more fun. For instance you might ask in an analysis: What's the average salary for engineers at Google?
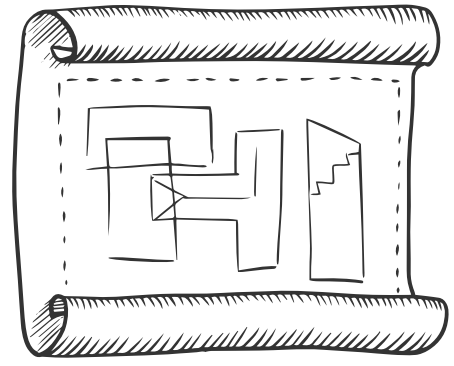
What are the sources of the data?

02

You should approach any data analysis with skepticism. If something feels off, don't accept it at face value. Investigate the source to determine integrity, authenticity and motive.

What is the context of your analysis?

03

Data without interpretation is meaningless. Uncovering trends helps bring life to your analysis and inform your decisions. You may learn journalists earn $70K a year, but only in New York.

What story do the data visualizations tell you?

04

When you look at data graphics, ask yourself whether the graph has been designed to tell a story that accurately reflects the data, or if it tells you a story the creator wants you to see.

How will data guide your career decisions?

05

Use data to unlock earning potential by job title or major, in-demand skills by employer and post-graduation career paths for real people from your institution and field of study.

Steppingblocks

Original Source: General Assembly Blog