Data Storytelling Studio

data sculptures

CMS.631/831
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Agenda

- [15] Data sculpture activity
- [20] Inspirations
- [10] Readings
- [20] Physical viz review activity
- [5] Tools and techniques
- [15] Datasets and team-forming
Data Sculptures

Represent the data with **physical** variables

make a Data Sculpture
The following is a plot of responses to the question, “how happy are you right now,” showing how responses were distributed.

An Old Idea

"Quipus were complex assemblies of knotted ropes that were used in South America as a data storage device and played an important role in the Inca administration. Only a handful of specialists could use and decipher them. Their meaning mostly remains a mystery but it seems that color, relative position of knots, knot types and rope length were used to encode categorical and quantitative variables."

http://dataphys.org/list/peruvian-quipus/

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Inspirational "Flat" Objects

Rahul Bhargava, 2014

Elizabeth Peabody, 1856

Air Transformed, Stephanie Posavec & Miriam Quick, 2015

Black Cloud, WWF & Ogilvy, 2007

Crossing Urban Boundaries, Urbano Project

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Inspirational Interactive Objects

Drip By Tweet, Domestic Data Streamers, 2014

iBins Team, India, 2015

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Physical Mappings

Physical Viz Review Activity

to understand the design space

- form a team of 3
- scan dataphys.org/list and pick a post-2000 project
- prepare a 2-minute overview telling us:
  - what data are they showing?
  - what is the mapping from data to physical artifact?
  - Why does the physicality of it matter?
  - Do you like it or not?
- you have 10 mins
Tools

- cardboard
- string
- glue
- etc.
- laser cutter
- 3d printer
- Arduino
- Makey-Makey

contact me early if you want help!
Data Sets

pick one, or use your own

Hubway Rides

NYC Trees

CO₂ emissions

Air Quality in Beijing from US State Dept

Global Temp Rise from IPCC-approved models

...or something else
Team Forming

find new people to work with

What do you know?
What do you want to make?
What dataset are you interested in?