

Unit 1 Handout 14

Lesson 3: Data Table Requirements

**Purpose:** - To provide a list of requirements for creating data tables.

**Guiding Questions:** How do scientists display and communicate information with each other?

**Data Table Requirements**

When creating a data table for our class, all your data tables must:

1. Have a title.
2. Be created by a software program and not be hand drawn. For example, you can create tables in Pages.
3. Have headings for each column or have headings for each row
  - 3.1. Headers with data include the unit.
4. Include comments on trials where more information is available about that trial.
5. Have a summary after the data table that describes what the data table is showing.
  - 5.1. The summary states what data was collected.
  - 5.2. The summary identifies any errors or outliers, and offers explanations for them.
  - 5.3. The summary includes a brief statement of any trends or patterns that exist. If none exist, then the summary states this.

**Example of a data table that meets all requirements.**

My Thursday One-Mile Run Times

<b>Trials (weeks)</b>	<b>Time to Complete Mile (in minutes and seconds)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Week 1</b>	8:47	
<b>Week 2</b>	8:36	<i>We started early by mistake. We had to stop and start over.</i>
<b>Week 3</b>	8:45	
<b>Week 4</b>	7:59	<i>Mrs. Bo forgot to start the clock. She said to add 30 seconds to our time. My time is probably 8:29.</i>
<b>Week 5</b>	8:24	

**Summary:** On Thursday we have to run one mile for gym. Each week I recorded how long it took me to run the mile. Due to a timing error in week 4, my mile time is not 7:49. It is estimated that my time is 8:29. In general, I have improved my mile time as I have been mostly running faster each week.