

Or swimming in insights?



Are you drowning in data?

Or swimming in insights?



Are you drowning in data?



# Drowning in data, or swimming in insights?

How edtech must evolve to give you more actionable insights

Dr. Adam Black

Founder, [enablinginsights](#)

Or swimming in insights?



Are you drowning in data?

How **actionable** are student data in current dashboards?

# How “actionable” are these student data?

Name	Score (Correct/Possible)	%	Times Taken
<b>Unit 1 - A</b>			
Unit 1 / Lesson A / Vocabulary	7.00 / 10.00	70.00 %	1
Unit 1 / Lesson A / Listening	5.00 / 10.00	50.00 %	1
Unit 1 / Lesson A / Language function	5.00 / 10.00	50.00 %	1
Unit 1 / Lesson A / Grammar	6.00 / 10.00	60.00 %	1
Unit 1 / Lesson A / Pronunciation	not taken	0.00 %	0
Unit 1 / Lesson A / Speaking	not taken	0.00 %	0
<b>Unit 2 - A</b>			
Unit 2 / Lesson A / Listening	6.00 / 10.00	60.00 %	1
Unit 2 / Lesson A / Speaking	27.00 / 30.00	90.00 %	1
Unit 2 / Lesson A / Pronunciation	25.00 / 30.00	83.33 %	1
Unit 2 / Lesson A / Grammar	not taken	0.00 %	0
Unit 2 / Lesson A / Language Function	not taken	0.00 %	0
Unit 2 / Lesson A / Vocabulary	not taken	0.00 %	0

# How “actionable” are these student data?

Student	Play Grammar			Play: Vocabulary			Read			Listen			Average		
Alvarez, Miguel	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%
Aria, Frida	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%
Azoulay, Muhammad	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%
Barrios, Maria	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%
Benzali, Juliana	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%
Class average	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%	2	45%	56%

Number of tries   First try   Last try   Add student   Delete selected student(s)   Print   Export

How “actionable” are these student data?

Title	Score	Grade	Completed
Welcome to Your Course	---	---	0/0
Unit 1 Exploring Genius	35%	D	4/10
Unit 2 The Achilles Heel	100%	A	2/2
Unit 3 Early to Bed, Early to Rise	0%	F	0/11
Unit 4 Animal Intelligence	---	---	0/0
Unit 5 The Golden Years	69%	B	18/21
Unit 6 Giving to Others	---	---	0/0
Unit 7 Do Your Homework!	---	---	0/0
Unit 8 Pros and Cons of Gaming	---	---	0/0



How can we make student data **more actionable** to teachers?

# Let's rethink how to make data more actionable for you

Great dashboards empower teachers  
by transforming **DATA** into *insights*  
that enable you to

understand



decide



action



# Eleven (design) principles to make data more actionable



>



>



1. *Tell a story*

2. **Achieve the five-second rule**

3. Reduce noise

4. Create a **360<sup>degree</sup>** picture

5. Provide formative insights

6. **Help strategic planning**

7. Ensure insights are appropriate

8. ***Enable efficiency***

9. Close the gap

10. **Amplify impact**

11. Promote self development

Let's look at two examples



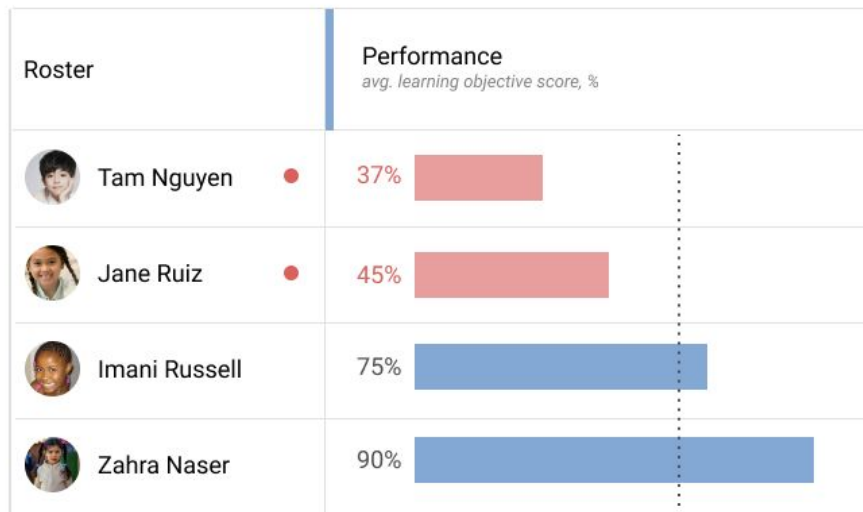
Example 1: how creating a 360-degree picture of a learner can empower decision making

# Making data more actionable

## How a 360-degree view of a learner changes decision making

### Student performance: Week 9

⋮ dotted lines = class average



← Tam needs my help!

← Zahra clearly doesn't.

# Making data more actionable

## How a 360-degree view of a learner changes decision making

### Student performance: Week 9

⋮ dotted lines = class average

Roster	Performance		Behavior	
	avg. learning objective score, %		Engagement	total activity time, mins
 Tam Nguyen ●	37%		72 min	
 Jane Ruiz ●	45%		40 min	
 Imani Russell	75%		75 min	
 Zahra Naser	90%		71 min	

Tam is putting in the effort!

















Ah, but Jane isn't!

# Making data more actionable

## How a 360-degree view of a learner changes decision making

### Student performance: Week 9

⋮ dotted lines = class average

Roster	Performance avg. learning objective score, %	Behavior	
		Engagement total activity time, mins	Study total ebook time, mins
 Tam Nguyen ●	37% 	72 min 	27 min 
 Jane Ruiz ●	45% 	40 min 	20 min 
 Imani Russell	75% 	75 min 	54 min 
 Zahra Naser	90% 	71 min 	42 min 

Ah, and Jane isn't using the book either..















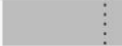




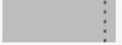




# Making data more actionable

## How a 360-degree view of a learner changes decision making

### Student performance: Week 9

⋮ dotted lines = class average

Roster	Performance avg. learning objective score, %	Behavior		
		Engagement total activity time, mins	Study total ebook time, mins	Perseverance avg. resubmissions per activity, #
 Tam Nguyen ●	37% 	72 min 	27 min 	3.6 
 Jane Ruiz ●	45% 	40 min 	20 min 	3.5 
 Imani Russell	75% 	75 min 	54 min 	4.7 
 Zahra Naser	90% 	71 min 	42 min 	3.1 

























Hm. Zahra is cruising but gives up easily

# Making data more actionable

## How a 360-degree view of a learner changes decision making

### Student performance: Week 9

⋮ dotted lines = class average








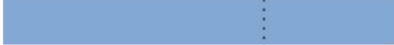
Roster	Performance avg. learning objective score, %	Behavior			
		Engagement total activity time, mins	Study total ebook time, mins	Perseverance avg. resubmissions per activity, #	Confidence avg. post submission, 1-5
 Tam Nguyen ●	37% 	72 min 	27 min 	3.6 	3.2 
 Jane Ruiz ●	45% 	40 min 	20 min 	3.5 	2.2 
 Imani Russell	75% 	75 min 	54 min 	4.7 	4.2 
 Zahra Naser	90% 	71 min 	42 min 	3.1 	4.8 

# Making data more actionable

## How a 360-degree view of a learner changes decision making

### Student performance: Week 9

dotted lines = class average

Roster	Performance <i>avg. learning objective score, %</i>	Behavior			
		Engagement <i>total activity time, mins</i>	Study <i>total ebook time, mins</i>	Perseverance <i>avg. resubmissions per activity, #</i>	Confidence <i>avg. post submission, 1-5</i>
 Tam Nguyen ●	37% 				
 Jane Ruiz ●	45% 				
 Imani Russell	75% 				
 Zahra Naser	90% 				

I need to...

...give Tam some 1:1 and build his confidence.

...get Jane re-engaged and encourage her.

...congratulate Imani and keep her engaged.













...stretch Zahra and get her to persevere.

Example 2: how class-level results can be presented to  
enable efficient and effective interventions for teachers



# Making data more actionable

## How to amplify your impact

Roster	Performance <small>avg. learning objective score, %</small>
 Craig Baptista	88%
 Haylie Bergson	77%
 Greta Botosh	90%
 Skylar Carder	● 68%
 Marilyn Donin	72%
 Alfredo Hurtado	75%
 Alena Kenter	● 68%
 Omar Lubin	75%
 Zahra Naser	90%
 Tam Nguyen	● 57%
 Jane Ruiz	● 45%
 Imani Russell	72%

What's the most  
efficient and effective  
action you can take if  
presented with this data on  
your class



# Making data more actionable

## How to amplify your impact

### Student intervention categories: Week 9

I want to understand my class

y-axis

Performance

Engagement

Study

Persistence

Confidence

versus

x-axis

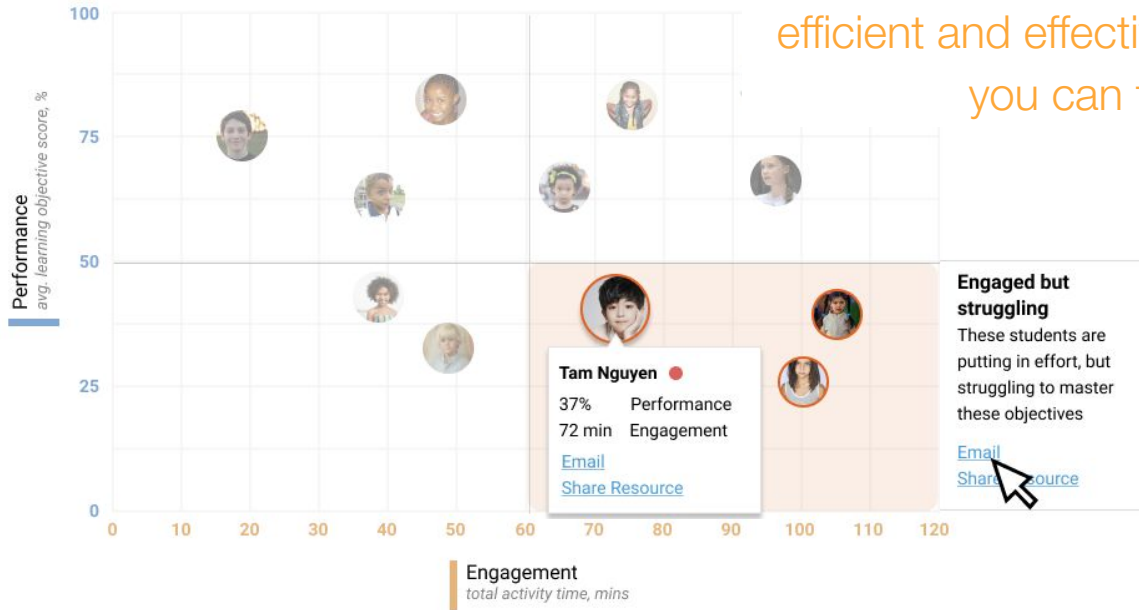
Performance

Engagement

Study

Persistence

Confidence




What's the most efficient and effective action you can take now ?

# Inspiration

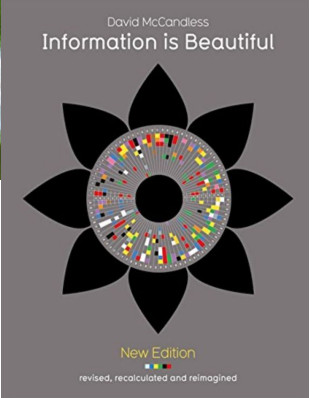
# Inspiration

## Data viz



EDWARD TUFTÉ BEAUTIFUL EVIDENCE

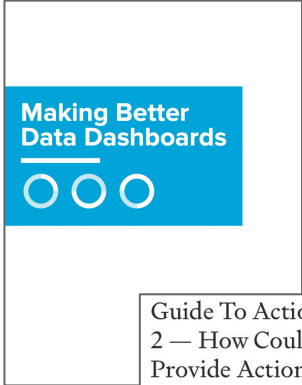
↓ McCandless



David McCandless  
Information is Beautiful  
New Edition  
revised, recalculated and reimagined

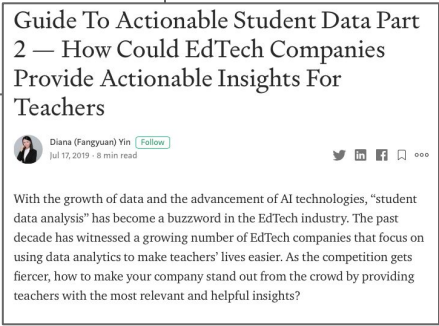
↑ Tufte

## Dashboards



Making Better Data Dashboards

↓ Yin (Alef Education)



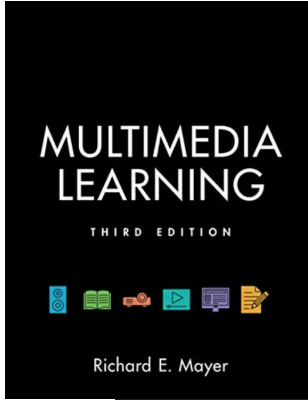
Guide To Actionable Student Data Part 2 — How Could EdTech Companies Provide Actionable Insights For Teachers

Diana (Fangyuan) Yin (Follow)  
Jul 17, 2019 · 8 min read

With the growth of data and the advancement of AI technologies, "student data analysis" has become a buzzword in the EdTech industry. The past decade has witnessed a growing number of EdTech companies that focus on using data analytics to make teachers' lives easier. As the competition gets fiercer, how to make your company stand out from the crowd by providing teachers with the most relevant and helpful insights?


↑ Duncan

## Learning science



MULTIMEDIA LEARNING  
THIRD EDITION  
Richard E. Mayer

↓ Bergin (Macmillan Learning)



Empowering Analytics for Instructors  
An approach to analytics for instructors informed by Learning Sciences research

↑ Mayer (UCSB)

# Thank you!

Dr. Adam Black

[www.enablinginsights.com](http://www.enablinginsights.com)

