



DONUTS N' DATA

Data is ESSENTIAL as it provides evidence for a CLAIM YOU MAKE!

WHO: High School students with special needs in reading, writing, and social-emotional/behavior

WHAT: Increase Library Literacy and knowledge and access to data driven decision making and opinions

WHEN: Every other Wednesday of the school year

WHERE: Lincoln High School Library, Tacoma, WA

WHY: Promote life-long library patronage and research strategies for evidence supported claims

HOW: Scavenger hunts to find library books, races to find information on various data bases, investigations of materials and services AND DONUTS!

I began this activity last school year after attending the ESIP Conference and experiencing the POWER of data. I informed my students that they could certainly have OPINIONS but when they wanted to STAKE A CLAIM, they would be required to have DATA as EVIDENCE to support their claim. We started with simple questions like, "Is Russell Wilson the best quarterback in the NFL?" And, then we went deeper into the data and MORE QUESTIONS emerged! Questions like, "Based on rushing yards, pass completions, number of Super Bowl appearances"STUDENTS STARTED THINKING! Teenagers believe they are right, ALL THE TIME. They can be, I just needed them to prove it! I partnered with our Librarian and we dug into databases to VALIDATE THEIR CLAIMS. It was awesome! And, they loved the donuts at the end of each session.