

Report 1 - LateBloomers

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- What did you do this week?
 - We created a public website, and some of us added our biography information. The website was pulled together by a standard template that stephen had created a year ago. The website was designed from scratch using some snippets from several different templates. The color scheme was chosen in such a way that it would not cause eye shock during the afternoon, and evening. Most of the items currently don't have credit listed, however, for the snippets that were modified from templates online will be cited on the next deployment. One of our members spent a weekend attempting to get the website up after we realized our team had been formed automatically.
 - A repository was created to store the website and to keep all of our items in one place for the time being as we get our bearings and figure out what needs to be done next.
 - One of the other things that was done was that we looked for some data sources online. One of the first databases we looked at was the City of Chicago database. The url <https://data.cityofchicago.org/> contains a lot of useful information. Of Course most of the information will need to be modified in order to be used in any meaningful way. Another site that we had looked into utilizing was the Chicago City Metro Data portal found at this url <https://www.metrochicagodata.org/>.
- What do you plan on doing next week?
 - Adding another tab to the website that will keep track of weekly updates. One of the things that needs to be done is that the tabs along the top of the website need to be reformatted. Along with reformatting the website, there will need to be an improvement on citing where the html/javascript snippets came from. Along with giving credit and adding links for all team-members, with their websites in the About menu.
 - One of the other things we need to do is figure out how to keep our code. We need to decide whether we will use the same repository for the code, or use a separate repository. One of the biggest things that needs to be

done next week, is that we will need to make a point to find time to meet as a team so we can develop a more formal idea of what we want to do with our project. Some of us have ideas, but we are not all on the same page at the moment. One of the things that will be done about this is setting up a better form of communication.

- Another possible improvement could be to dedicate a section or a folder of our repository towards storing the dataset we will be collecting, even if it is just pointers to the data rather than the large datasets themselves. This way, we could pull in a general outline of the data we'll be using in our research to be represented on the website, which could have a positive impact on the way that we acquire and organize our data sources. In doing so, we would need to decide how we intend to store our data, such as in a database or a CSV file, etc.
- A step in the right direction in terms of team coordination would be to fill out or create a "Goals" section of our website, so as to provide a clear list of goals that we will have to tackle together. It may be possible, however, to store said goals in the Milestone or Ticket feature already present on GitHub, which would offer us advantage such as allowing us to track the completion of our goals using Git commits, assigning Owners for the goals, and getting nice formatting such as linear progress bars that show how much farther we have to go. GitHub supports formatting features that would allow us to present the completion and progress of our goals in a clear and concise manner. A link could be provided to this via the website. Or the items could be directly reflected in a section on the website. This section would be cross-linked with the aforementioned "Weekly Update" section so that we can see how the Weekly Updates are impacting our long-term Goals.
- Are there any blocks or impediments that keep you from doing your work?
 - The biggest item holding us back was the fact that two of our team-members started off behind, two weeks into the semester.
 - One of the things that will need to be done at some point is that the four of us will eventually need to meet and have a discussion at some point about this project so that we can all be on the same page. The fact that we, as a team, aren't all on the same page has been one of the items that has probably impacted the amount of work that we have been able to get done at the moment. Without a clear idea and goal among all the team-members, there has been a clear lack of interest in getting things done on time. Although there is a hope that updating the website to reflect our goals might help, we first must figure out those goals as a team.

- There is a high probability that our lack of communication has been holding us back. One of our team-members is looking into trying to get an alternate source of communication going besides gmail. It seems that a lack of checking for communication has also been a clear culprit. There are a few options available such as discord, or slack. But the communication platform that would be chosen would be chosen in such a way to cater best to the team.