Directions for installing and loading *R* packages

When working on school computers, permission issues necessitate that R *packages* be installed and loaded from your One Drive or an external drive. An external drive (e.g., a USB) is recommended. If working on your personal computer, it is best to install packages to their default locations (i.e., you will not need to change the library path in the steps below). To install and load R packages, follow the directions below:

1. Create a directory where *R* packages will be stored, such as `F:/Rlib` or
   `/Users/dancikg/OneDrive - Eastern Connecticut State University/Rlib`
   In the examples below, the above OneDrive location is assumed.

2. Open the R console.

3. If on a school computer, type the following command into *R* to change the library path, which tells *R* where packages should be installed and loaded from. Note: do <u>NOT</u> put a slash at the end of the directory.

   `.libPaths("/Users/dancikg/OneDrive - Eastern Connecticut State University/Rlib")`

4. Type the following from within *R* to install the *dplyr* package:

   `install.packages("dplyr").`

5. You can then use the following command to test whether this has worked correctly:
   `library(dplyr)`

6. If nothing happens, that means it works! If you get any error messages, the package did not install correctly and you should try again or see me if you need help.

7. Once it works, you are ready to use RStudio. However, **make sure to add the following to the beginning of any R script you use (and run this command)** so that packages are available.

   `.libPaths("/Users/dancikg/OneDrive - Eastern Connecticut State University/Rlib")`

Basic steps to installing and loading packages:
1. If on a school computer, you must set the library path:

   `.libPaths("/Users/dancikg/OneDrive - Eastern Connecticut State University/Rlib")`

2. Packages are installed using the command
   `install.packages("packageName")`

3. Once a package is installed, it does not need to be installed again (unless it was installed to a temporary location and is therefore no longer available). However, packages need to be loaded with the following command during each session for which a package will be used:

   `library(packageName)`