Before you begin: Access Library in the Education sandbox

The Education sandbox is a shared, cloud-based environment to help you learn about and experiment with MicroStrategy Web and Library.

Use the Education sandbox to complete various report and dossier exercises. Complete the steps below to access the sandbox.

Access Library in the Education sandbox

1 In your browser, navigate to **education.microstrategy.com/MicroStrategy/servlet/mstrWeb**.

2 Log in to the sandbox with your **MicroStrategy Account** credentials.

Open the Tutorial project

3 The MicroStrategy landing page opens. Click the **MicroStrategy Tutorial** project.

MicroStrategy Tutorial
MicroStrategy Tutorial project and application set designed to illustrate the platform's rich functionality. The theme is an Electronics, Books, Movies and Music store. Employees, Inventory, Finance, Product Sales and Suppliers are analyzed.
Server name   ENV-218880LAIOUSE1

The MicroStrategy Tutorial home page opens.

4 Click **Go to MicroStrategy Library**.

5 If prompted, enter your **MicroStrategy Account** credentials, and then click **Log in with Identity**.
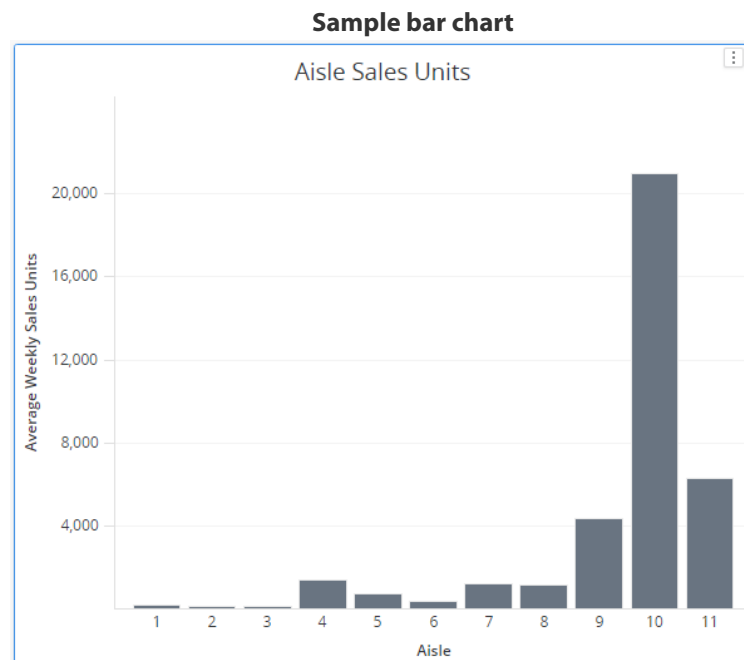
Your Library home page displays.

Exercise: Create a bar chart

As a store manager, you want to compare average weekly sales units for various aisles in your store. Items in an aisle are similar to each other, so this analysis can help you understand which types of items are selling better than others. This can then inform which items to continue to stock in your store, or if you need to rearrange the items in the aisles to help sell specific items.

Create a bar chart to perform this comparison analysis. Your completed bar chart looks like the image below.
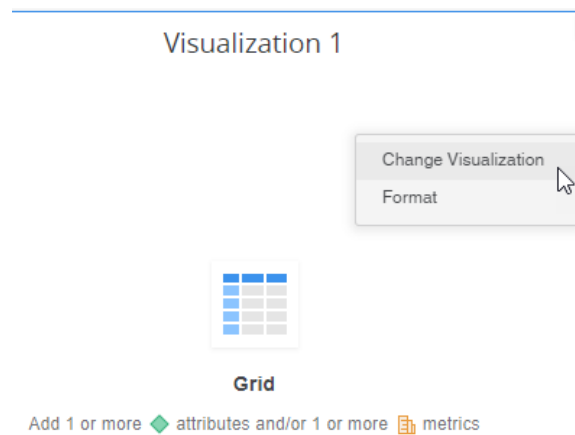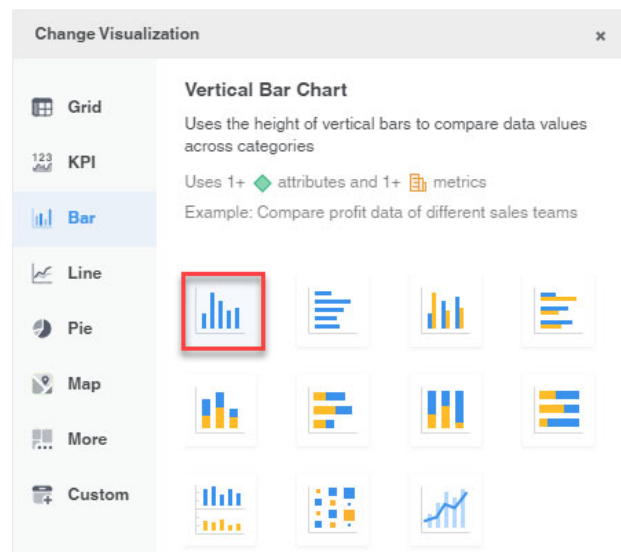
Sample bar chart

Create a bar chart

1   In the Education sandbox Library, open the **Visualization Types** dossier in Edit mode, if not already there. For a reminder on how to do this, see *Exercise: Access Library in the Education sandbox* and *Exercise: Add the Visualization Types dossier to MicroStrategy Library*.

2   In the Contents panel on the left, in the Comparing Categories chapter, click the **Bar Chart** page.

3 By default, a new page displays a blank grid visualization on the canvas. To change the visualization to a bar chart, right-click inside the visualization and select **Change Visualization**.

The Change Visualization window opens, displaying the Visualization Gallery.

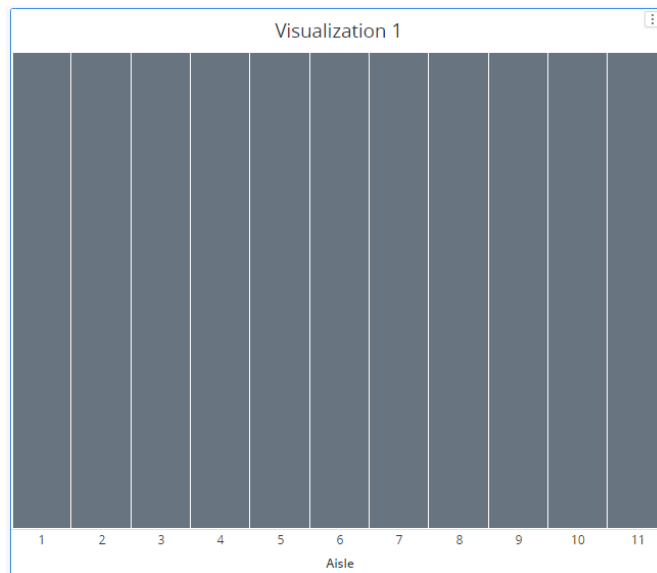**4** In the Visualization Gallery, point to **Bar**, and then click the **Vertical Bar Chart** icon.

The dossier canvas displays a blank bar chart.

5 The data you need for this analysis is stored in the Store Details dataset. In the Datasets panel, click the arrow icon ▶ to the left of the **Store Details** dataset to expand it. The dataset's attributes and metrics display.

6   To focus on the objects in the Store Details dataset rather than the other datasets, collapse any other datasets that are expanded by clicking the arrow icon ▼ to the left of the dataset name.

7   Click the **Editor** icon ✎ to display the Editor panel, if not already displayed.

8   From the **Store Details** dataset, double-click the **Aisle** attribute to add it to the **Horizontal** drop zone in the Editor panel.
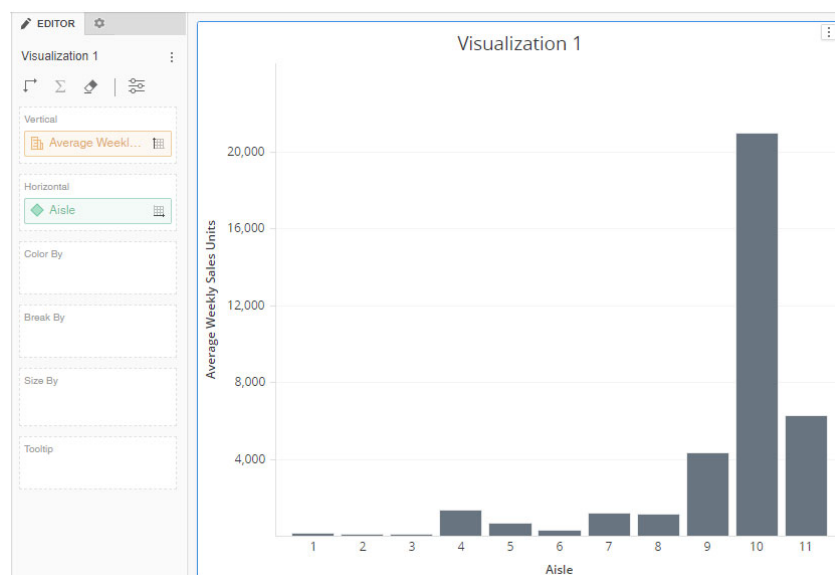
A bar displays for each aisle in the store with the aisle number for each bar labeled on the horizontal axis.

9   From the **Store Details** dataset, double-click the **Average Weekly Sales Units** metric to add it to the **Vertical** drop zone in the Editor panel.

Average Weekly Sales Units displays on the bar chart's vertical axis. The height of each bar adjusts to reflect each aisle's average weekly sales units.

10 Hover over a bar to view details for the aisle. In the image below, you can see that Aisle 9 had an average weekly sales of 4,347 units.

11 To rename the bar chart, double-click the **Visualization 1** title, and type **Aisle Sales Units**. Your bar chart now looks like *Sample bar chart*.

12 Click **Save** in the upper right of the dossier toolbar.

Analyze the bar chart

1 Think through the types of analysis that bar charts are useful for and how the characteristics of a bar chart might impact the ease of analysis, by using the bar chart to answer the following questions:

• Can you easily determine which aisle had the highest average weekly sales units?

• Can you easily determine which aisles had the most similar and most different amounts of average weekly sales units?

- How quickly can you determine which aisles had average weekly sales over 4,000 units? How could adding color to the visualization make this analysis easier?

  You learn more about how the use of color can ease analysis in the Optimizing Visualizations to Guide Analysis chapter of the Departmental Analyst learning path.