

4.2.2 Activate Your Development Environment

Maria tells you to activate your development environment that you will use in Jupyter Notebook so that you can analyze the school data. She has provided you with the steps to activate your development environment.

Now that you have created the PythonData environment, you need to activate the environment. This process is like jumping in the sandbox to play with all your toys, instead, you'll be checking out all the needed software to use for coding.

The process for activating the development environment is slightly different depending on whether you're using macOS or Windows. Follow the set of directions that correspond to your operating system.

Check out the macOS instructions below, or jump to the [Windows instructions](#).

Activate a Development Environment on macOS

In the command line, type and run `conda activate PythonData`. This tells the computer to activate the PythonData environment.



If you have set up your environment correctly and it's activated, you will see something like this in the command line:

```
(PythonData) your_computer_name:~ your_home_directory$
```

`(PythonData)` indicates the environment you are using.

Now let's make sure that we're using the correct version of Python in this environment. In the command line, type `python --version` and press Enter.



Delete a Development Environment on macOS

If you didn't create your environment correctly, you will need to remove that environment and create the correct PythonData environment.

To remove an environment from your computer, follow these steps:

1. In the command line, type `conda deactivate`.
2. Next, type and run `conda env remove --name <env_name>` to delete the environment.

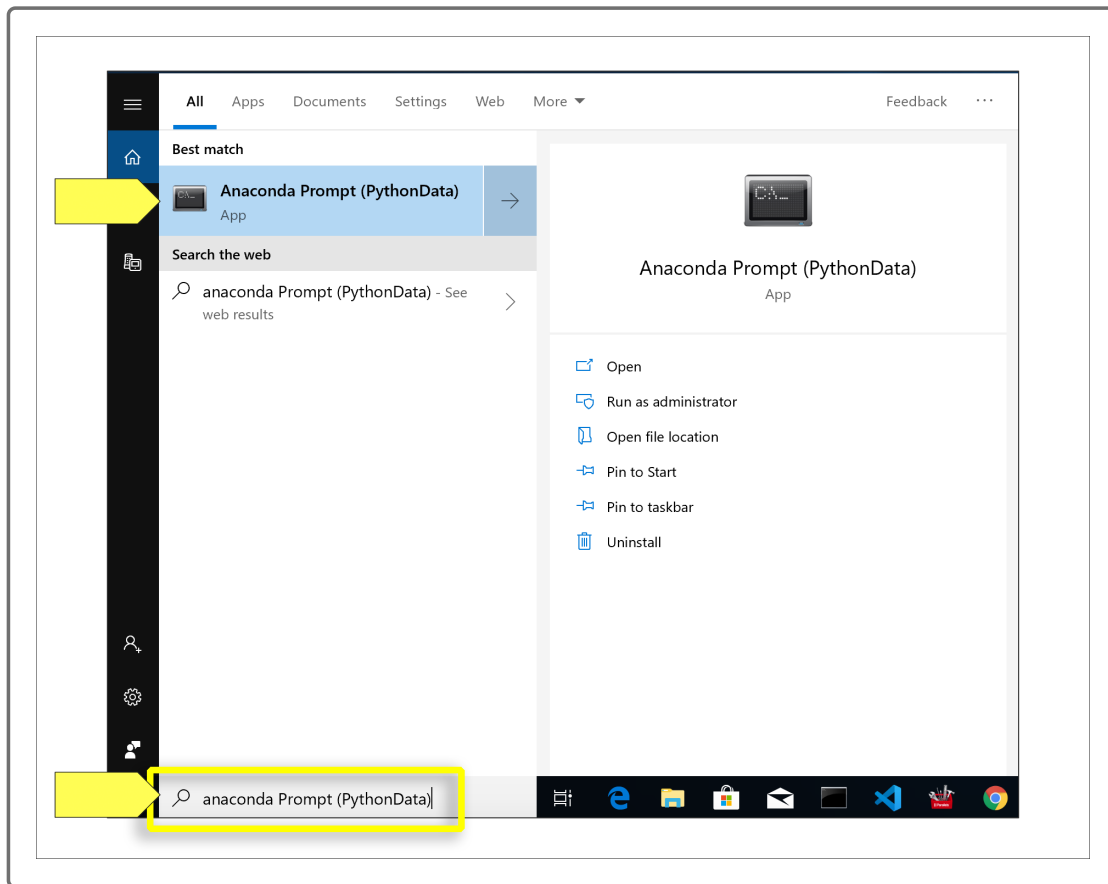
If you need to recreate the development environment, follow the steps in the previous section or watch the video.

Deactivate a Development Environment on macOS

When you want to update Anaconda on your computer, it's a best practice to deactivate your development environment before doing so. To deactivate the environment, in the command line type `conda deactivate` and press Enter.

Activate a Development Environment on Windows

When you created the PythonData environment, a new Anaconda Prompt application was created for that environment. Check your applications by typing "Anaconda Prompt" in the search menu. You will also see "Anaconda Prompt (PythonData)." Click on the app to start the PythonData environment. You can add this app to the Start menu or taskbar for quicker access.



If you have set up your environment correctly and it is activated, you will see something like this in the command line:

```
(PythonData) your_computer_name:~ your_home_directory$
```

`(PythonData)` indicates the environment you are using.

Now let's make sure that we're using the correct version of Python in this environment. In the command line, type `python --version` and press Enter.

Delete a Development Environment on Windows

If you didn't create your environment correctly, you will need to remove that environment and create the correct PythonData environment.

To remove an environment from your computer, follow these steps:

1. In the Anaconda Prompt for the environment you want to delete, type `conda deactivate`.
2. Type and run `conda env remove --name <env_name>` to delete the environment.

If you need to recreate the development environment, follow the steps in the previous section or watch the video.

Deactivate a Development Environment on Windows

When you want to update Anaconda on your computer, it's a best practice to deactivate your development environment before doing so. To deactivate your environment, in the command line type `conda deactivate` and press Enter.

NOTE

For more information about the topics covered so far in this module, see the following documentation:

- **[Activating a development environment](https://conda.io/projects/conda/en/latest/user-guide/tasks/manage-environments.html#activating-an-environment)**
(<https://conda.io/projects/conda/en/latest/user-guide/tasks/manage-environments.html#activating-an-environment>)
- **[Deactivating a development environment](https://conda.io/projects/conda/en/latest/user-guide/tasks/manage-environments.html#deactivating-an-environment)**
(<https://conda.io/projects/conda/en/latest/user-guide/tasks/manage-environments.html#deactivating-an-environment>)
- **[Deleting a development environment](https://conda.io/projects/conda/en/latest/user-guide/tasks/manage-environments.html#deleting-a-development-environment)**
(<https://conda.io/projects/conda/en/latest/user-guide/tasks/manage-environments.html#deleting-a-development-environment>)

[environments.html#removing-an-environment](#)

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