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Lab 1: PostgreSQL

1) Data vs. Information

Destiny, which is a game, organizes data via different categories such as, primary weapon, secondary weapon, heavy weapon, helmet etc. When you pick up or decode the item it is transferred into your characters inventory and based on your characters level decides what level it drops at. Data can be viewed as letters, words, numbers, but if it is not put into context it would be meaningless to us. Information on the other hand is formatted in a way for us to understand it. Data is read by computers, but it means nothing without being formulated by software applications so that we understand what is being presented.

2) Data models essay

A network database model is a model that contains a number of records connected to one, or the same file owner. The model is a many to many relationship, which in short terms refers to the relationship between two data fields. A hierarchical database is data structured and organized in a tree model using parent/ child relationships. The hierarchical model is a one to many relationship, which is the flexibility to link different tables together using a specific identifier. In the network database model, files are basically all connected to each other, where as in a relational database, individual tables and connected to each other using certain types of information. You just need to be careful when entering information into a network database because if you enter the wrong content it could alter everything. XML model seems easier to understand based on the tree structure layout the information is presented.

