

CREATING DATA-DRIVEN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PATHWAYS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARY STAFF

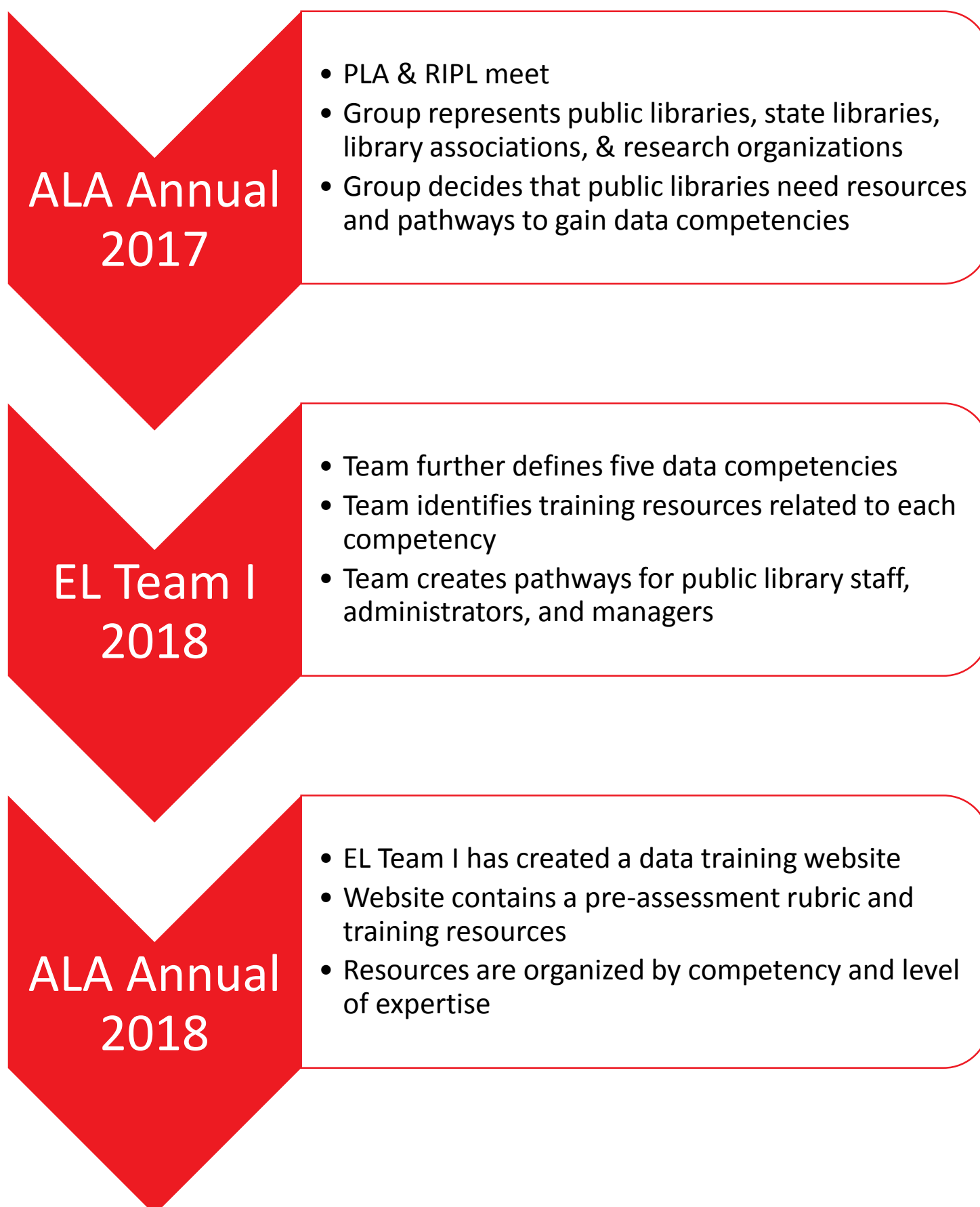
<https://ripl.lrs.org/data-pathways>

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Abstract

In a data-rich world, it has become increasingly important for library professionals to be able to gather, analyze, and communicate data in order to make decisions and support our communities. Therefore, the EL team created a website designed to assist public library staff, managers, and administrators in gaining data literacy skills. The website provides a directory of data competency learning objects, divided into five areas and three levels of expertise for ease of use.

Timeline



Data Collection Planning & Resource Management

- Define the problem that needs to be solved
- Identify data sources, set goals, & create a data collection plan
- Develop a plan for curating & managing collected data



Data Research & Evaluation Methods

- Research design (case study, observation study, historical, longitudinal study, etc.)
- Instrument and protocol design (observations, surveys, interviews, & focus groups)
- Plan for data documentation & management



Data Analysis

- Apply statistical skills to data sets
- Use data analysis software
- Read & create charts and graphs



Communicating Data for Decision-Making & Assessment

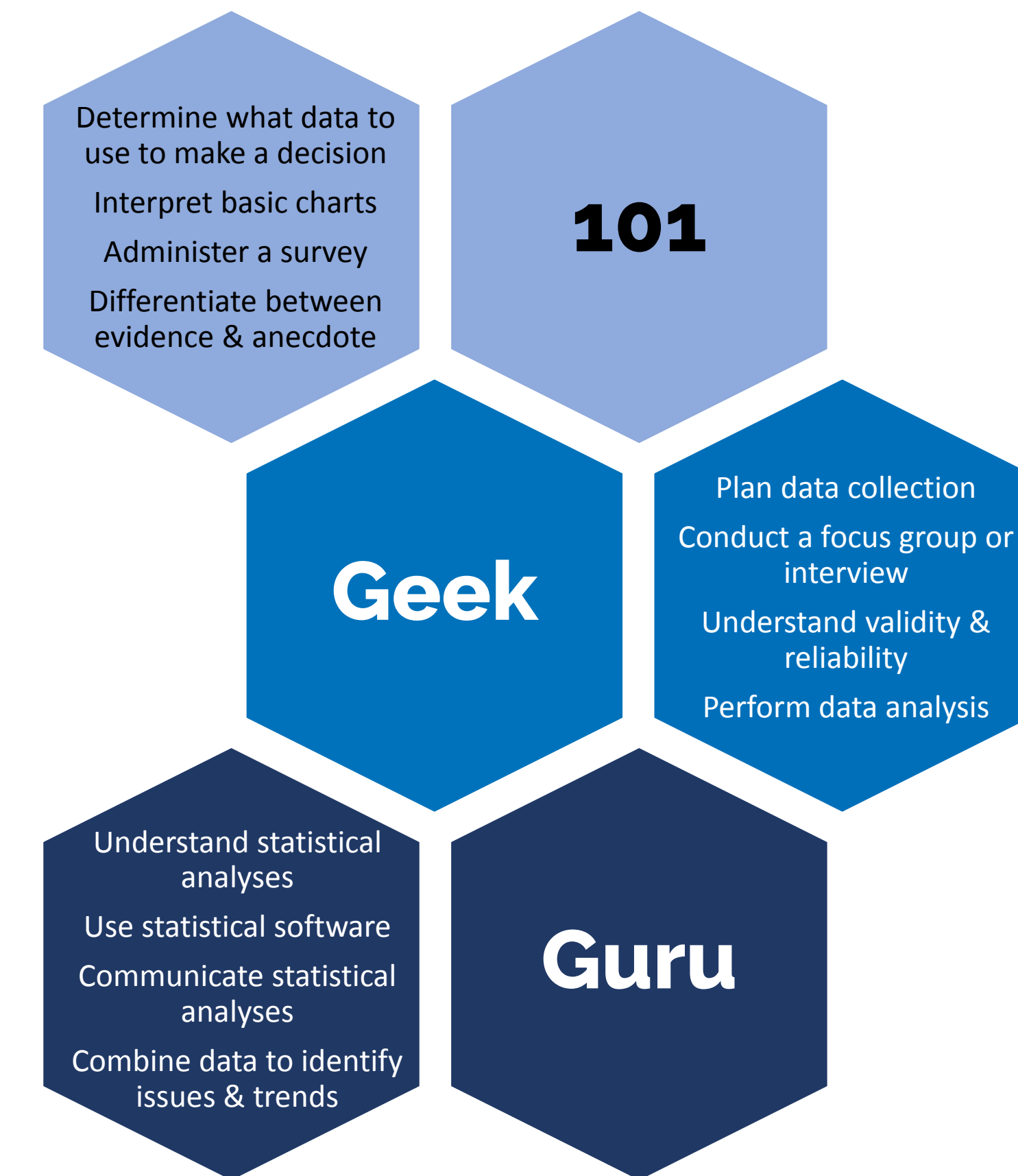
- Analyze survey data
- Use collected data to revise and/or create library programming
- Frame an array of data points to set a baseline or present context



Communicating Data for Advocacy & Storytelling

- Define your goal & audience
- Choose the right data & find hidden insights
- Select effective visualizations to communicate a compelling story

Levels of Expertise



Next Steps for PLA/RIPL

