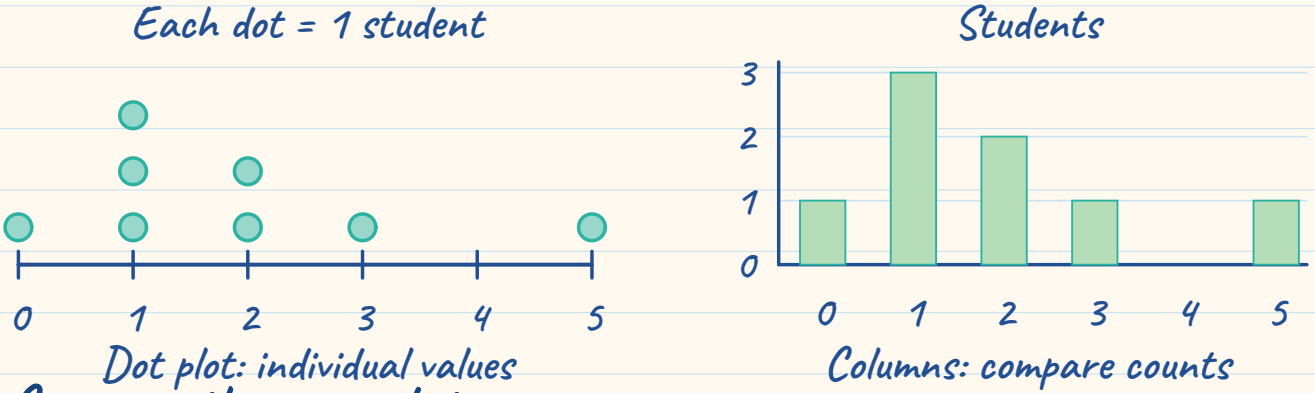
Comparing data displays

Statistics · VC2M4ST02

Choose a display that makes patterns and differences clear.

Same data: books read by 8 students



☆ Compare the same data

Both displays show the same 8 students' book counts.

The dot plot shows each student and the cluster at 1–2.

The column graph makes the frequency of each count clear.

☆ Describe the shape of the data

Books read: 0, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 5.

Most values cluster from 1 to 2; 1 appears most often.

There is a gap at 4 and one high value at 5.

☆ Compare variation

Group A: 2, 2, 3, 3. Group B: 0, 1, 4, 5.

Range = greatest – least. A: 3 – 2 = 1; B: 5 – 0 = 5.

Group B is more spread out: it has more variation.

☆ Check that a comparison is fair

Read the titles, units, keys and scale steps.

Check how many responses each group has.

Use matching scales when comparing the same kind of data.

Remember...

Look for clusters, gaps, peaks and unusual values.

Explain what the display shows well, and what is harder to see.