We are writing this as Teacher Appreciation Week comes to a close and want to extend a huge thank you for all that you do! We hope your week was filled with thank you s and special moments.

As this school year draws to a close, some of you are completing the K-5 CS Integration Micro-credentials (congratulations!), while others will begin them next month. The ARCS team has been s the theme, which is graphing and visualizations

The ARCS team

Graphs are useful as a means to view data in an alternative form than a table. Graphs help analysts discover patterns and trends, and make solid insights and predictions.

It is important to understand the basics; each type of graph has a common purpose in presenting data. Line graphs typically show information changing over time - finding the value of the horizontal position of a place on the line can explain what point in time it took place. Scatterplots can be used to represent many observations and reveal relationships between variables.

For example, one could plot how many miles are driven on how much gas. The amount of gas affects the number of miles drMm   drMone reads from left to right. A negative slope, on the other hand, w

crease in one variable being associated with a decrease in another. This would appear on the graph as a downward trend from left to right.

Data can be recorded and graphed with the same software program, such as Microsoft Excel. It is important that students learn to label their x– and y-axes and examine the scales that the computer often chooses as a default.

the K5 Technology Lab is a site with free activities and resources to access and use in STEM education. One major component includes an elementary school-friendly introduction to creating graphs with excel. Learning to use excel to make graphs and charts can be adapted for SOLs such as Math K.11, 1.12, 2.15, 3.15, and 4.14.

One technique that educators can use to engage and support diverse learners across the curriculum involves graphing of data or information. Graphs provide a visual display that illustrates relationships between variables which allow users to make comparisons, investigate cause and effect, and describe characteristics of data that may not be easily distinguishable or interpretable in a narrative format. _____ to visit the American Institutes for Research s *PowerUp What Works* site for free online tools and resources to support graphing activities. The site also offers ideas on how to incorporate graphing into your lessons, whether they are plugged or unplugged.