WELCOME TO THE *DABBLING IN THE DATA* PLAYLIST!
One of the best ways to use the Dabbling methods is to mix them together, creating a hands-on, interactive experience for your interest holders.

Just like a good playlist of your favorite songs, putting together a mix of *Dabbling* activities can make data more memorable and meaningful. The advanced options offer a chance to take a deeper dive into a particular approach that piques your interest.

The team at Public Profit put together the Scan-Analyze-Prioritize Playlist to give you a jumpstart for your own work. Have fun!

SCAN-ANALYZE-PRIORITIZE
This playlist will take your group all the way through a data-informed planning process. First you'll get to know the "shape" of the data, exploring important metrics for your program or initiative. Then you'll identify the factors that are driving those metrics, with a particular focus on things that your team can influence. Finally, you'll make decisions about which options to pursue, based on the likely benefit-to-effort ratio of each.

Plan four to five hours for this sequence, depending on the group size (larger groups = more time) and the complexity of the options the group will be considering. You can complete the activities across multiple sessions, if needed. Detailed instructions for each activity are in *Dabbling in the Data*.

SCAN		
	Mind the Gap or High-Low	Use either Mind the Gap or High-Low to get the group familiar with a few key data points. High/Low is a good fit for fairly simple datasets, like survey results for one group. Mind the Gap makes it easier to compare groups to one another.
	Advanced Option: Data Placemat	If the group is looking at multiple data points, rather than just a few, consider a data placemat.
	Dot Voting	Use dot voting (or similar) for the group to decide on 1-3 data points that they want to analyze further. Generally, these metrics will be closely connected to the purpose of the program or initiative, and point to an area of growth or improvement.

For example, a team that provides professional development for nonprofit professionals may decide to look more deeply at survey results that show that attendees report learning more skills from one workshop series than another. |

ANALYZE

Iceberg Analysis or Yarn Slope Graph

Now it's time to gather more information about the factors that contribute to the data patterns you see. Yarn Slope Graph is a good choice for data that changes over time. Iceberg Analysis works best for single data points.

Tip: Group members will probably identify factors that are outside the control of the program or initiative in this exercise. Designate these factors with an asterisk or similar, and encourage the group to focus on factors that they can influence directly.

PRIORITIZE

Magic Quadrant

Once the group has identified the factors that 1) contribute to the pattern of data and, 2) can be influenced by the group in some way, it's time to explore potential solutions.

Use Magic Quadrant to categorize potential solutions based on the level of effort they will require, and their likely effectiveness.

Advanced Option: Lightning Decision Jam

Developed by the team at AJ&Smart, Lightning Decision Jams are a rapid-paced way to use design thinking methods to identify potential solutions to a shared problem and to prioritize next steps. It's a good fit for people who feel comfortable thinking and acting quickly, and for those familiar with the basics of design thinking.