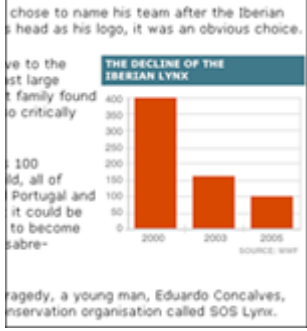# Presenting data in different ways

Data, gathered information, can be presented in many different ways to help make it easier to understand and more interesting to read.

Why do we use lists, tables, diagrams or charts to display information?

- Displaying data visually (with pictures) can make it easier to understand.
- It makes the information stand out on a page.
- It is easier to display using pictures, rather than lots of words. For example, it is easier to show someone the layout of a town using a map, rather than describing it in words.

Here are some examples of data being presented in different ways:

Weather forecasts: maps and tables that show you what the weather and temperature are going to be like.	TV and radio listings so you can find out when your favourite programme is on.
Sports pages showing league tables.	Bar charts in news stories.

What other examples can you think of? Have a look through your local newspaper. Can you find examples of lists, diagrams, maps or bar charts?