



Create Your Own App Challenge

Do you have an IOS device, tablet device, or smart phone? If you do, you are probably familiar with the different apps—or applications—that run on your device. Whether they were built into your smart phone or downloaded onto you iPad or Kindle, there's no denying that apps are everywhere. While we use this technology on a daily basis, how much do you really know about them? How are they made? What types of programs are used to build them?

Not only will this scavenger hunt help to answer some of these app-related questions, but it will also guide through the process of creating your very own app! This technology is no longer for computer programmers and software engineers... it's something that anyone can do! So what are you waiting for?

Activity

First, we're going to need to need some background information about what exactly an app is. Check out this video to hear a Verizon software engineer breakdown the basics.

<http://bit.ly/1gZ2WXH>

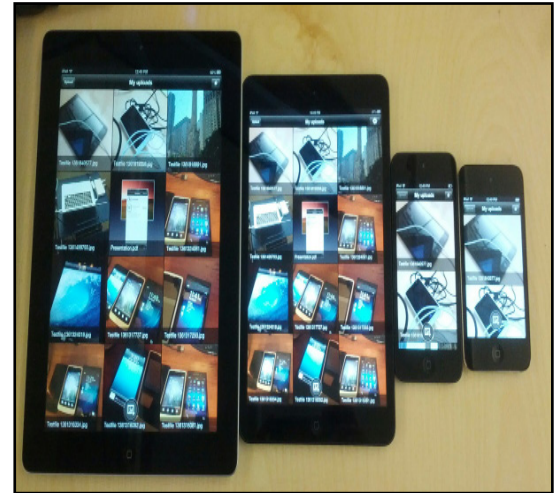




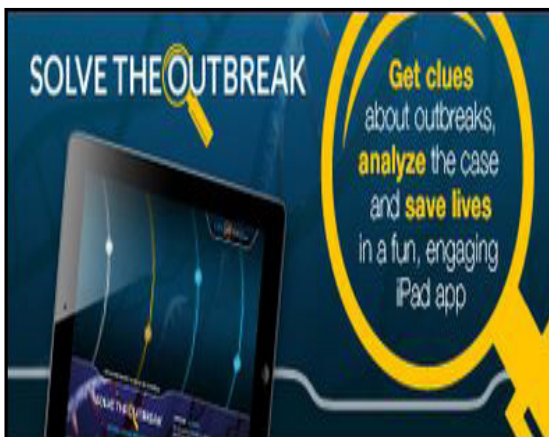
So now that Laird has enlightened you, what is the purpose of apps?

Which devices can utilize apps?

As Laird said in the video, there are many fun and useful apps out there! Would you like to see more examples of the types of apps being created? Check out this cool article about an app that turns your DNA profile into your own personal theme song!



<http://ti.me/15tm71C>



Apps are made to cover a wide variety of fields. From fashion apps, to apps that remind you to drink water, to apps that help you prepare for a career in healthcare, apps truly are everywhere. And while we're on the subject, check out this great app created by the CDC to test your skills at solving an outbreak case.

<http://bit.ly/1jhsJad>



Now that you've learned the basics about apps and have had a chance to check out a few examples, see if you and your friends can create your own app.

By going to <http://appinventor.mit.edu/>, you can view a tutorial to help you design the app!

Then, once you have a wonderfully amazing app creation to your name, enter your app for a chance to win the Verizon Innovative App Challenge. Entries are due by **December 17th**, so you better get working!

For information about the challenge, and to submit your app, click on this link: <http://bit.ly/Siktfx>

Remember, you are never too young to do anything! If you would like more inspiration, read about this nine year old who built this cool iPhone app!

<http://bit.ly/1ipoko5>



Let's Discuss!

As always, we want to hear all about your journey through this Scavenger Hunt. Head on over to our App Challenge blog page to tell us all about your experience with this activity. Did you learn something new about apps? Did you submit an app to the contest? Be sure to tell us all about it!

<http://stem-worksblog.com/scavenger-hunts/app-challenge/>