

Sanya Joseph, Ayaan Ahmad, Alex Cote (Team 3)
Prof. Plotka
Introduction to ITWS Final Project Report
24 April 2023










Problem: Finding cooking websites can be challenging due to the limited number of options available online. With so many websites to choose from, it can be overwhelming to find the perfect one that fits your needs. Additionally, the varying levels of expertise, recipe styles, and presentation can make it difficult to determine which website to trust and rely on for quality recipes and cooking advice. Finally, it can also be hard to find websites that cater to specific dietary restrictions or preferences, such as vegetarian or gluten-free cooking. Our website specifically tackles all of these predicaments, including busy parents as well.

What Does It Do?: Our cooking website is a one-stop-shop for all your cooking needs, and we are proud to offer unique features that cater to specific groups of people. Our "Recipe of the Day" feature offers a different recipe every time you click on it, providing you with a daily dose of culinary inspiration. The "College Corner" section is perfect for college students with limited time and resources, as it features quick and easy recipes that take less than 10 minutes to make. For busy parents with hectic schedules, our "Parents' Place" section offers recipes with fewer ingredients, allowing them to prepare delicious meals without spending hours in the kitchen. Finally, our "Allergy-Friendly" section caters to those with dietary restrictions by offering recipes that are gluten-free and allergen-friendly, making it easy for everyone to enjoy a good meal together. With these unique features, our cooking website has something for everyone, whether you are a busy parent, a college student, or someone with dietary restrictions.

Personas (Who It Is Intended For): Our cooking website is specifically designed for busy students, parents, and those who have allergies, with features such as the "College Corner," "Parents' Place," and "Allergy-Friendly" sections. We understand the challenges that come with juggling a busy schedule while also wanting to prepare delicious and nutritious meals. Therefore, our website provides quick and easy recipes with limited ingredients that are perfect for those who are short on time, while also catering to specific dietary restrictions.

Areas of Focus: Our cooking website is a multi-utilizable platform that has various technologies to provide an exceptional user experience. We utilized HTML, CSS, and graphics to create an intuitive and visually appealing layout and design. Additionally, we utilized Javascript interactivity in Area 2 to improve the overall user experience. From simple animations with the background to the text animations, our website is designed to make it easy for users to navigate and find the information they need. Lastly, we incorporated Area 4 to pull data from a database, allowing us to dynamically display information such as recipe of the day, college corner, parents' place, and allergy-friendly recipes. By utilizing these areas, we have created a robust and user-friendly website that is tailored to the needs of busy students, parents, and those with dietary restrictions.

Project Development (Lab 7):

 Task Name 	 Task Description 	 In Charge 	 Due Date 
Project Plan + MockUp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write out all aspects of project that need to be done • Finish mockups on Balsamiq • Review API usage • Finalize how we want the UI/UX to work 	Sanya	★ March 26th, 2023
Finish Layout Of Pages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get the basic framework running for each of the pages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Home <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Logo ■ Photos ○ Recipe of the Day ○ College Corner ○ Parents' Place ○ Allergy Friendly ○ Feedback <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Get database running so the feedback goes somewhere 	Sanya & Alex	★ March 27th, 2023
API Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize API Integration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recipes (top 3) show up on each page ○ Food search (search bar is functional) ○ Food Database 	Ayaan	★ April 3rd, 2023
Polish UX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add polishing touches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Typewriter font for title ○ Feedback form ○ Photos 	Sanya, Ayaan, Alex	★ April 10th, 2023
Finishing Touches + Finalize Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fix all areas that need it • Finalize details - HTML + CSS 	Sanya, Ayaan, Alex	★ April 12th, 2023
Presentation Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present, present, present! 	Sanya, Ayaan, Alex	★ April 20th, 2023

Final UI/UX:



Features:

- Users can: search for recipes using search bar on each specific page
 - Top 3 show up
- provide feedback on form

Conclusions:

- We were able to enhance all the things that we have done in class through the labs
 - Allowed us to see how all the different pieces connect to become one product
- We were able to overcome most of our challenges, typically with a bit of thought and google searching
- PHP is a very useful tool for making websites
- Overall, a good experience and very useful for real world applications

Challenges:

- Scale of the project?
 - Initially, we talked about having all these features (searching by allergy, a place for parents, etc.)
 - However, as the reality of time set in, we started to realize that we need to scale it down a bit
 - Focused on the features that really mattered (Basic Recipe Search, Simple UI)
- Where do we get this data from?
 - We started our search for recipe data early on.
- This took a bit as we had to look at the documentation for each one
 - EDAMAM was not perfect, but it has the features we needed
 - Even still, with their free plan we got emails about hitting their usage limit

Future Plans:

- Adding drop down for each section so user can search by whatever criteria they want
 - Type of food, Number of Ingredients, Time it takes to make
 - Disadvantage: payment required for EDAMAM'S API
- Quality of Life and other fixes
- Improving the formatting of the page
- Fixing dead links
 - Sometimes, when recipes show up on our page the links are outdated, leading users to a 404 error

★ See our Code With the Link to Our GitHub Repository:

<https://github.com/RPI-ITWS/ITWS1100S23Team03>