

React Native

Building native mobile apps using ReactJS

What is React Native?

- JavaScript framework for writing real, natively rendering mobile applications for iOS and Android
- Created (2015) & maintained by Facebook
- Put simply, JUST JAVASCRIPT. Allows for quick development & hot-reloading.
- Gives you the ability to publish one code base to both Apple Store & Google Play Store. If necessary, native code after compilation from JavaScript can be edited for platform-specific features.

Next Jump

- Started as a coupon book business
- Transitioned to e-commerce platform now serving 70% of Fortune 1000 companies
- Have always been big on corporate culture
- Overall mission is to help other organizations reform their cultures, creating:
 - More productive teams
 - Safer & more open environments
 - Happier employees



How Next Jump Uses React Native

- Always used internal web tools to help facilitate culture initiatives
 - Fitness Portal, Evals System, Recognition
- Smartphones became more powerful, decided to start transitioning internal web tools
- Starting using Ionic at the end of 2016
 - Pro: convenient (can also generate web app)
 - Con: slow, clunky compilation & development
 - (also recently released a React version of their framework: <https://ionicframework.com/docs/react>)

Workshop

- Will be leveraging Expo (expo.io)
- Handles things like push notifications & build flows
- Exposes a set of APIs to access device features like camera, file system etc.
- Can be removed from a project at any time
- Mostly using it today to get around unique environmental differences (just publish to your phone)

Takeaways

- Lots of similarities between React/React Native
- Similar to React, implementations can be subjective
- Styling: dimensions are unitless, represent density-independent pixels (can lead to lots of guessing)

Resources

- RN docs
<https://facebook.github.io/react-native/>
- RN Navigation
<https://reactnavigation.org/docs/intro/>
- Flexbox game
<https://flexboxfroggy.com/>
- Ignite Boilerplate (we use at Next Jump)
<https://github.com/infinitered/ignite>
- Ready-to-use components
<https://www.awesome-react-native.com>