**Capstone Step 1: Initial Project Ideas  
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**IDEAS:**

My first two ideas stem from my minor indecision issues. As hobbies, I enjoy both books and cooking, and my application ideas come from my indecision about what I want next.

**1. Book Tracking and Recommendation App**An application that tracks the books you have read and recommends new ones.

For the book app, I plan to use an external API for book data across genres, like the Goodreads API or Open Library API. We can also have our own endpoints for register/login, saving favorites, adding to “need-to-read” and “have-read” lists, etc.  
I’d like the app to have traditional book recommendations. Additionally, there would be a feature for user-generated recommendations: upon marking a book as completed, a user could suggest similar books. This would allow users to find related books based on real user input rather than just algorithms.

**2. Recipe Tracking and Recommendation App**An application that tracks recipes and recommends new ones, similar to the book app.

For this app, I’d use external APIs like The Meal DB or Spoonacular. We’d have our own endpoints for register/login, saving favorites, and adding to a “want-to-try” list.  
The recommendation feature could be based on ingredients previously used or the country of origin for foods previously tried. Recommendations could also be based on a user’s input, such as a favorites list.  
Another feature I’d like is a slider to adjust ingredient quantities based on a ratio. For example, if a recipe serves six but you’re cooking for one, you could adjust the number of servings, and the app would recalculate the ingredient amounts accordingly.

**3. Date-Day Planner**This idea follows the theme of indecision.

For context, my partner and I, both in our early 20s, have a loose “date day” rule, where we do something together every Sunday. For one of our anniversaries, she gave me a gift of sticks with date ideas, organized into two main groups: food and activities. Each group is further organized by price into three levels. You pick a price level, then draw a stick from a jar without seeing what’s written, giving you a random date and food combination each time.

An application could help people decide on date ideas or get-togethers.  
It would include our own endpoints for register/login and saving favorite date combinations. Users could input their location to ensure date ideas are nearby. With location data, the app could randomly select an activity and a restaurant/meal idea based on the desired price range.