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Java Object-Oriented Concepts

Lesson 10 - Lambdas and Streams

Objectives

- Understand Lambdas
- Understand the relationship between Lambdas and Anonymous Classes
- Understand the new Java 8 Aggregate Operations for Collections
- Understand how to use Lambdas in conjunction with Aggregate Operations to process data in a Collection

Lambdas

- So far we have only been able to pass data values as arguments into a method
- Sometimes it is useful to pass code, or functionality, into a method
 - Ex. what action should be taken when a button is clicked
- Lambdas allow us to do this — we can now treat code as data in Java

Lambdas and Anonymous Classes

- In previous versions of Java, we used anonymous classes to achieve the functionality of lambdas
- It worked (it still does) but the syntax is cumbersome and verbose
- Lambda syntax is much cleaner

Aggregate Operations

- Aggregate operations are operations that are applied to all of the items in a Collection
- They allow us to do things such as:
 - Filter out items that don't meet certain criteria
 - Do something to or with each item of a Collection

Pipelines and Streams

- A pipeline is a series of aggregate operations
- Pipelines allow processing of items in a Collection through a series of operations
- A pipeline consists of zero or more intermediate operations followed by a terminal operation

Aggregate Operations and Iterators

- Aggregate operations appear to be like iterators but they are fundamentally different:
 - Aggregate operations use internal iteration (there is no next() method)
 - They process items from a stream
 - They support passing lambda expressions as parameters

Using Lambdas and Aggregate Operations

- Using lambdas and aggregate operations can allow us to build very powerful data structures and APIs
- For example, we can build an address book that allows us to find all of the people we know who have the last name Smith and are from Akron, Ohio