Conclusions to First Meeting of t5g6

We started with two possible ideas previously proposed on our Slack channel, a revision/study aid with some kind of reward – but this is an already saturated market, or a community app to allow people interested in solar technology to buy, sell and collaborate.

During the meeting Brent expressed interest in creating a better organiser app, a ‘to do list’ that rewards achievement.

We agreed that it would be very interesting to further explore the psychology of motivation and reward.

*“The nyt made wordle too hard i feel stupid now,”*

* Twitter user

As an example of the power of small positive reinforcements, when Wordle was purchased by The New York Times, people claimed it got harder and felt demotivated, instead of getting a small (but addictive) daily boost of positive reinforcement for solving the puzzle, they were left feeling disappointed and ‘stupid’. People were proud of their winning ‘streak’ and keen not to lose it– this might be something we can use in our app.

It may be useful to further investigate the psychology of social media in general – people chase likes, we need to be rewarded with positive reinforcement. It is known to be addictive.

This led us to the idea of setting small, achievable goals and rewarding progress, making the user feel good. Jer proposed the possibility of a financial incentive set by a parent to encourage a child to complete tasks.

[Should we pay kids to learn article](https://theconversation.com/why-we-should-carefully-consider-paying-kids-to-learn-111624)

We concluded that a viable project for our group may be an app that allows parents to set up lists for their children, these could be behavioural, academic/study related, musical instrument practice or household chores. The parent would also set up a small financial reward to be accessed when the tasks are completed. There should be a child friendly visual indication that progress was being made towards the reward/ through the list and that tasks were being completed regularly – a streak is maintained.

We also agreed that it would be useful for us each to write a brief biography to share with the team. I suggest as follows:

Name

Location/Timezone

Modules completed

Career/Experience/Skills that we feel we can contribute to the project

Optional About me (personal circumstances, kids, other commitments, work/life balance)

During (or before) our next meeting we will also need to decide which Teamworking tools we will use to communicate with each other and manage our project. It would be useful if everyone could share their previous experience of teamworking tools via Slack.

I have to confess that I have not been prioritising this module and have not yet progressed beyond week 4. However, I can see that there is a Team Activity in Week 5 that needs to be completed but doesn’t contribute directly to our own project. We need to decide how much time we can each realistically commit to this project each week. I propose that we each complete the Week 5 task independently and submit a written report to the group (or not). This will allow us to use our next meeting to focus upon Week 6 Team Activity 3.403.

I suggest that we also need to formalise ourselves a little more before next week. We need to collectively complete the Team Rules document and establish an agenda for our next meeting. We need to set up a shared work area and consider how we will use version control. I think it would be good if we could all commit to completing the course up to week 6 before we meet again next week so that we are ready to move forward with research planning.