Sprint Reflection – Nicole Sparkes

**How the Sprint Went:**

This sprint started with organizing our group and setting up the basic project structure. We created two GitHub repositories, set up our Trello board, and assigned tasks for each team member. Most of our initial progress was smooth, but we hit some technical roadblocks during setup—especially with Maven dependencies and getting MySQL working with Spring Boot.  
Despite these challenges, we managed to build the required entities, repositories, and relationships in our Java code.

**What Went Well:**

* We divided tasks clearly, so each member had a specific focus (entities, repositories, etc.).
* Our Trello board made tracking tasks easy.
* Everyone was able to contribute to the GitHub repo after initial setup.
* Working through IntelliJ and learning about package structure and Spring Boot conventions was a good experience.

**What Was Challenging:**

* I ran into multiple issues with Maven dependencies, especially with the MySQL connector version.
* Setting up the local database and making sure application.properties matched was more difficult than expected.
* Understanding and implementing JPA relationships correctly required a lot of trial and error.
* IntelliJ’s project structure and Maven refreshing sometimes caused confusion and delayed our progress

**What Could Be Improved:**

* Next sprint, we should ensure everyone can run the project locally before we start coding, to save time on troubleshooting environment problems.
* We could plan our entity relationships together on a call or whiteboard before jumping into code, so everyone is on the same page.
* Better communication about blockers—sometimes issues weren’t raised early enough.
* Set up standard code review and pull request practices early, to avoid last-minute merges or conflicting changes.

**Lessons Learned:**

* Understanding how Maven, IntelliJ, and Spring Boot all work together is crucial.
* Documentation and having a clean, agreed-on project structure saves a lot of headaches.
* Don’t be afraid to ask for help (from teammates, instructor, or even AI!) when stuck.