* **Passing Data Between Activities using Extras**

We can pass data between different activities when their started and when they end. We start activities by creating intents. We can "put extra" information in an intent that starts a new activity.

Gmail has at least two Activities. Let's imagine there is a ViewInbox activity and a ReadEmail activity. When someone clicks on an email in the inbox the ViewInbox activity, the activity needs to create a new intent to start a ReadEmail activity. Simply starting the ReadEmail activity isn't enough. The ReadEmail activity needs to know what email it's supposed to display. The ViewInbox activity puts extra information in the intent that specifies which email should be displayed.

Here's some simple examples of how to put extra information in an intent, and how to get it out.

When creating new intents, you can also give it extra data. Here's an example:

Intent intent = new Intent(EmailListActivity.this, ReadEmailActivity.class);

intent.putExtra("ID", 123);

intent.putExtra("SENDER", "RAM");

The Intent class has a handful of helper methods you can call to get and store extra data. The main one is putExtra(), which takes two parameters: a String that gives the data a name, and the data itself.

With Intent.putExtra(), you can put data inside the intent (including Strings, numbers, booleans, certain objects).

Once you start a new activity, you can retrieve the Intent and get the sent data, as follows:

// get the intent that started this activity

Intent intent = getIntent();

// get the data from the intent

int id = intent.getIntExtra("ID", 0);

String sender = intent.getStringExtra("SENDER");

Again, the Intent class has a handful of getters for extra data, usually formatted like get***\_***Extra. Examples, getIntExtra(), getStringExtra(), getBooleanExtra(), etc.