**Lessons Learned**

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**The most popular method is not the best method:** Many functions are going to be raved by the community, claiming to be the best method to use. However, you must remember that each project tends to be unique, with unique requirements and unique goals. Do not spend so much time trying to get a popular method to work while there is a different method that gets the job done in a much easier manner. Axios was not working for me no matter what I did with it. It would simply not return any results no matter what tutorial I was watching. Later, the simplistic fetch function worked within 20 minutes of troubleshooting and coding.

**Search, Search, Search!** Google is your best friend when it comes to working on projects. And no matter what project you are working on, most likely there will be a time where you are stumped, and the program doesn’t seem to be working. The hard part is not knowing to search for the problem, but rather knowing HOW to search for the problem. For example, searching “MySQL connection issues” and “MySQL cannot establish a connection to the database server” will yield different results, with the latter most likely giving you the answer that you need.

**Setup:** Setup is the most important part before starting any project. I wasn’t sure what I wanted to use for my database when starting the project (I was debating between MongoDB and MySQL), and it would have saved me a lot of time if I initially decided on the DB, set it up, and connected it to the back end. It ultimately would have saved a lot of trouble while coding the project. Also, make sure to test the localhost connections as soon as possible, so if there are any problems receiving data, you know that it is not from the connection.

**Prioritize your work:** Many times, I found myself in a loop trying to get many different functions to work all at the same time. I was trying to get design, search, front end, back end, and database functions to work all at the same time. Eventually, I learned to make a priority list, starting with the very core of the project, expanding all the way out to the design. When working in a team of one, remember that everything must be looked at in a certain order.