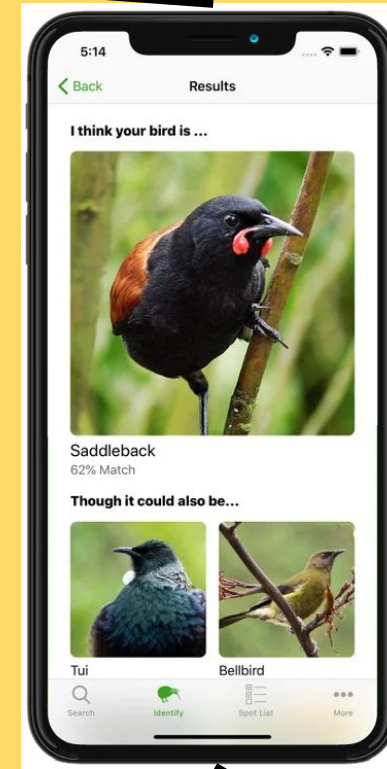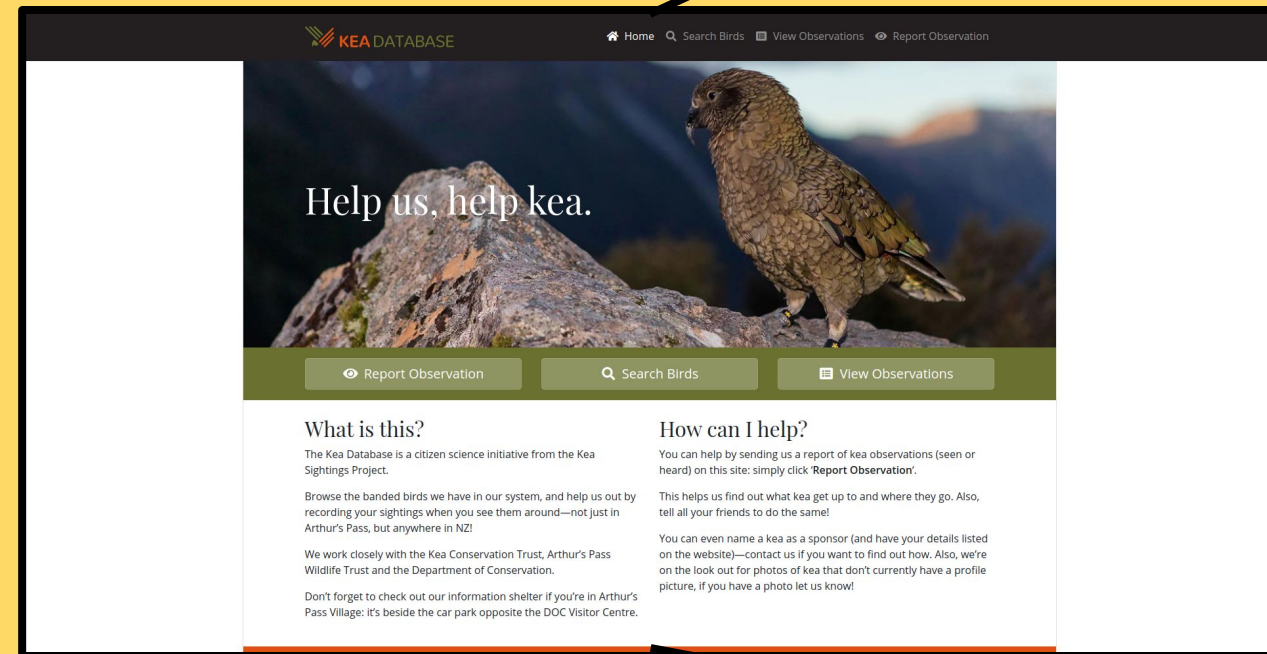# Types of Software

There are many different kinds of software that developers make. Some software is intended for end-users, while other software is designed to help other developers like us write our own software more easily! Let's take a look at some of the different kinds of software.

Applications

Provide functionality to human users. Includes desktop and mobile apps, as well as web apps that are served over the Internet.
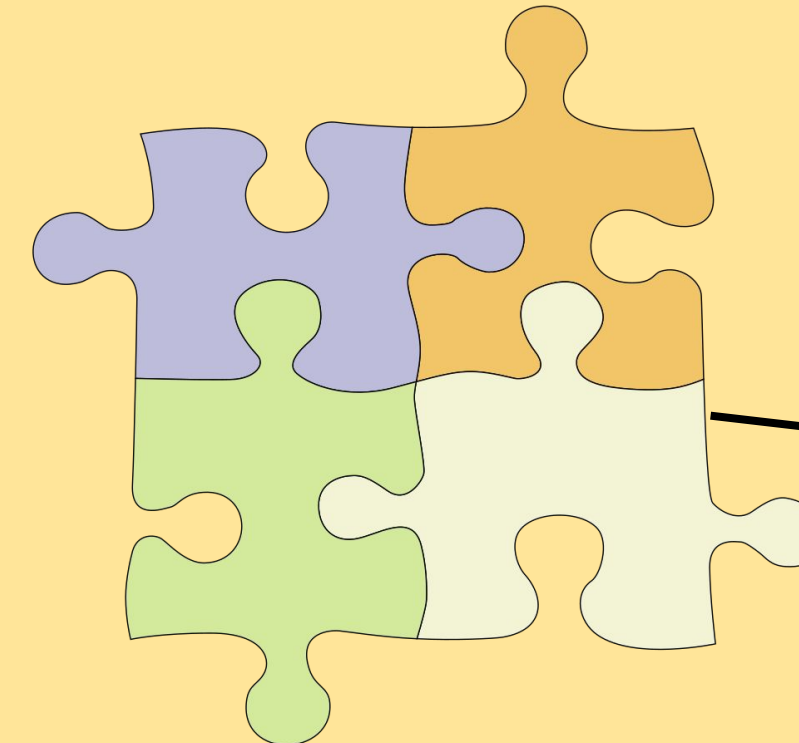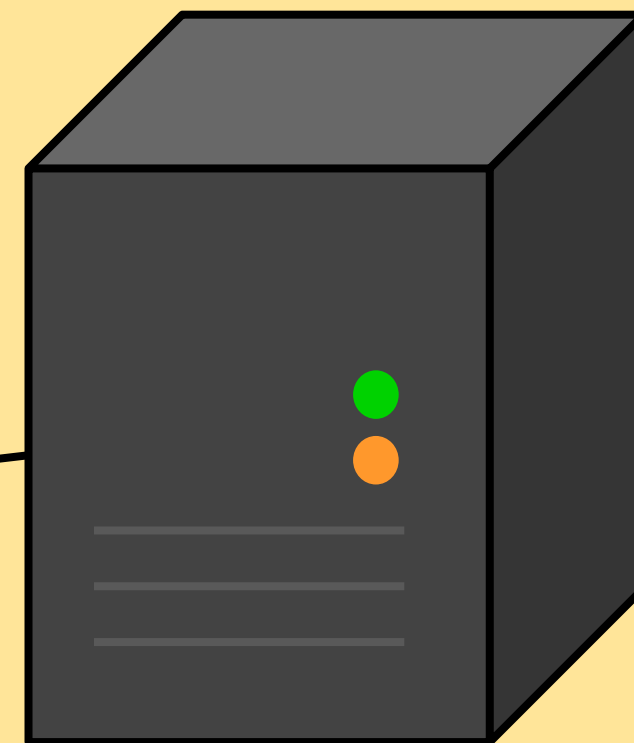

Embedded Software

Runs directly on a simple computer known as a microcontroller. Reads input from sensors and controls physical outputs (e.g. lights, motors).
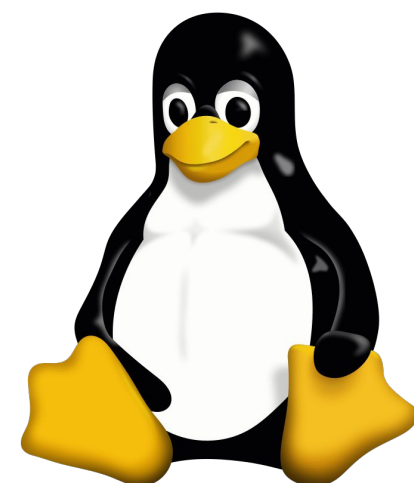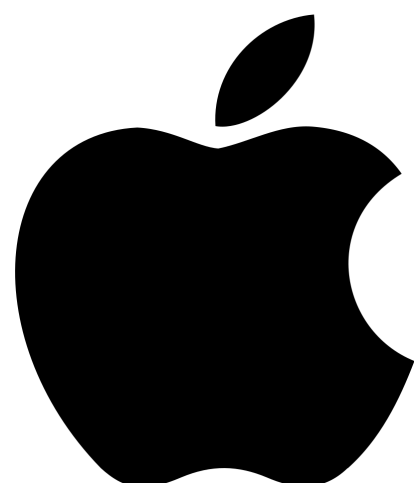

Services

Provide functionality to other programs through an Application Programming Interface (API). Delegating some functionality to a service can make your own software simpler.

Software Re-used to Build New Software

Software Libraries

Components that can be reused in other pieces of software. Using a library can save you from coding common functionality yourself.

System Software

Software that is responsible for managing the hardware and basic functionality of a computer. Provides a platform for running applications and services. The Operating System is the primary collection of system software on most computers.