How to Stay Entertained in the Summer

Ender Wiggin

Problem: Summer is less than entertaining

- School is out for the summer
- My parents are at work
- It's too hot outside

Observations

- I surveyed a small data set of my friends, asking them to rate their boredom on a scale of 1-5, with 1 being not bored and 5 being really bored
- My friends rated their boredom at an average of 3.5, so they are somewhat bored

- The survey that I administered also asked how my friends got information on events and activities
- This survey showed that my friends are getting information on what is happening through Facebook, their parents and other friends

Hypothesis: If you knew what was happening around town, you'd have things to do and you'd be thoroughly entertained

Solution to not knowing what's happening around town utilizing computer science & technology:

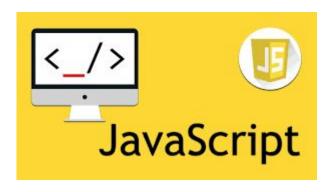A website that rounds up community-wide events onto one event calendar

Build a website that pulls events from other community calendars into one community calendar to rule them all

Community Event Website: Technology Used

- Start by using the Ruby on Rails programming framework, because it frees up lots of setup
- This gives me time to focus more on the solution itself - a community wide event website, since Ruby on Rails is built to be get up and running quickly

Community Event Website: Technology Used

- I would use Javascript to pull events from other event websites
  - SEMOEvents.com
  - DowntownCapeGirardeau.com
  - VisitCape.com/Events
  - CityofCapeGirardeau.org
- I would use Ruby on Rails and Javascript together to pull events from other websites and to assign them a category

Community Event Website: Technology Used

- So that you could search the community event website by category, I would use SQL, a query language for databases.

Community Event Website

- The community event website would pull local events from a variety of websites so that all community events would be available on one convenient site, searchable by category
- Having so many possible events will help keep people entertained in the summer, because they'll be plugged in and know what's happening.
- We can measure who's using the website and what additional functions would be helpful and make the site better

Possible Issues & Solutions

- Different event formats on the different websites
- Finding events to add
- Assigning categories to events

- Be very clear about SQL parameters so we pull defined variables
- Continue to add new calendars as they appear so the community event website is robust
- Set the query to look for specific words to appropriately assign a category

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