Topics explored:

In this exploration I decided to research Google’s Firebase software. Firebase is defined as a Backend-as-a-Service system that provides various services. These services include a realtime Database management tool, Crash Reporting tool, Authentication tool, Cloud Functions tool, Cloud Storage tool, Hosting tool, Test Lab for Android tool, and a Performance Monitoring tool. The servicethat I spent most my time exploring was its webpage hosting service. You are able to host your own web application on their servers so you do not have to pay for a server from AWS. I was able to do this after following a tutorial I found on YouTube fairly quickly. Another service I looked into was its realtime database tool. With this tool you are able to store and sync data between users and devices in realtime using a cloud-hosted noSQL database. I did not create an application that used this tool, but I did find a video series on YouTube that walked you through how to create a simple mobile application that would utilize this feature that they offer. I found these videos easy to understand and follow and have no doubt if I was given more time it would be something easy to learn.

Trouble Shooting Tidbits:

* Before you start using the services watch the video that explains what Firebase is on its landing page.
* Download nodejs to your machine before using the Hosting service.
* Watch the YouTube video listed below on how to setup your first hosted web application. The instructions provided by Firebase are not clear.
* Organize the files you plan to have hosted on their servers before using.
* Be sure to install the functions folder before trying to deploy your code.

Development Steps:

1) Download latest version of nodejs from nodejs.org

2) use command npm install -g firebase-tools on your cmd prompt local machine

3) firebase login then click Y and visit website to login

4) go to the folder that holds the code you wish to host

5) open a command prompt window from that folder and type firebase init

6) Set desired settings

7) ran into issues becuase my functions folder was not installed

8) go to functions folder that was created from firebase init

9) open new command prompt window and type npm install

10) go back to your project folder and type firebase deploy

11) you can now visit your site online

Links to Documentation/Working Code:

<https://github.com/dhh5z6/ExplorationTwo>

<https://exploration2-a624e.firebaseapp.com/>

<https://exploration2-a624e.firebaseapp.com/pagetwo.html>

Links to downloads and information:

[https://firebase.google.com/?utm\_source=google&utm\_medium=cpc&utm\_campaign=1001467%20%7C%20Firebase\*%20Brand%20GENERIC%20%7C%20US%20%7C%20en%20%7C%20Desk%2BTab%2BMobile%20%7C%20Text%20%7C%20BKWS%20%5B2017%5D&utm\_term=%7Bkeyword%7D&gclid=EAIaIQobChMI1OPvvZjE1gIVUIBpCh1w8QgFEAAYASAAEgLFtPD\_BwE](https://firebase.google.com/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=1001467%20%7C%20Firebase*%20Brand%20GENERIC%20%7C%20US%20%7C%20en%20%7C%20Desk%2BTab%2BMobile%20%7C%20Text%20%7C%20BKWS%20%5B2017%5D&utm_term=%7Bkeyword%7D&gclid=EAIaIQobChMI1OPvvZjE1gIVUIBpCh1w8QgFEAAYASAAEgLFtPD_BwE)

<https://nodejs.org/en/>

Links to YouTube Tutorials:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gl-qlxfTJHE>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i-gZAYBMuBs&list=PLGCjwl1RrtcTXrWuRTa59RyRmQ4OedWrt