Implementing Binary Search

Here's an implementation of binary search, named bfind():

```
int bfind(const Person data[], int first, int last,
2
              const string& key)
3
4
      cout << ".";
                                           // display comparisons
      if (last < first) {return -1;}</pre>
                                           // not found
      int mid = (first + last) / 2;
                                          // mid point
      if (key == data[mid].name.substr(0, key.size())) return mid;
9
      if (key < data[mid])</pre>
10
        return bfind(a, first, mid - 1, key); // look in left
11
      else
12
        return bfind(a, mid + 1, last, key); // look in right
13
```

Add this code **before** your **find()** function, and then comment out the body of **find()**, and add a call to bfind() in its place, like this:

```
return bfind(contacts, 0, size - 1, key);
```

Now, when you run the program, you'll see that even the worst case will take only about 10 or 11 comparisons, instead of 500 or 1000.



This course content is offered under a CC Attribution Non-Commercial license. Content in