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### Assignment 1: Hello Cloud

URL: <http://hellocloud-holly.appspot.com/>

1. I used the Google App Engine.
2. Google App Engine is a platform as a service. You can use it and its tools to develop and host web apps. It's a service that helps you deploy your applications by providing servers, storage, databases, and scalability without needing to purchase or provide them all yourself. All of the tools can be accessed through websites, such as the Developer's Console with an option to download Software Development Kits to make it easier to manage applications on your own computer. Unlike in an infrastructure as a service provider, there is no need to install any hardware or use a virtual machine
3. Google App Engine allows you to use many different languages and frameworks to create your applications. It stores data in a non-relational database called Datastore. It also has an option to use SQL with its Cloud storage service, but Datastore is what I'll be using for my database needs. I believe what Datastore does is store your data across multiple datacenters rather than one dedicated data storage space. Datastore is schema-less, but the data objects, entities, can be linked as parent/child to give them some sort of a relational structure and the database can be queried similar to SQL.

#### **Two Web Applications:**

4. - Presents! A way to keep track of gift ideas for friends or family. The user could store ideas for future gifts associated with different people, so they don't forget when a holiday/birthday comes up. This would require the user to login somehow, otherwise their information wouldn't be saved or would be public to all other users. I know there is an easy way to have users log into their google accounts using the app engine.  
  
- Exercise log. A way to keep track of the type, duration, length, etc. you have exercised. I'm doing a long bike ride in May, for example, and it would be helpful to have a way to record how far I've ridden or keep track of goals to make sure I'm staying on schedule.