Cover Art-Based Reading Log

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Description

My project is a reading log that lets you search for the book you've read by showing you the covers of books that match your search criteria. I like the idea of logging *precisely* what book you've read, and presenting users with the option of choosing their version based on cover art seemed like a good way to make their choice easy, accurate and interesting.



Features

- Secure user account setup and login
- Search tied to Google Books API
- Entry of reading log data...pages and/or minutes read
- Ability to see logged books without adding an additional entry



Planning - User Stories

User Logs in - allows users to set up a unique account and access the application

User Searches for Book - allows user to search Google Books for the specific book they've read and be presented with book covers of each search result

User Logs Book - allows user to create persistent record of pages/time spent reading a book

User Sees Total Log - allows user to see list of reading logs even if they haven't created a log in the current session



Planning - Database

User table - allows for unique users secured by IDs/passwords

Log table - contains all the Log objects

Coming soon - Volume table - stores data about the Volumes (Google Books' term for 'books') selected to create Log objects about



Technology Stack

- Java
- JavaScript (embedded in webpage)
- Spring Boot
- Thymeleaf
- Google Books API
- MySQL
- bootstrap



Demo



What I Learned

- How to set up a JSON query and process a JSON response using Java (originally learned it in JavaScript)
- How to interact with the Google Books API
 - Still just scratching the surface
- More about using JavaScript to create page elements via manipulating the DOM



What's Next

- Implement date picker for log date field
- Ability to search/sort/screen the log entries
- Add more data in the log, i.e. weblinks to the books, snapshots of cover art
- Make the UI look nicer, especially the log part
- Add in book quotes for flavor
- Work to make it completely object-oriented, e.g. implement Logs as true
 Objects
- Website deployment

