Motivation & Inspiration

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Description

The motivation for this message tracking app came from the pandemic as a way to provide self-care to those experiencing a hard time. This app provides a way for people to track and refer back to their own uplifting and positive messages as a way to motivate and inspire a person to stay focused, to have a positive outlook, and to move forward in life.

Features

- Feature 1: Registration, login, hashed password, and authentication
- Feature 2: Create, Read, Update, Delete (CRUD) messages
- Feature 3: Gallery of images with caption messages
- Feature 4: Pull weather data to display on website, using REST API

Planning - User Stories

Motivated from the pandemic period as so many people had a hard time in 2020 - 2021.

From the user's perspective, this app can help track uplifting and positive messages to motivate and inspire the user to stay focused, to have a positive outlook, and to move forward in life.

Planning - Database

The *users table* captures information from the registration form such as id (auto generated), cell number, email address, first name, last name, and encrypted password. The *messages table* captures information such as id, email address, and the text of the message. There is a one-to-many relationship between a user and messages. There is a many-to-one relationship between messages and a user.

Technology Stack

- Programming Language: Java
- Dependency Management: Maven
- Framework: Spring Framework/ Spring Boot
- Template engine: Thymeleaf
- Database engine: MySQL workbench
- Other libraries or components: Rest Template for API call and to parse out JSON; convert data to Java object properties

Demo

What I Learned

- Creating a gallery of images with caption messages
- Connecting to OpenWeatherMap for API call to pull data
- Using Spring Boot's Rest Template to parse JSON and pull out data and convert JSON to Java object properties

What's Next

- Improving the UI
- Learning how to incorporate data streaming and analytics with use of Apache Kafka and Apache Spark