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Accessible & Engaging Cooking Instruction via Smartphone or Computer

Cooking is hard, and learning how to cook can seem like an insurmountable task. Where does one even begin? Looking up recipes on the internet results in a wild mix of difficulty; some are easier than making toast while others call for esoteric methods that even professional chefs rarely know of. Our goal is to make learning how to cook easier and more engaging for everyone via a smartphone app & computer-accessible website. Because of the smartphone user demographic, we will mostly be targeting our app to people below the age of 60. The app will be able to survey the user to find their skill level, then suggest recipes around that skill level. Suggested recipes will slowly diversify into more difficult recipes, with videos on how to perform certain techniques presented upon encountering new techniques. Furthermore, users will have the ability to tackle “challenge” recipes to increase their cooking level. Users will rate their perceived difficulty of the recipes, feeding the algorithm with info about their updated skill level. Ideally, social media would be incorporated into the platform as well, so that users may share their meals or cook with their friends. The ultimate goal of the project is to make learning how to cook easy, straightforward, and captivating.

Social Buddy: Helping those with Social Anxiety Socialize Comfortably

People with social anxiety have trouble making friends and talking to others in part because of their fear of others judgement. The idea of Social Buddy is that people with social anxiety will be able to tag themselves as having social anxiety, but a desire to socialize. Ideally, social buddy would be an app. Others without social anxiety would be able to download the app and talk to those with social anxiety, providing a friendly environment for communication. Social buddy would need to find a way to prevent abuse from people who would like to harass people with social anxiety. Also, the platform must find a way to restrict toxicity near-completely.

Furthermore, there needs to be some draw for those without social anxiety to use the app.

However, as long as Social Buddy overall helps people with social anxiety socialize with others, even if the methods deviate from those previously described, it should be considered a success.