# **Project Proposal**

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#### What The Food?

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#### Overview

• What The Food? Is a consumer friendly app that allows users to scan an item and obtain any information related to the item. Whether it be understanding the nutrition label in a condensed manner or breaking down the ingredients and understanding the benefits and hidden downsides, What The Food? Allows users to quickly analyze and understand the product they scan without the hassle of looking at nutrition labels. Our product will help educate the population on products they consume.

### **Goals (Pain point resolved)**

- To make informed grocery shopping easier
- Give consumers an easier way to understand what is in their food.
- Condenses complicated Nutrition labels as well as ingredients to a simple manner.
- Categorizes products for users to have an understanding of what they are consuming.
- Displays the pros and cons of various foods and chemicals within said foods.
- Provide users with the latest news surrounding food.

# **Specifications/Value**

# **Guest Login**

- Users are given the ability to scan items and use features mentioned below Scan Food:
- Users do not have the ability to leave a review.
- Any data obtained or contributed by the user is not stored in a database.

# **Creating Account**

- Allows users to register an account using Email.
- Once an account is made, the user must login using username and password.
- Login information can be saved by choice by the user.
- Any data obtained or contributed by the user is stored in a database.
- Password information will be stored in a hash+salt format.

### <u>Reviews</u>

- Allows users to rate from 5 stars and allows users to write reviews on scanned products.
- Total rating is displayed as an average score from multiple websites. Total rating can be inspected to show individual ratings from different websites.

#### Scan Food:

- Scan the ingredients of the product by scanning the barcode of said item.
  - If an item does not have a barcode, users will also be given a manual input option.

- Categorizes food according to FDA standards mentioned here: https://www.fda.gov/product-categories-and-products
  - Informs the user if the scanned item is vegan, vegetarian, gluten free, and/or keto friendly.
- Defines long chemical ingredients under nutrition labels and condenses information into user-friendly text.
  - Vitamins that are listed can be displayed by its health benefits as well as its faults.
  - Lists similar food products that contain the same chemical ingredients.
- Recommends articles and related websites related to product.

### **Food Comparison:**

- Compares food to other options:
  - o lower in calories, non gluten, keto.
  - Non Allergy option (ex: nut allergy).
  - o Price Comparison (ex: cheaper alternative).
- Once chemical compounds have been analyzed, we can introduce other products that contain the chemicals and explain them.

### Personalized Daily KCalorie Consumption:

- Displays the users required Calories needed per day to maintain current weight.
- Daily Calories will be calculated by finding the users Active Metabolic Rate (AMR), calculation for which can be found here:
  - https://www.verywellfit.com/how-many-calories-do-i-need-each-day-2506873
- Option for the user to input their own custom AMR (if the user has a more accurate number from a nutritionist or a similar professional).
- Can change the percentage of daily calories from a food label to fit the user's daily calorie goal.

# **Aggregated News:**

- Pull news headlines from credit sources related to health trends as well as latest discoveries on food.
- Link these headlines to the original article.

### **History:**

 Any previous scan that was made by a user is stored in a history tab which users can access at any time.

# Competitors (What gives us the edge, how is it different)

- Fooducate: Allows users to scan by barcode and returns a grade on said product. This app is free to download as well as available online.
- Bloomsbury Dictionary of Food: Provides users with a search engine dedicated for food techniques and dishes as well as specific products. This app must be purchased for use
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA) News Reader: Informs users on up to date information on what has been considered safe and healthy. This app is free to download and use online.
- Our product focuses on providing consumers with the necessary information to make educated choices surrounding food products. We do this by providing

transparency about common ingredients as well as providing the latest news. All while never telling the consumer what they should be eating, putting the power of choice back into the consumers hands.

#### **Intended Audience**

- The app intends for those who want to have a simple yet deep understanding of what they are consuming.
- The app is made for any average consumer who is simply curious about what they eat and would like to learn more.

### **Vision**

- From a programmer's perspective, our app incorporates countless numbers of products and categorizes each into an organized manner. Furthermore, the review feature of our app allows products to be filtered by popularity. Additionally, our app will provide educational resources based upon food labels scanned in the real world. As the field of nutrition continues to develop, our users will stay up to date on the latest dietary facts of their food.
- In a business sense, our product can start locally and expand. The app's intended
  audience is the everyday consumer who is curious in understanding their product at a
  local market in a detailed yet simple description. By having consumers more involved
  and educated with their food products, it will lead to more informed consumers and give
  them more power over their choices.