API and Backend Documentation

Database Design:

- AWS DynamoDB, a NoSQL database is the database for our backend
- We used two DynamoDB tables to store user data
- DynamoDB tables have Primary Keys made up of a Partition Key and an optional Sort Key
- Both tables use username as the partition key and neither table has a sort key

user_table:

o Purpose: stores user login data

o Partition Key: username

o Sort Key: None

Item	Datatype	Notes
Username	String	Partition Key
Password	String	Hashed value using SHA-512 hash function
Email	String	

score_table:

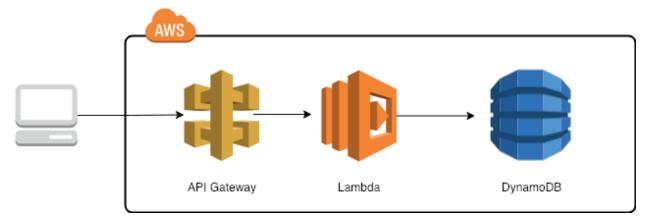
o Purpose: stores user gameplay data

o Partition Key: username

o Sort Key: None

Item	Datatype	Notes
username	String	Partition Key
top_score	Integer	Calculated on front end
total_words_solved	Integer	Derived from words_solved
words_solved	Array <string></string>	
longest_word_solved	String	Derived from words_solved
games_played	Integer	

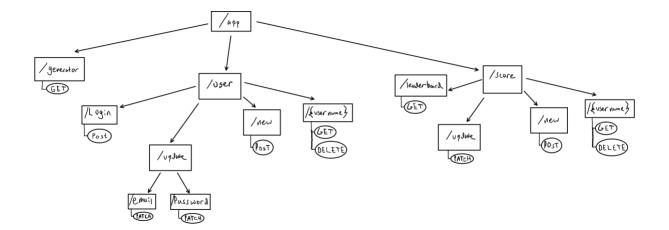
API Overview:



- The API is created using AWS API Gateway and AWS Lambda
- Each API call is set to trigger an associated Lambda function (written in python) upon invocation
- The API has three main branches: /generator, /user, and /score
- The methods under /user are used to perform CRUD operations on user_table. These methods are focused on logging in, creating an account, retrieving user data, and updating user data
- The methods under /score are used to perform CRUD operations on score_table. These methods are focused on storing user gameplay data and retrieving leaderboard data
- All GET methods will either have a path parameter or no parameters,
- All DELETE methods will have a path parameter
- All other methods will have only body parameters
- Each Lambda function is wrapped in a try-except block
 - If the function raises an exception at any point a 400 error and status message will be returned detailing the source of the error
 - Otherwise, if the function runs successfully, a 200 status message will be returned along with some additional data
- All GET methods will return the RAW JSON directly from the DynamoDB tables
- All other methods will return a block of JSON formatted as follows (some methods will return additional attributes such as username, etc.)

• Some methods will return {"success": False} to indicate to the front-end that the user has entered an invalid username, password, etc.

API Diagram



- ✓ /app
 - ▼ /generator

GET

- ▼ /score
 - /leaderboard

GET

✓ /new

POST

▼ /update

PATCH

▼ /{username}

DELETE

GET

- ▼ /user
 - ▼ /login

POST

✓ /new

POST

- ✓ /update
 - ✓ /email

PATCH

▼ /password

PATCH

√{username}

DELETE

GET

Root Endpoint

/app

No methods

Generator Endpoint

/app/generator

- GET Method
 - Returns a single randomly generated word from http://random-word-api.herokuapp.com/home
 - Body parameters:
 - None

User Endpoints

/app/user/new

- POST method
- Creates a new user in user table
- Body parameters:
 - Username (str)
 - Password (str)
 - Stores a hashed value of the password using SHA512 hash function
 - Email
- Returns:
 - True if username is not already taken and user is created
 - False if username is already taken and user is not created

/app/user/update/email

- PATCH method
- Updates user email in user table
- Assumes correct username since the user will already have logged in on front end in order to invoke this method
- Body parameters
 - Username (str)
 - Email (str)
- Returns:
 - True if email is successfully updated

/app/user/update/password

- PATCH method
- Updates user password in user_table only if the old password matches
- Assumes correct username since the user will already have logged in on front end in order to invoke this method
- Body parameters:

- Username (str)
- Password (str)
- New password (str)
 - Passwords are hashed using SHA512 hash function
- Returns
 - True if the passwords match and the password is successfully updated
 - o False if the passwords do not match and the password is not updated

/app/user/{username}

- GET method
 - Body parameters:
 - None
 - Returns user data from user_table based on username path parameter
- DELETE method
 - Body parameters:
 - None
 - o Deletes a user from user_table based on the username path parameter
 - Assumes correct username since the user will already have logged in on front end in order to invoke this method
 - o Returns:
 - True if user successfully deleted

/app/user/login

- POST method
- Body parameters
 - Username
 - Password
- Check if username and hash value of password matches that stored in database
- Returns:
 - True if username exists in database and passwords match
 - Also returns the username to be stored as a global variable in the frontend
 - False if username does not exist in database / passwords do not match

Score Endpoints

/app/score/{username}

- GET Method
 - Body parameters:
 - None
 - Returns data from leaderboard table based on username path parameter
 - DELETE method
 - Body parameters:
 - None
 - Delete user from leaderboard_table based on username path parameter

- Assumes correct username since the user will already have logged in on front end in order to invoke this method
- o Returns:
 - True if user successfully deleted

/app/score/new

- POST method
- Creates a new entry in leaderboard table
- Body parameters
 - o Username
- Initializes all other values in table as follows:
 - top_score: 0
 - words_solved: []
 - total_words_solved: 0
 - longest_word_solved: 0
 - o games_played: 0
- Returns:
 - o True if username is not already taken and user is created
 - o False if username is already taken and user is not created

/app/score/update

- PATCH method
- Update the top score, words solved, number of words solved, longest word, games played after the user finishes a game
- Stores the word in score_table if the user solves the hangman game
- Assumes correct username since the user will already have logged in on front end in order to invoke this method
- Body parameters:
 - o Username
 - Score
 - Word
 - If word = "" (empty string)
 - --> then the user failed to solve the puzzle
- Returns:
 - True if score_table is successfully updated

/app/score/leaderboard

- GET method
- Body paramters:
 - None
- Return entire score table for all users sorted by top score