THE GREEN THUMB

Team Members
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Group Plan

Revised Project Description
The Problem
    Your average homeowner likes to keep plants around the house as well as outside to make the place look nice and fresh. However, many homeowners struggle to stay on top of watering and caring for their plants and often don't know how much or how often to do so. It is extremely easy to forget to water plants and just as easy to over water or under water them.

The Solution
    Introducing The Green Thumb! The Green Thumb (TGT) is a mobile application for iOS/Android that monitors your plants' growth. TGT makes it fun to monitor the growth of your plants and set goals for their growth over time. TGT makes it easy to remember when to water and care for the plants by setting reminders that will be sent as push notifications right on your phone. In addition to this, it will have a wide knowledge base on different plants that will tell you the best way to care for you plant, including exactly how much and how often to water the plants, soil type and lighting conditions. All based on plant type, climate, indoor/outdoor, and many more features!

Targeted User Group
    The targeted user group for this will include all people who own plants! This includes homeowners, college students, kids learning about plants, gardeners, housewives, and really anyone who owns any type of plant and wants to keep track of its growth and know when and how much to water it.

Design
    This will be an iOS/Android mobile application with as simple of an interface as possible. There will be a tab for plant growth monitoring (in which you can add in a picture of its progress) and a tab for your plant or plants' profile(s) in which you can access the knowledge base to input the different features of the plant including plant name/type, the climate you are in, whether it is indoors or outdoors, and other optional feature types. There,

you can have it automatically send you a push notification for when to water it with how much water to give it.

Meeting Schedule
We will meet every week on Tuesday from 5 until about 5:30. We will stay later if we feel we need to to get more work done.

Group Chat and Documentation
We are using a GroupMe chat to discuss plans and meetings and have created a Google Drive to share documents we create.

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Research Plan

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1. **1:1 interviews with gardeners and plant hobbyists:**
   We will visit local plant and gardening shops in the Boulder area to conduct one-on-one interviews with both shop owners / workers and customers who may consider themselves subject matter experts on gardening or plant care. This will greatly help us build up a knowledge base for the app further down the road. Through this interview, we will be able to learn more about the care of different types of plants, the ease of the care, best practices, and in general, things a beginner gardener/plant owner would need to know.
   a. Questions:
      i. What plants are the easiest to take care of?
      ii. Why are they easy to take care of?
      iii. What plants are the most difficult to take care of?
      iv. What makes taking care of these plants so difficult?
      v. What's the most important thing for new gardeners to learn about?
      vi. What would you say the easiest way to kill a plant is?
      vii. When it comes to taking care of plants, generally speaking, what's the most important thing to keep in mind: sunlight, water, fertilization, soil type, soil chemistry, or something else? (by soil chemistry, I mean things like pH, calcium content, etc…)
      viii. Out of that list, what's the least important thing to keep in mind?
      ix. How important is the climate for certain plants over others?
      x. How important is it whether the plant is an indoor plant vs. an outdoor plant?
      xi. Do you have any other tips about taking care of plants?
   These questions will help us determine some more questions to ask on the online questionnaire, as well as what the most and least important portions to our design will be.

2. **Online Questionnaire:**

After conducting individual 1:1 interview we will narrow down questions which we feel will help us understand what a gardening app should be. We will then proceed to create a online questionnaire to deploy to many people so we can identify the needs of both the amateur and experienced gardener. Many of these questions will be decided after the 1:1 interviews however some can be thought of beforehand, including:

1. On a scale from 1-10, how experienced of a gardener/plant carer are you?
2. How many plants do you own?
3. How many hours per week do you spend caring for those plants?
4. List what plants you own:
5. What is your favorite plant?
6. Which plant is easiest to take care of?
7. Which plants do you want to know more about?
8. Would you find it to be helpful to have reminders for taking care of your plants?
9. Would you find it to be helpful to have an app with a knowledge base on a wide variety of plants?
10. What kind of features would you want in a mobile app for plant care reminders combined with a knowledge base?
11. In your opinion, what is the most important aspect of plant care?

The additional questions should help us narrow down the features in the app that will be most useful for gardeners and plant owners. This questionnaire will help us to build exactly the features a real user would want and need.