



Ahmad Khan is a 14 year old Egyptian-Canadian male, grade 9 student from Brampton, Ontario, who studies at Castlebrooke Secondary School within the Sci-Tech regional program for exploring modern technology. He is always challenged to think outside the box and implement his ideas to solve real life problems, within this program. He first discovered his interest in exploring technology when he was given a school STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) project to research about Artificial Intelligence and how real world problems are solved within medical fields such as prosthetic tools and biomedical devices with the use of technology. In school, he is required to code and find innovative ways to add STEM into his projects and assignments. Ahmad works at Freshco as a Part-time cashier, for which he gets paid minimum wage (\$15 per hour).

Ahmad has an interest in using Python to further develop his ideas. However, he lacks a clear understanding of concepts related to technology and he faces problems with developing more of a view and plan to make progress on new topics. Python websites, youtube videos and online tutorials are his main ways to have a greater understanding of Python. He is also in the school's VEX robotics team which is a club that focuses on creating robots and through the use of coding to participate in provincial competitions. Outside of school he is involved in many volunteer clubs. He's preparing to participate in a competition from Skills Ontario that involves him making a piece of technology. Ahmad loves to have an organized way of living life and getting tasks completed. He is very interested in computer science and technology.

There are many goals that Ahmad strives to achieve including finishing high school with good grades and test scores in order to get accepted into a top rated university to explore a career in technology. Ahmad hopes to understand computer science data structures and concepts to be able to tackle more complex topics. He wants to understand the basics for making new devices and programs that are innovative and can showcase a solid grasp of computer science topics. While currently struggling to time manage Ahmad hopes in the near future he can discover new ways to work more effectively.

There are many times when Ahmad feels unmotivated to work on this school work. He feels that he can not develop as many ideas due to the lack of resources given to him by his teachers. The insufficient information that is provided to him to develop his coding project ideas restricts his ability to create what he wants when he wants to. Ahmad finds it difficult to interact with students in his class as they do not share many of the same passions that he has. Ahmad does not like having to put in a lot of time and effort in order to learn new concepts from a theoretical basis, and believes if given a concept to learn through an application basis he can learn more efficiently. He seeks information about high concepts and studies in technology from school resources like his guidance counselor, from college fairs, social media, attending hackathons, and his own online research.

Anjali Metha is an 8 year old South Asian girl that lives in Sudbury, Ontario. She currently lives with her parents and 3 siblings and attends the Pier Mount Elementary School. She is full of energy, bubbly and loving. Anjali loves playing online games related to princesses, sports and colourful cartoons. She is a very curious little girl that loves to solve problems, especially in math class. She sees her older siblings coding all the time and wants to learn, but is discouraged from doing so as she is told she is too young to learn how to code. She loves playing with her friends and staying active. Anjali is a young girl with big dreams. She likes to learn new things and always gets gold stars in her class when she gets perfect on a test or assignment. She is excited to dance and sing at her upcoming spring concert at school.



Anjali hopes to someday learn coding so that she can help her siblings when they are doing coding problems. Her siblings are trying to create their own app and they are learning different coding concepts and techniques that can contribute to making their app. Anjali wants to learn coding but is having a hard time finding a platform where she can learn coding and different coding concepts, because she has a short attention span towards things that are too complicated. She also needs a platform that her parents can approve of because they monitor her internet usage. She is only allowed to use her iPad (does not have access to a laptop), she can only use certain apps and websites on her iPad as they are locked due to parental controls. Anjali hopes to make an app using code and show her teacher in order to complete her 100 gold star sticker collection.

Scott Manjang is a 18-year-old Black Muslim boy that works as a cashier at the Metro grocery store where he makes \$15 per hour. He grew up in Mississauga, Ontario where he attends Glen Forest Secondary School. He lives with his mother Jennifer and sister Clair who also works at metro. He works part-time after school to purchase things he wants including video games and new smart technology that he plays within his room. He loves playing video games and loves to beat games that others find difficult. In his free time, Scott plays multiplayer online video games or board games with his sister or childhood friend Hassan. He is very competitive and hates to lose, he also hates not knowing why or how he lost. He likes to learn new things because knowledge is very important to him, but he hates reading books. His favourite quote is by Michael J. Gelb which states; “Life is a continuous exercise in creative problem solving”.

At work, he helps his co-worker with technical problems and finds joy in solving problems others cannot. He also helps his mother and sister fix anything in the house they are not capable of fixing themselves. He is a quick visual learner that uses his creativity to think of solutions to problems then trying those out to see if they work. He wants to learn how to code in hopes of creating his own video game or software that he can design and develop however he wants. He has tried to learn coding on his own but because of all the technical reading he never fully understood the concepts. He likes to play around with his phone, computer and even his work computer to see what features they have and how each program interacts with the computer. He spends a lot of his time watching technology videos on YouTube so people around him would always go to him for technical support. He is interested in taking Computer science in university because he thinks computer science is about problem-solving and he would be able to finally learn to code. He is looking online to learn CSC data structures and other concepts, but it is still hard for him because they are usually boring and involve a lot of reading about theories and technical concepts.





Bryan Smith is a 25-year-old teaching assistant and student at the University of Toronto, he is currently in his 3rd year making \$30 per hour for being a teaching assistant for a first-year computer science introductory course. He lives on his own in an apartment in Toronto that he pays for, with the money he makes from being a teaching assistant, he enjoys playing video games and learning about new technologies and concepts. He uses social media a lot and is constantly staying up to date with new technology trends. He watches a lot of infographic videos on YouTube, which he finds very entertaining. He hopes to graduate with a computer science degree which would allow him to find a job in game development.

It has been his goal to become a game developer since high school and he hopes to enjoy university while he is there. He is very friendly and is liked by most people he meets; he likes to see people happy and find joy in helping people.

He hopes to teach first-year students about basic computer science concepts and hopes to motivate them to follow the same path as him. He hates classes that are too technical and does not try to gain the student's interest. He hopes to make his class a funny and educational one where students will learn all the required material while enjoying the class. He always looks for new and innovative ways to teach computer science concepts and theories to his first-year students. He is constantly looking online for resources to help teach his students. He hopes to change how some students view computer science to a program that can be funny and educational. He takes pride in being a teaching assistant and hopes to leave a lasting impact on his students. His favourite quote is "Creativity is thinking up new things. Innovation is doing new things by Theodore Levitt.