



# fika

(n., v.) · [fee-ka] · Swedish  
a moment of **connection**, usually over  
coffee with new or old friends

David Lin · Emma Fritzberg · Nathan Li · Steven Horng

---

# motivation

- Tendency to **check off boxes** as opposed to finding authentic and unique experiences
- Lack of familiarity leads to settling for **pre-packaged experiences**
- People enjoy **connecting with locals**, but lack an effective means to do so



## primary tasks

---

Users should be able to complete these two primary tasks

01

—  
**find a local guide.**

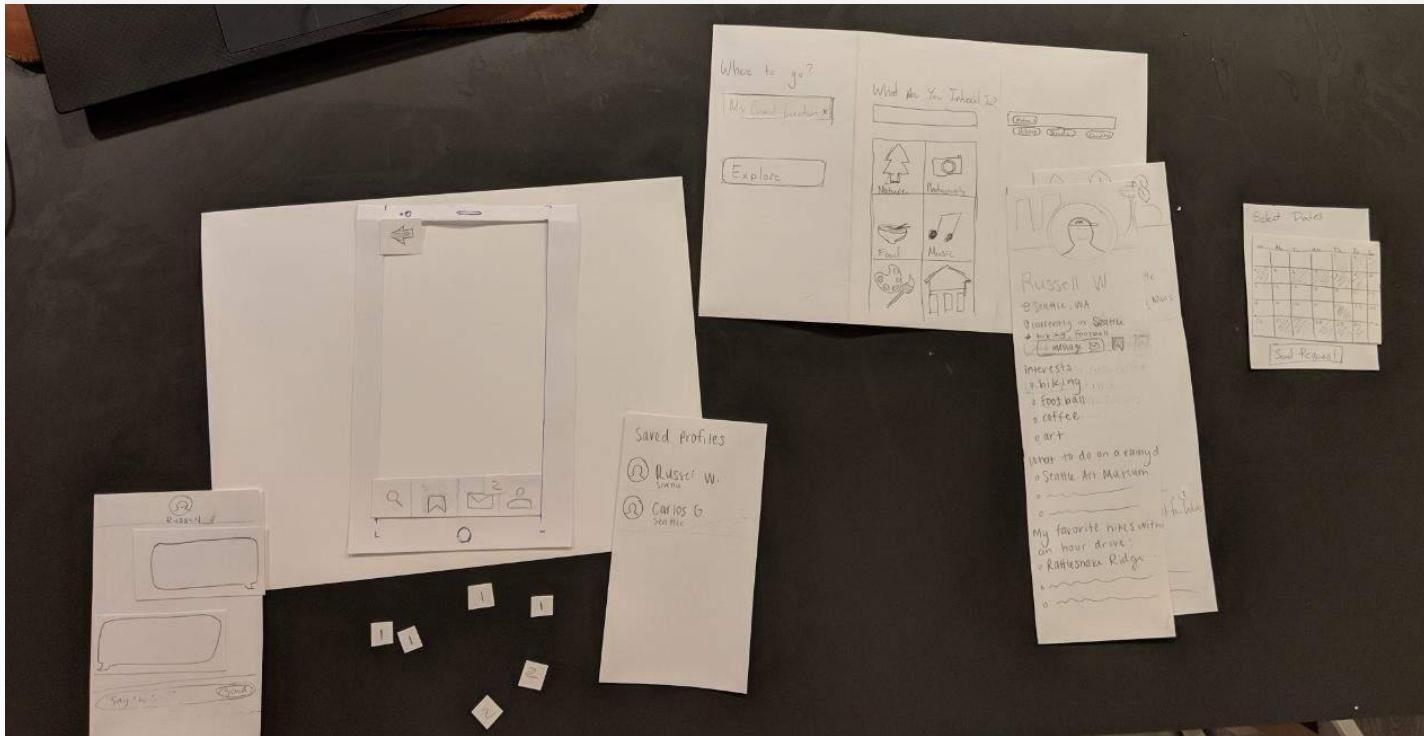
**schedule a meetup.**

---

02

# initial prototype

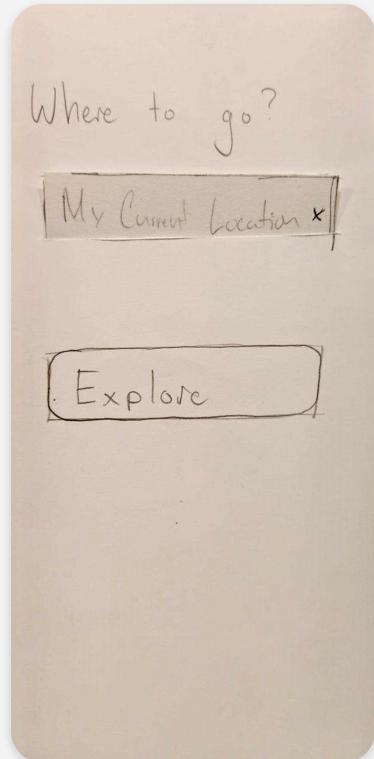
Overview of initial prototype



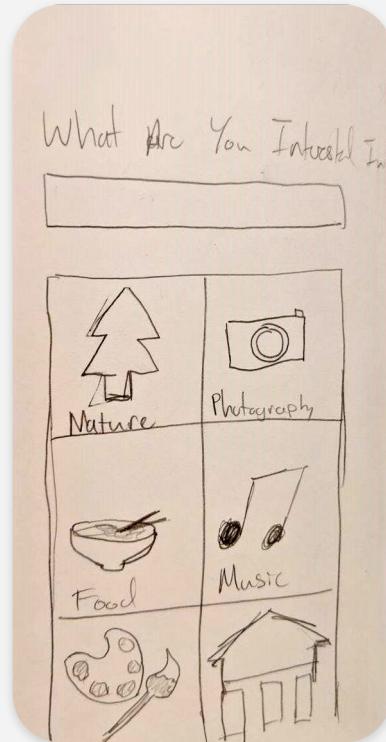
# finding a local guide

---

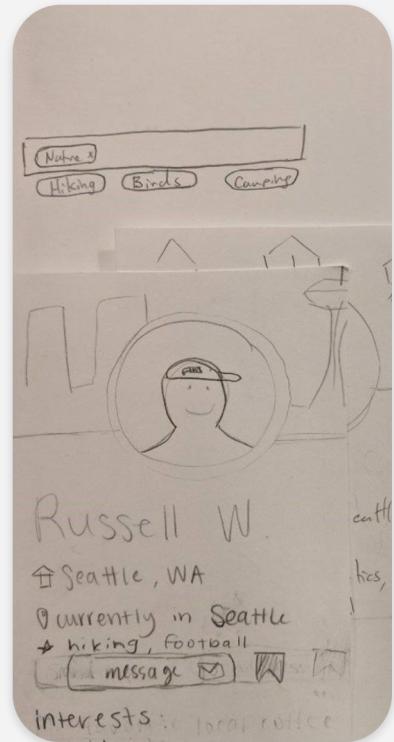
Task 1 (Initial Prototype)



1 LOCATION



2 INTERESTS

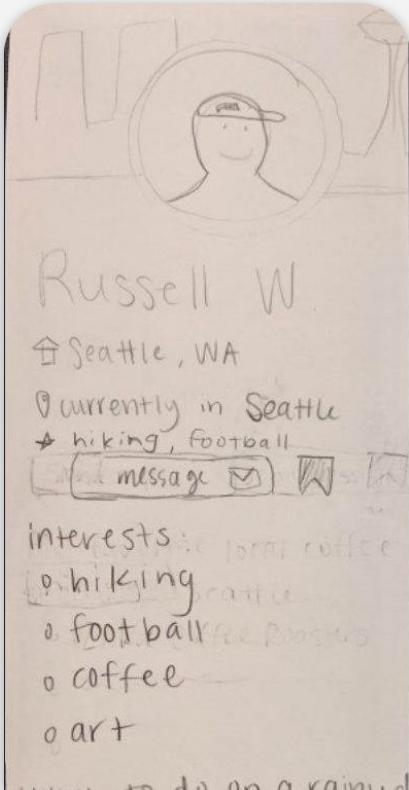


3 SEARCH RESULTS

# finding a local guide

---

Task 1 (Initial Prototype)



o art

What to do on a rainy d

o Seattle Art Museum

o ~~~~~

o ~~~~~

My favorite hikes with  
an hour drive!

o Rattlesnake Ridge

o ~~~~~

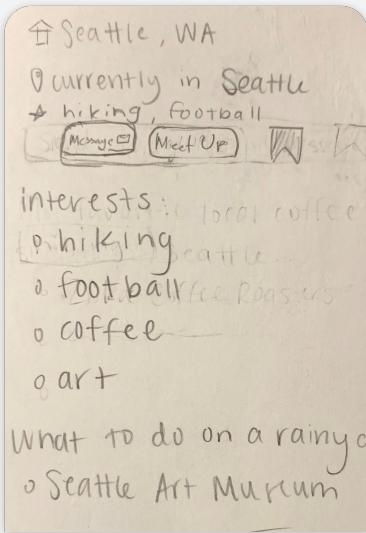
o ~~~~~

**4 FULL PROFILE**

# scheduling a meetup

---

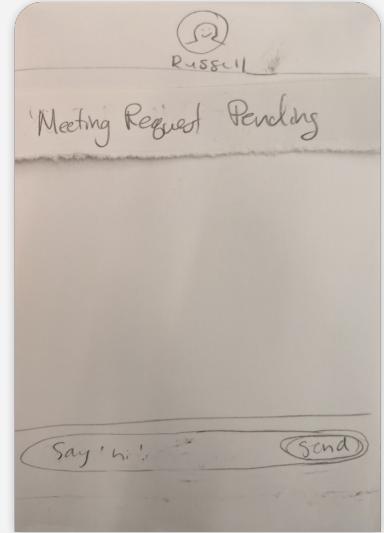
Task 2 (Initial Prototype)



1 HIT "MEET UP"  
BUTTON



2 SELECT DATES



3 PENDING MEETUP  
REQUEST

## testing process

---

Asked participants to complete the two tasks

# 2 heuristic evaluations 3 usability tests

### critical incidents:

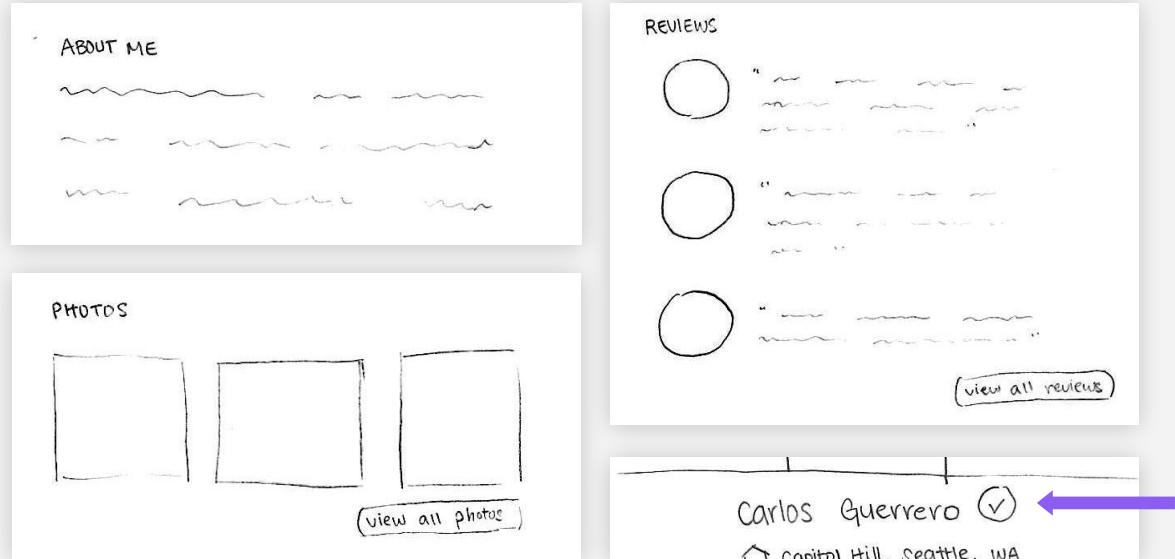
- Will the app find the **right** guide?
- Profiles had **too little information** for user to find a desirable guide
- Certain app interactions were **unclear**
  - ▷ Message / Meet Up



## prototype revisions

Added "About Me", "Photos", "Reviews", and verified status

# new profile features



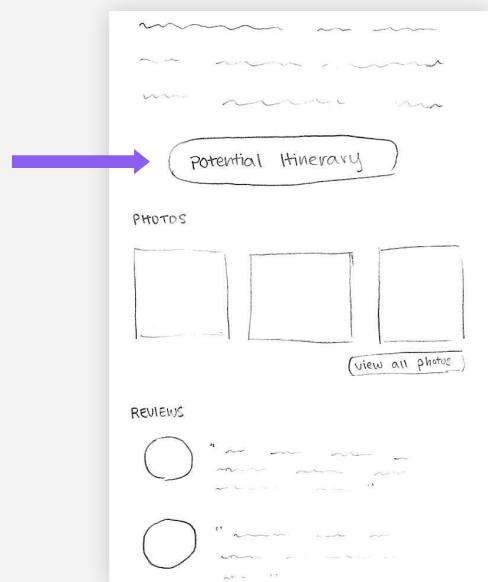
**solved critical incidents:** Profiles lacked useful information and verification

## prototype revisions

Added a "Potential Itinerary" feature

# new profile features (cont.)

**solved critical incident:** Profiles lacked useful information



## prototype revisions

"Meet Up" functionality is now within "Message" alongside added widgets

# combined "message" and "meet up"



solved critical incidents: "Meet Up" and "Message" created confusing flow

# digital mockup

---

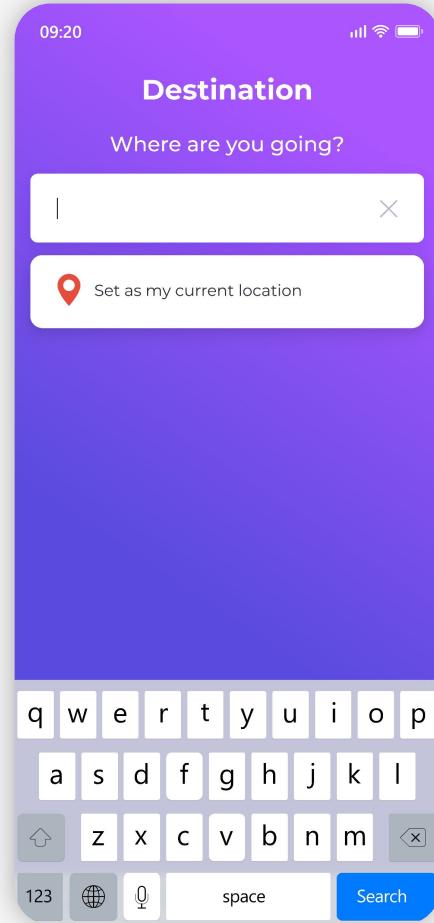
Task 1: Finding the Right Guide

01

## select the destination.

Users can plan ahead by searching their next destination for local guides to connect them with the area.

If they're feeling spontaneous, they can look for potential guides or just things to do when they are already out exploring.



# digital mockup

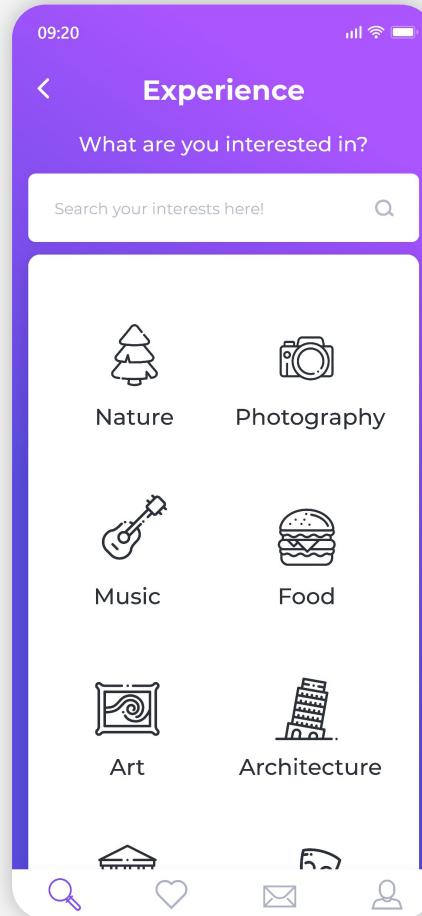
---

Task 1: Finding the Right Guide

02

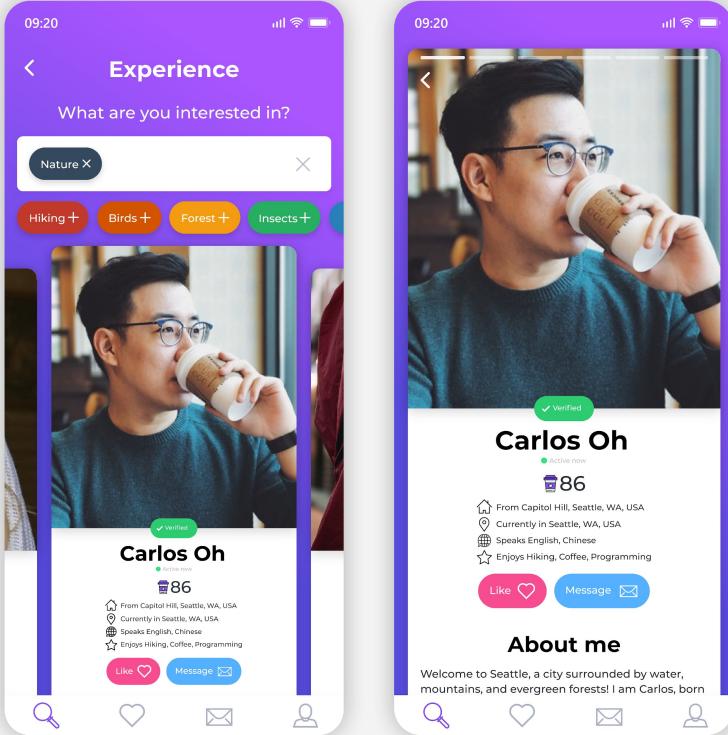
## control the experience.

Users can search for local guides by filtering with various topics and interests that they enjoy.



# digital mockup

Task 1: Finding the Right Guide



03

## find the right guide.

Users can go through a variety of different profiles of potential guides that share similar interests.

# digital mockup

---

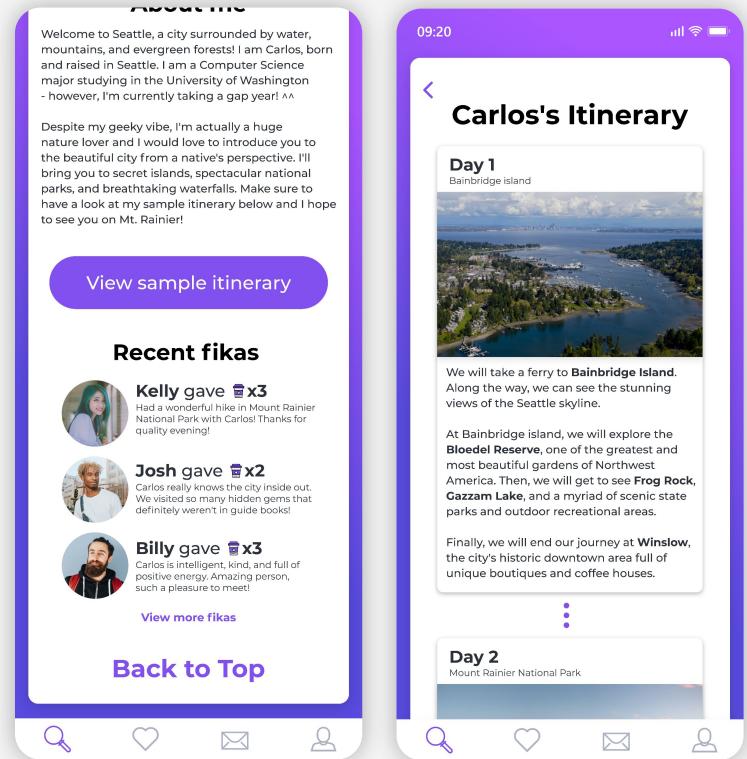
Task 1: Finding the Right Guide

04

## envision the trip.

An itinerary provides a deeper insight for the user as to what meeting with this guide might look like.

Even if the guide isn't chosen, users can learn fun things that they can still pursue.



The image displays two mobile phone screens against a white background. The left screen shows a profile page for a guide named Carlos. It includes a bio, a message from a previous traveler (Kelly), a recent photo, and a 'View sample itinerary' button. The right screen shows a detailed itinerary for 'Carlos's Itinerary'. It features a header with the date (09:20) and title, followed by sections for 'Day 1' (Bainbridge Island) and 'Day 2' (Mount Rainier National Park). Each day section includes a thumbnail image, a brief description, and a list of stops or attractions.

**About me**

Welcome to Seattle, a city surrounded by water, mountains, and evergreen forests! I am Carlos, born and raised in Seattle. I am a Computer Science major studying in the University of Washington - however, I'm currently taking a gap year! ^^

Despite my geeky vibe, I'm actually a huge nature lover and I would love to introduce you to the beautiful city from a native's perspective. I'll bring you to secret islands, spectacular national parks, and breathtaking waterfalls. Make sure to have a look at my sample itinerary below and I hope to see you on Mt. Rainier!

[View sample itinerary](#)

**Recent fikas**

**Kelly gave 🍷 x3**  
Had a wonderful hike in Mount Rainier National Park with Carlos! Thanks for quality evening!

**Josh gave 🍷 x2**  
Carlos really knows the city inside out. We visited so many hidden gems that definitely weren't in guide books!

**Billy gave 🍷 x3**  
Carlos is intelligent, kind, and full of positive energy. Amazing person, such a pleasure to meet!

[View more fikas](#)

[Back to Top](#)

**09:20**

**Carlos's Itinerary**

**Day 1**  
Bainbridge island

We will take a ferry to Bainbridge Island. Along the way, we can see the stunning views of the Seattle skyline.

At Bainbridge island, we will explore the Bloedel Reserve, one of the greatest and most beautiful gardens of Northwest America. Then, we will get to see Frog Rock, Gazan Lake, and a myriad of scenic state parks and outdoor recreational areas.

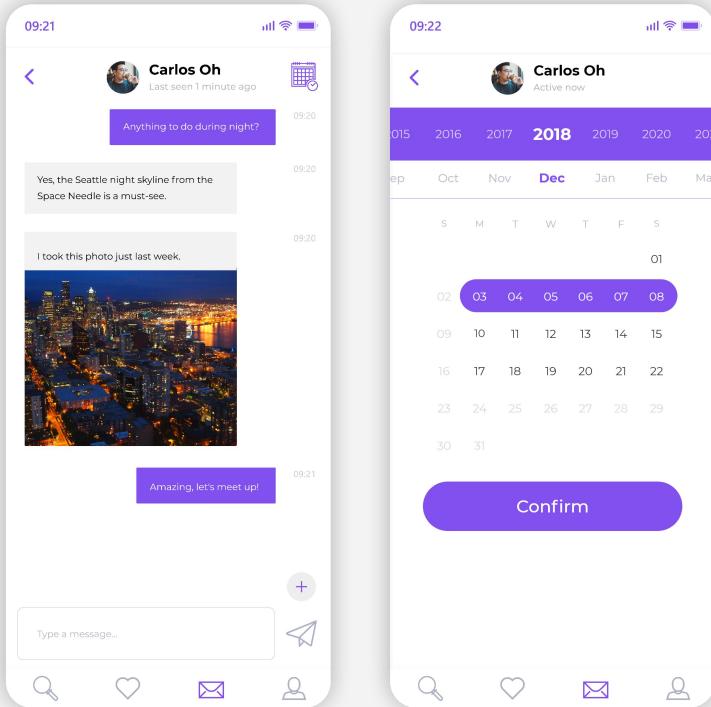
Finally, we will end our journey at Winslow, the city's historic downtown area full of unique boutiques and coffee houses.

⋮

**Day 2**  
Mount Rainier National Park

# digital mockup

Task 2: Scheduling a Meetup



## 01 create conversation.

Users can message a potential guide and, after verifying mutual interest, schedule a time to meet.

# digital mockup

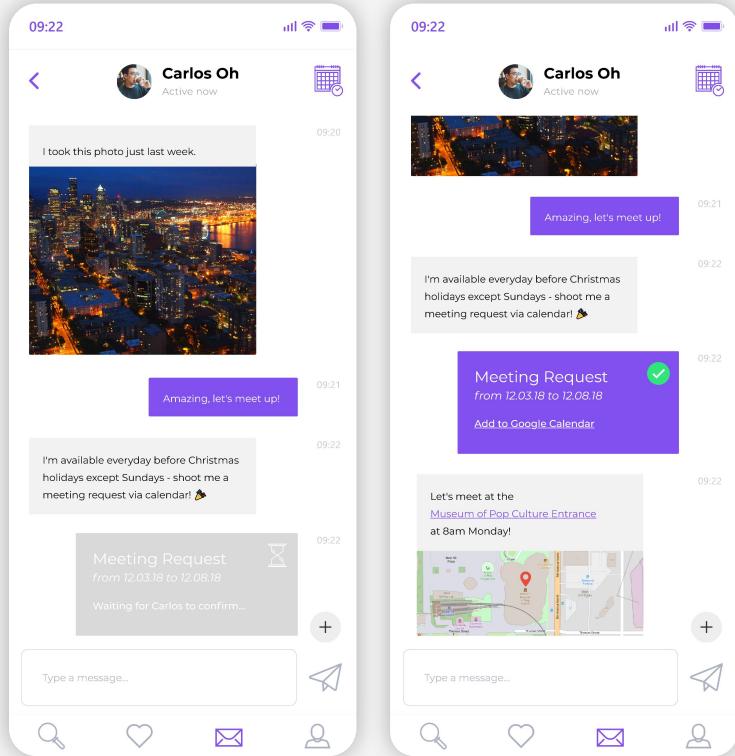
---

Task 2: Scheduling a Meetup

02

## meet and explore.

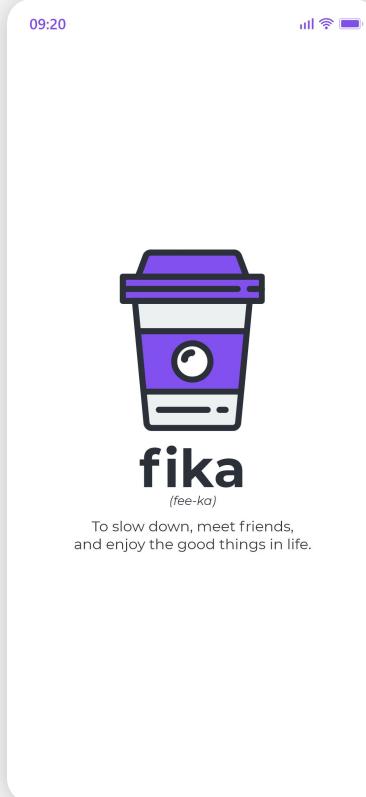
Users then meet at a specified time and place, and off they go to new and more intimate experiences with the local culture.



## project summary

# some things we noted.

- Keep an **open mind** at **all** stages
- Good user tests **require** good preparation
- It's easy to lead on a test participant if uncareful
- Give your design space, well, **space**





**thank you!**

**Any questions?**