Introduction

Let's begin our discussion with the important concept of data types.

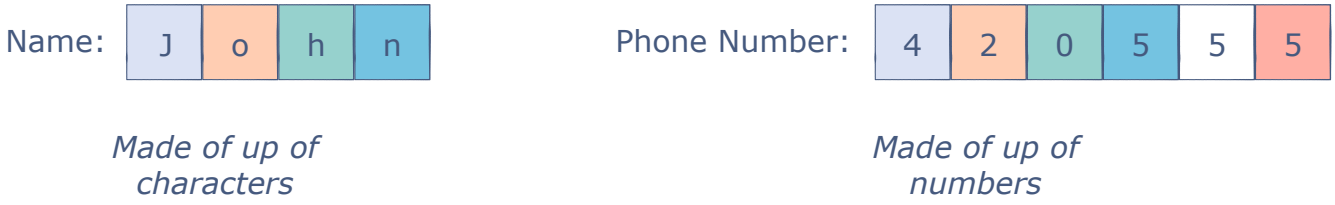
WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING

- What Are Data Types?
- Reason's Approach

What Are Data Types?

> A data type is a category which specifies the type of values an object can have.

Let's take some real-life examples. A person's "name" is an *object* which is made up of alphabets. Hence, it's data type can be described as characters. However, a *telephone number* would have a numerical data type.



Made of up of characters

Made of up of numbers

Reason's Approach

Since Reason is a "strongly-typed" language, it emphasizes the importance of different data types. Every expression or object is assigned a particular data type. These types can be inferred automatically by the compiler, but it is a common, and safer, practice to explicitly define them.

In a sense, data types are used to create objects which act as the primary building blocks for Reason applications.

In the next lesson, we'll explore a common data type known as the **integer**.