How to Build an App

Video transcript for 'How to Build an App'

Sameena:

App is short for application and an app is a program that runs on computer devices; including smart phones and tablets.

There are thousands and thousands of apps out there – from game apps to weather apps, social networking apps to travel apps.

But how on earth do you go about building an app?

I've come to meet two teenagers who've developed their own app - to find out how they did it.

Sameena: Hi Emma. So, tell me about your app?

Emma: Well our app is called Pitch Pals and it helps young children to tune their string instruments.

Sameena: Do you think the app overcomes a problem?

Jamie: After doing our research we noticed that there were no tuning apps that were based around children.

Sameena: So you had the idea how did you then develop it?

Emma: Well our first step was to think how we could appeal to our target audience. We wanted to include things like colours and cute characters as well. Here are some of our original designs that we made.

Jamie: Yeah and after we'd done the characters and things like that we started to think about details and extras we could add.

Jamie: Our app design then won a competition and we got it developed onto the BlackBerry platform. And there are also plans to develop it further onto iOS and Android platforms.

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Emma: We were sent some prototypes to test ourselves.

Jamie: We even got our little brothers and sisters to test them for us.

Jamie: The app was made using the language C++

Emma: That bit of code means that when you press that button it takes you to wizard page 11. And then on this page that's where you can choose your pitch pal.

Emma: It took ten to twelve months from the initial idea to the finished app.

Emma: You click on the string which you wish to tune on the app and you can hear it being played through the app.

Emma: So the app has picked up I need to make it a bit higher.

Sameena: OK

Emma: So now it's detected it as OK.

Sameena: Excellent, well can I have a go please?

Emma: Yeah that's fine

Sameena: I probably won't need an app because I'm quite good with musical instruments but do you want to press tune and see how it goes?

Sameena: What?! It's saying it's too high?! Oh, I suppose I'll need to use the app.