React Native

Building native mobile apps using ReactJS
What is React Native?

• JavaScript framework for writing real, natively rendering mobile applications for iOS and Android

• Created (2015) & maintained by Facebook

• Put simply, JUST JAVASCRIPT. Allows for quick development & hot-reloading.

• Gives you the ability to publish one code base to both Apple Store & Google Play Store. If necessary, native code after compilation from JavaScript can be edited for platform-specific features.
Next Jump

• Started as a coupon book business
• Transitioned to e-commerce platform now serving 70% of Fortune 1000 companies
• Have always been big on corporate culture
• Overall mission is to help other organizations reform their cultures, creating:
  • More productive teams
  • Safer & more open environments
  • Happier employees
How Next Jump Uses React Native

• Always used internal web tools to help facilitate culture initiatives
  • Fitness Portal, Evals System, Recognition
• Smartphones became more powerful, decided to start transitioning internal web tools
• Starting using Ionic at the end of 2016
  • Pro: convenient (can also generate web app)
  • Con: slow, clunky compilation & development
  • (also recently released a React version of their framework: https://ionicframework.com/docs/react)
Workshop

• Will be leveraging Expo (expo.io)
• Handles things like push notifications & build flows
• Exposes a set of APIs to access device features like camera, file system etc.
• Can be removed from a project at any time
• Mostly using it today to get around unique environmental differences (just publish to your phone)
Takeaways

• Lots of similarities between React/React Native
• Similar to React, implementations can be subjective
• Styling: dimensions are unitless, represent density-independent pixels (can lead to lots of guessing)
Resources

• RN docs
  https://facebook.github.io/react-native/

• RN Navigation
  https://reactnavigation.org/docs/intro/

• Flexbox game
  https://flexboxfroggy.com/

• Ignite Boilerplate (we use at Next Jump)
  https://github.com/infinitered/ignite

• Ready-to-use components
  https://www.awesome-react-native.com