

English

Curious Apps

What is the purpose?

1. Have a look at the list of Apps below. What do you think they do?

- Die with me
- Funny dumb questions & Beyond
- Yuka
- Is it dark outside?
- Too good To Go

2. Pick one of them, do some research and present this App to the class.

- What does the app do?
- Is it brilliant or ridiculous?
- Would you use it and why (or why not)

3. There is an App called **RunPee**, which tells you the best time to go to the bathroom during a movie, so you don't miss the best scenes.

Pre-reading: Match the words below with the correct definition

- a. frustrating
- b. complex
- c. identify
- d. summary
- e. bonus
- f. critic
- g. disturb
- h. essential

Definitions

1. ___ a person who expresses negative opinions about something
2. ___ difficult to understand or complicated
3. ___ very important or necessary
4. ___ to recognize or find something
5. ___ extra; additional
6. ___ to interrupt or bother someone
7. ___ a short explanation of the main points
8. ___ causing annoyance or disappointment

Reading part

The App That Tells You When to Go: RunPee

Have you ever gone to the cinema and suddenly needed to use the bathroom during the most exciting part of the film? Many people have experienced this uncomfortable situation. Missing an important scene can be frustrating, especially if the movie has a complex story. This common problem inspired the creation of RunPee, an unusual but surprisingly useful app.

RunPee was created by Dan Gardner in the United States. The idea came from his wife, who often needed bathroom breaks during long films. Instead of missing key moments, Gardner decided to develop an app that tells users the best time to leave their seat. The app identifies short scenes in a movie that are less important to the overall story. These moments are called "Pee Times."

Before watching a film, users open the app and select the movie they are about to see. The app tells them approximately when a less important scene will happen. It even provides a short summary of what happens during that moment, so viewers can quickly read what they missed when they return. This means they can enjoy the film without worrying about losing important information.

RunPee also includes extra features. For example, it warns users if there are additional scenes after the end credits. Many modern films include bonus scenes, and some viewers do not want to miss them. The app also allows users to rate movies and see other people's opinions.

Although the idea may sound funny, RunPee solves a real problem. Cinema tickets are expensive, and people want to enjoy the full experience. The app shows how technology can offer practical solutions to small but annoying everyday issues.

However, some critics argue that using a phone during a film can disturb other viewers. For this reason, the app suggests dimming the screen brightness to avoid distracting others.

In the end, RunPee is an example of how a simple idea can become a successful digital tool. It may seem unnecessary at first, but for many movie lovers, it has become an essential companion at the cinema.

Comprehension Questions

1. Why was RunPee created?
2. What are “Pee Times”?
3. How does the app help users after they return to their seat?
4. What additional feature does the app offer about end credits?
5. What criticism do some people have about the app?

4. Choose a movie and complete the table as per the example below.

Example:

Movie	ZOOTOPIA 2			
Run time	1 hr 47 minutes			
Number of pee times	3			
	Time	Length	Run Pee When	About
Pee time 1 of 3	18m 15	3m25	Nick says '...in fancy town, a fox and a bunny won't exactly blend in.'	There is a song/ concert, but you see it again at the credits
Pee time 2 of 3	50m 25	3m20	The old goat says ' have fun at the <i>'Honeymoon Lodge'</i>	Judy and Nick argue, but there is no action until after the pee time
Pee time 3 of 3	1h 06m 05	3m35	The daughter lynx says 'I found him'	One long scene that is easy to summarise.

Your turn:

Movie				
Run time				
Number of pee times				
	Time	Length	Run Pee When	About
Pee time 1 of __				
Pee time 2 of __				
Pee time 3 of __				
Pee time 4 of __				

5. Design Your Own App

In groups, invent an *app idea*, complete the App idea planner below and pitch it to the class.

Following prompts might help getting creative

- What small daily problem annoys you?
- What wastes your time?
- What do people often complain about?
- What do people forget to do?
- Food waste
- Work-life balance
- Urban safety
- Public transport confusion
- Language barriers
- Time management

APP IDEA PLANNER

Section	Your ideas
App name	
Slogan	
Target users	
Main function (What does it do?)	
How does it work? (Step by step)	

6. Extra task

Once you created you own App and completed the App Idea Planner, visit the following website:

[Base44](#)

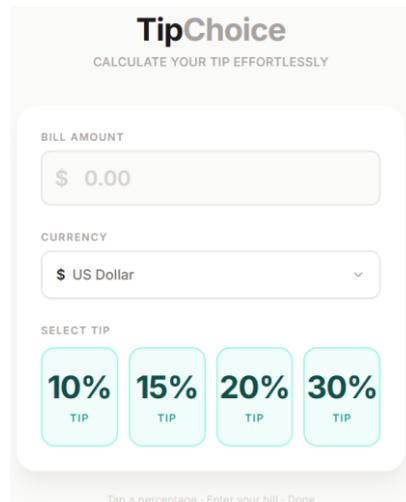
Base44 is an AI tool that lets you build apps without coding. You just type what you want in normal language, like you're chatting, and the AI creates the app for you. You can publish your App on the web for free.



Think of the right wording to prompt the Base44 AI tool to build your App idea. Enjoy.

Example:

TipChoice



<https://tip-easy-go.base44.app/>

This lesson was partly drafted with the support of AI