

What is a Hackathon?

Despite what it sounds like, a Hackathon is not about hacking! Instead, it is a fun team learning event where developers come together to collaborate and create a solution to a problem using technology.

A DevKit Hackathon allows students to compete against other students across the state of Florida to build the coolest mobile apps and games that they can think of with DevKit.

A DevKit Hackathon is a perfect opportunity for your school to showcase the creative talents of your students to the world, and to let everyone know that you have some of the most creative young app developers out there.

DevKit experts will come to your school, teach your students how to use DevKit and get them started on building their ideas. At the end of the Hackathon, the best apps will be published in the iOS App Store by Vybe Software for free.

The best part? DevKit Hackathons are 100 percent free for schools!

Hosting a DevKit Hackathon at your school

- DevKit Hackathons are 100 percent free for schools. All that is needed is a classroom and access to iPads or iOS devices.
- A typical Hackathon involves several two-hour sessions spread over three to four days. The more time that your students have to practice using the app, the better their creations will be.
- Your Hackathon can involve one group of students or multiple sessions with different student groups. Sessions can be organized back-to-back or simultaneously.
- DevKit is currently an Apple-only development

program. Students will need access to an iPad or another iOS device in order to participate.

Get started

at your school!

For more information on how to host a free DevKit Hackathon at your school, visit DevKitApp.com/Hackathon.

Activity Hacking

According to many popular movies and television shows, hackers are criminals who gain unauthorized access to computer systems for malicious reasons.

However, many computer professionals and enthusiasts object to the use of the word "hacker" in this context. In their view, a hacker is simply someone who enjoys figuring out new and innovative uses for technology. The bad guys are known as black hat hackers.

Ethical hackers, also known as white hat hackers, often are employed as cybersecurity professionals who try to identify and patch any security weaknesses in computer systems before unauthorized users are able to gain access.

Watch the short Nova Cybersecurity Lab video "The Secret Lives of Hackers" at mass.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/nvcy-scislhackers/the-secret-lives-of-hackers. In small groups, discuss the following questions:

- What is hacking?
- Name some examples of hacks outside of computing.
- What are some reasons that people hack computers?
- How can hackers protect people from exposing personal information?