

Comp 322/422 - Software Development for Wireless and Mobile Devices

Fall Semester 2019 - Week 12

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React Native - component usage

lists - FlatList

- React Native provides suggested view components for lists
 - *two primary examples include FlatList and SectionList*
- FlatList is meant to be used for long lists of data
 - *in particular where data items may change during the lifecycle of an app*
- FlatList will only render elements currently shown on screen
 - *not all of the available elements at the same time*

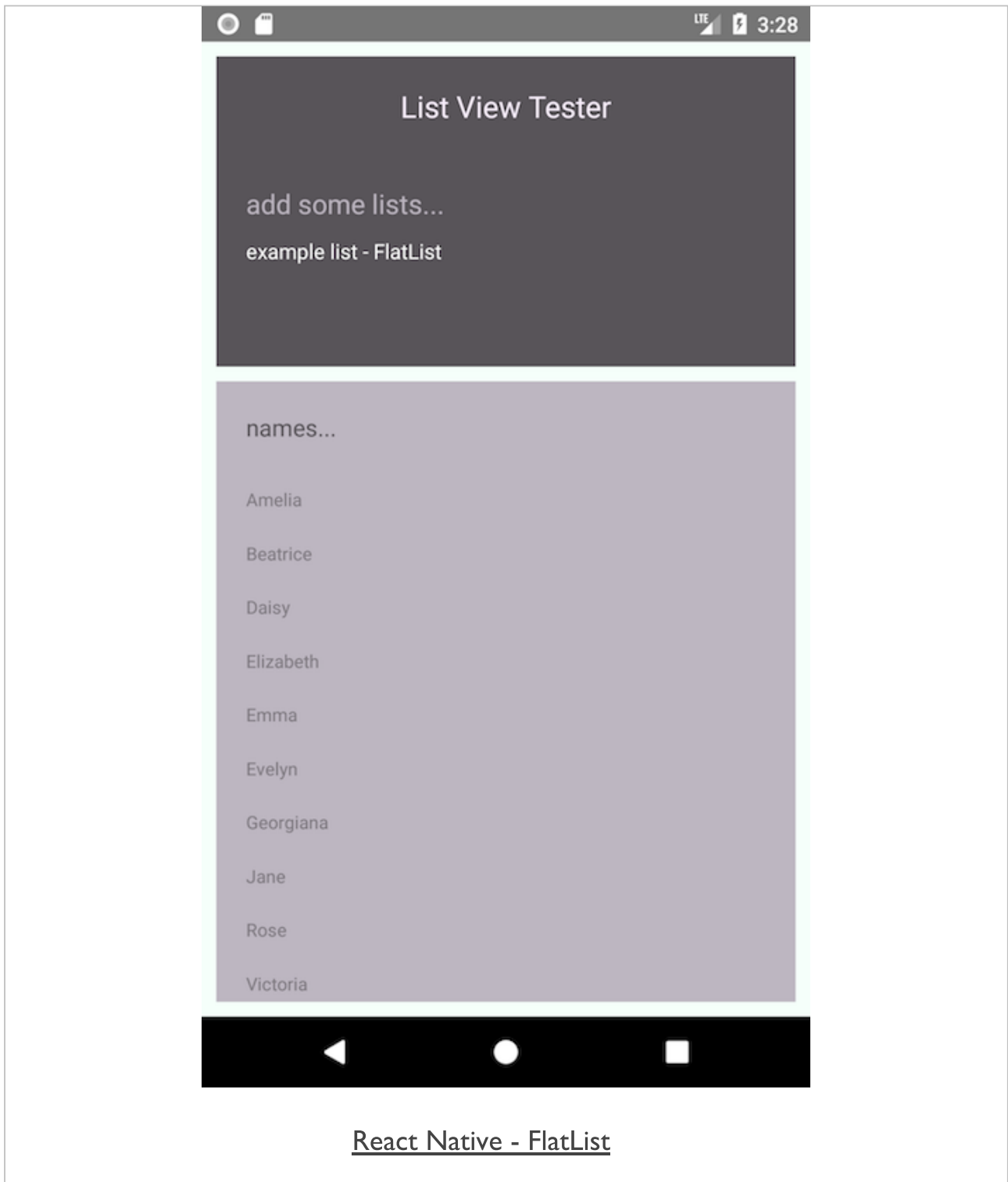
```
<FlatList
  data={[
    {key: 'Amelia'},
    {key: 'Beatrice'},
    {key: 'Daisy'},
  ]
}
  renderItem={({item}) => <Text style={styles.listItem}>{item.key}</Text>
/>
```

- component expects two *props*
 - *data for the list itself*
 - *renderItem to define the output structure for each list item*

```
renderItem={() => <Text></Text>}
```

Image - React Native - Component Usage

lists - FlatList



React Native - component usage

lists - SectionList

- may also create section breaks in a list of data. e.g.

```
<SectionList
  sections={[
    {title: 'a', data:[{key: 1, name: 'Amelia'}]},
    {title: 'b', data:[{key: 1, name: 'Beatrice'}]},
    {title: 'c', data: [{key: 1, name: 'Daisy'}, {key: 2, name: 'Devon'}]},
    {title: 'e', data: [{key: 1, name: 'Elizabeth'}, {key: 2, name: 'Emma'}},
    {title: 'g', data:[{key: 1, name: 'Georgiana'}]},
    {title: 'j', data:[{key: 1, name: 'Jane'}]},
    {title: 'r', data:[{key: 1, name: 'Rose'}]},
    {title: 'v', data: [{key: 1, name: 'Victoria'}, {key: 2, name: 'Violet'}]},
    {title: 'y', data:[{key: 1, name: 'Yvaine'}]},
  ]}
  //keyExtractor={item => item}
  renderItem={({item}) => <Text style={styles.listItem}>{item.key} - {item.name}<
  renderSectionHeader={({section}) => <Text style={styles.heading4}>{section.titl
/>
```

Image - React Native - Component Usage

lists - SectionList - top

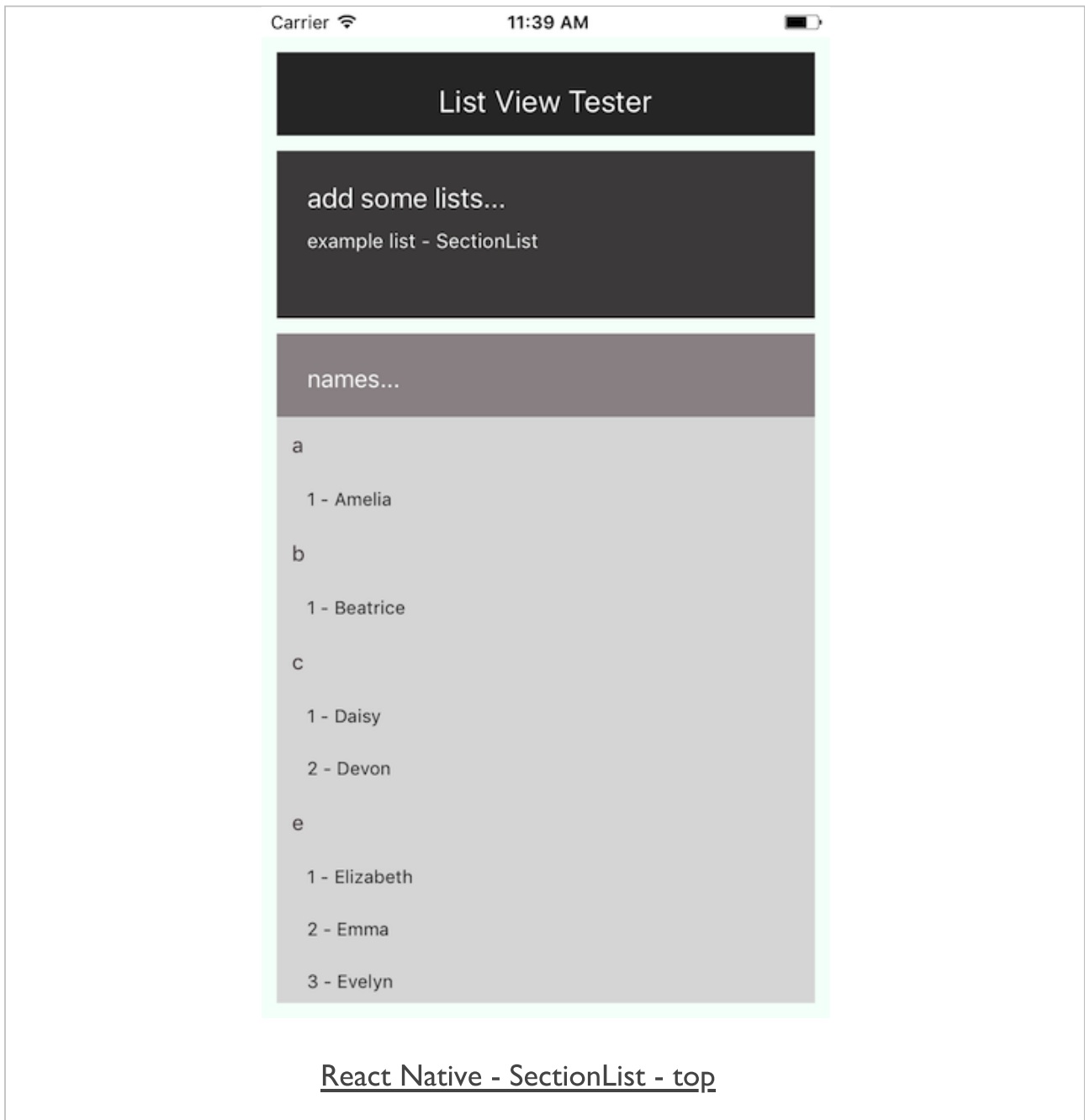
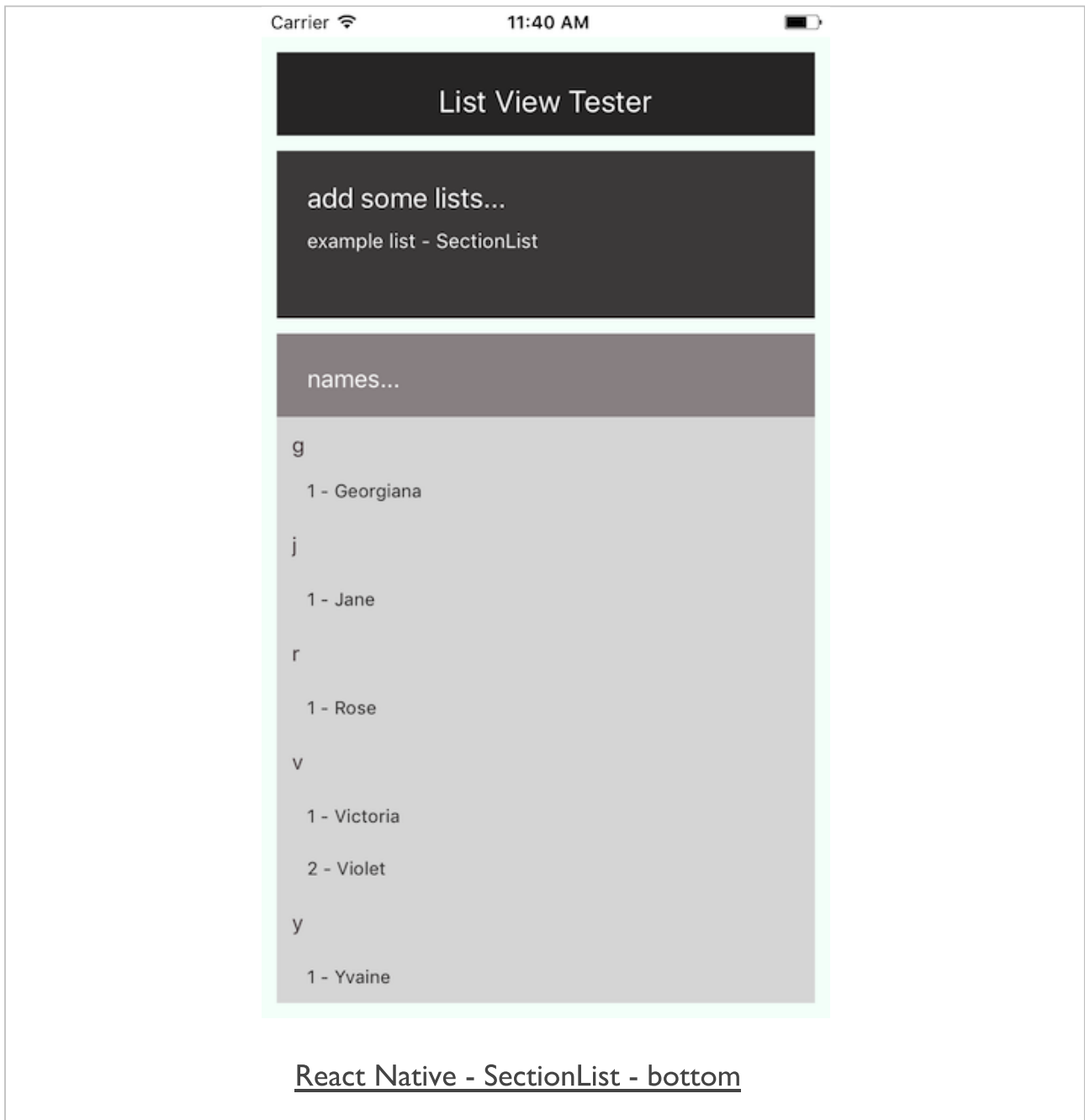


Image - React Native - Component Usage

lists - SectionList - bottom



React Native - component usage

ScrollView

- scrolling in React Native apps is achieved with a generic scrolling container
 - *ScrollView*
- specific view container can itself accept multiple child components and views
- scrollview container option to specify direction
 - *either horizontal or vertical*
- general usage
 - *add a ScrollView using the same general pattern as a standard View component*
 - *return a ScrollView as either the primary container for a component*
 - *or a child of a standard View*
 - *an app's screen may either scroll top to bottom*
 - *or simply present a component with scroll features*

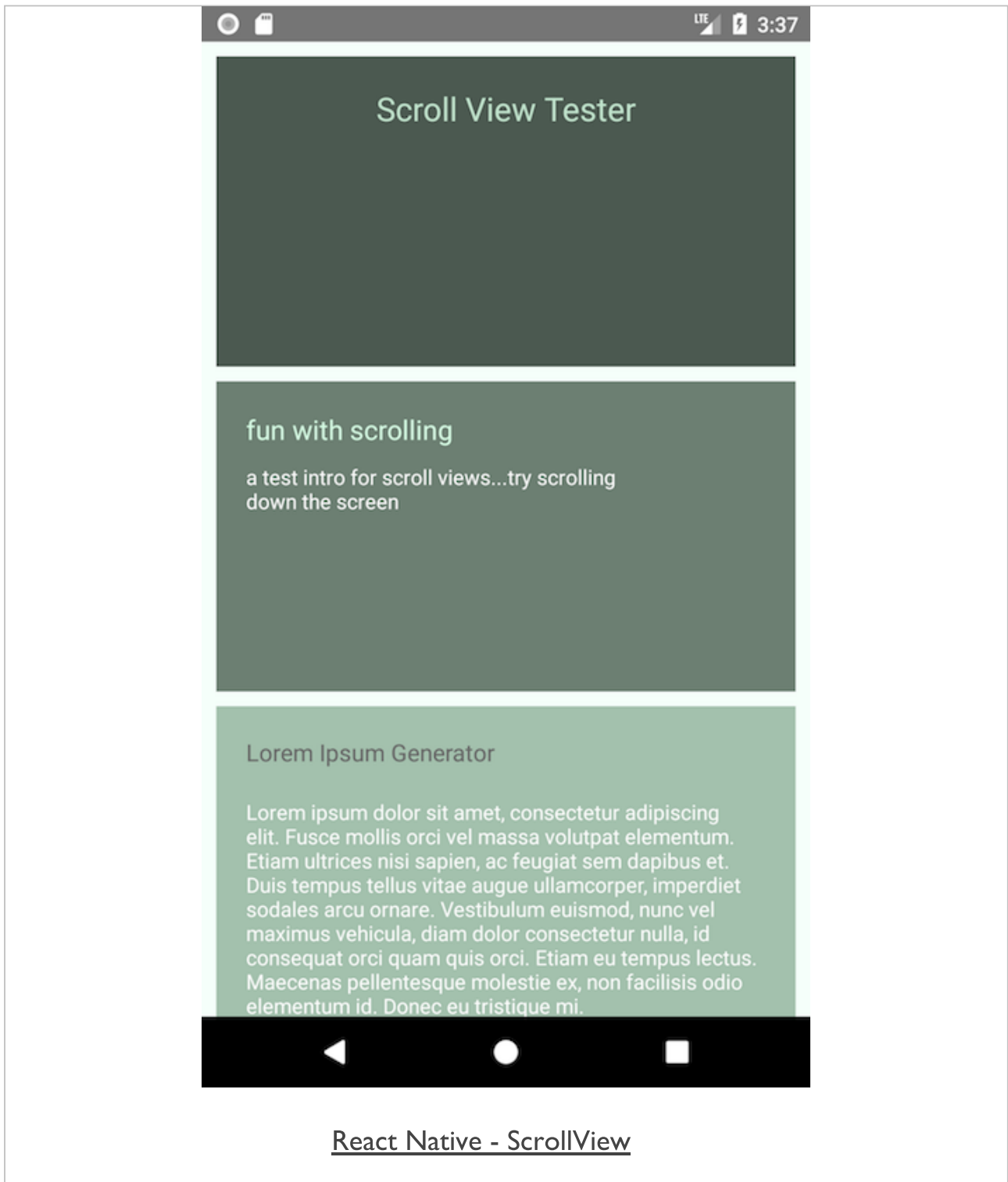
React Native - component usage

ScrollView - example

```
export default class ScrollTester extends Component {
  render() {
    return (
      <View style={styles.container}>
        <View style={styles.headingBox}>
          <Text style={styles.heading1}>
            Scroll View Tester
          </Text>
        </View>
        <View style={styles.subHeadingBox}>
          <Text style={styles.heading2}>
            {intro.heading}
          </Text>
          <Text style={styles.content}>
            {intro.description}
          </Text>
        </View>
        <ScrollView>
          <View style={styles.contentBox}>
            <Text style={styles.heading3}>
              Lorem Ipsum Generator
            </Text>
            <Text style={styles.content}>
              ...
            </Text>
          </View>
        </ScrollView>
      </View>
    );
  }
}
```


Image - React Native - Component Usage

lists - ScrollView



React Native - Component usage

text input

- a default component to handle user text input
- component `TextInput` is similar to a standard input field
 - *allowing a user to simply enter any required text content*
- to use `TextInput` with an app
 - *need to add the default module from React Native*
 - *add as part of the standard `import` statement*
- `TextInput` component includes a useful *prop*, `onChangeText`
 - *accepts callback function for each time text is changed in input field*
- also includes a complementary *prop*, `onSubmitEditing`
 - *handles text as it is submitted*
 - *again using a defined callback function*

React Native - Component usage

text input - props usage

- might accept user text input for a given value
 - *such as a name, place, &c.*
- then dynamically update the view
- e.g.

```
<TextInput
  style={styles.textInput}
  placeholder={this.state.quoteInput}
  onChangeText={({quoteText}) => this.setState({quoteText})}
/>
```

React Native - Component usage

text input - props and state

- example relies upon calling and setting state for the app
 - *relative to `TextInput` and various `Text` components*
- simple constructor for this app
 - *pass required `props` and define initial values for `state`*

```
export default class TextUpdater extends Component {
  constructor(props) {
    super(props);
    this.state = {
      quoteInput: 'enter a favourite quotation...',
      quoteText: 'the unexamined life is not worth living...'
    };
  }
}
```

- then use the properties on state
 - *to set initial values for the text input field and the text output,*

```
<TextInput
  style={styles.textInput}
  placeholder={this.state.quoteInput}
  onChangeText={({quoteText}) => this.setState({quoteText})}
/>
```

```
<Text style={styles.content}>
  {this.state.quoteText}
</Text>
```

Image - React Native - Component Usage

text input

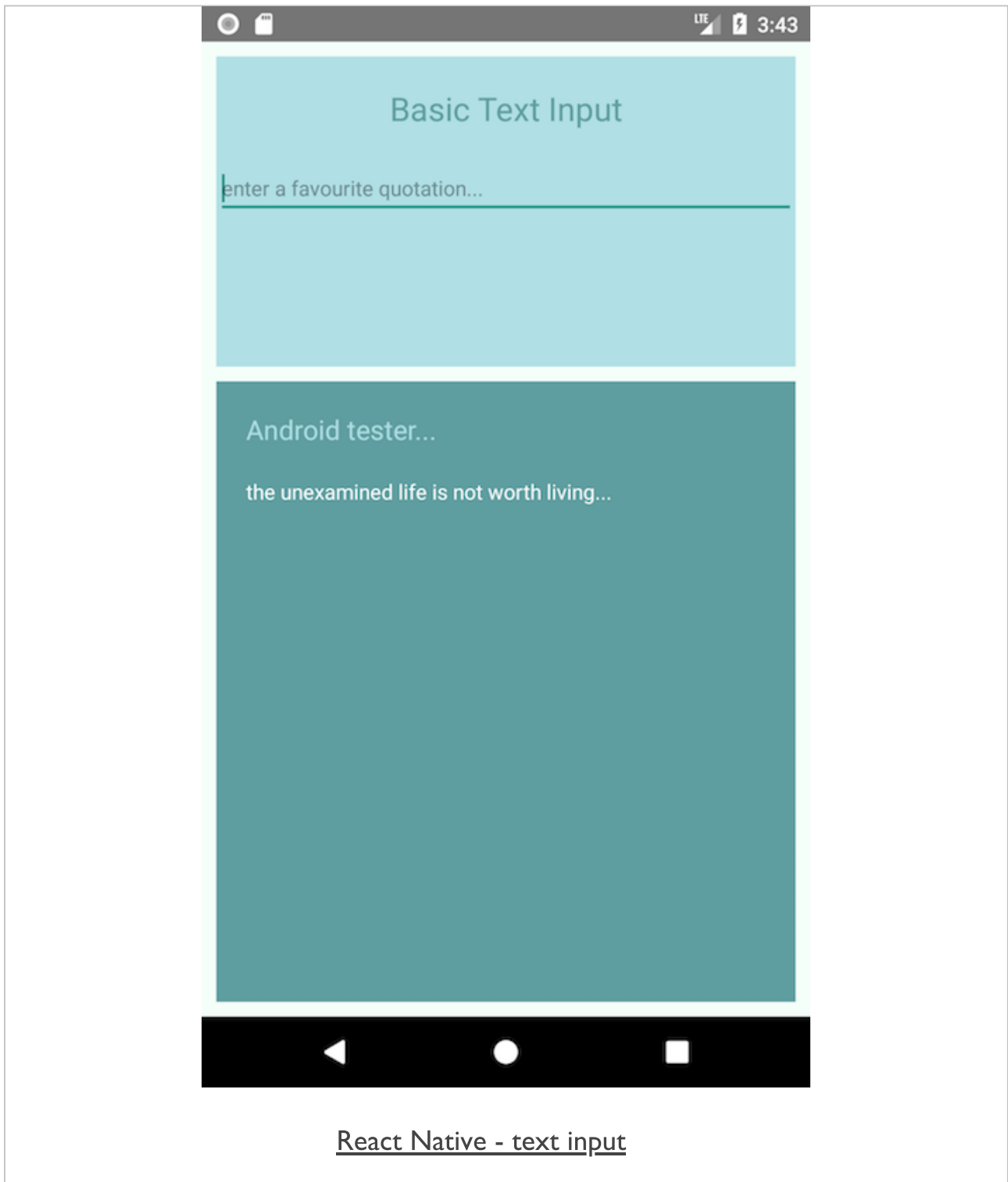
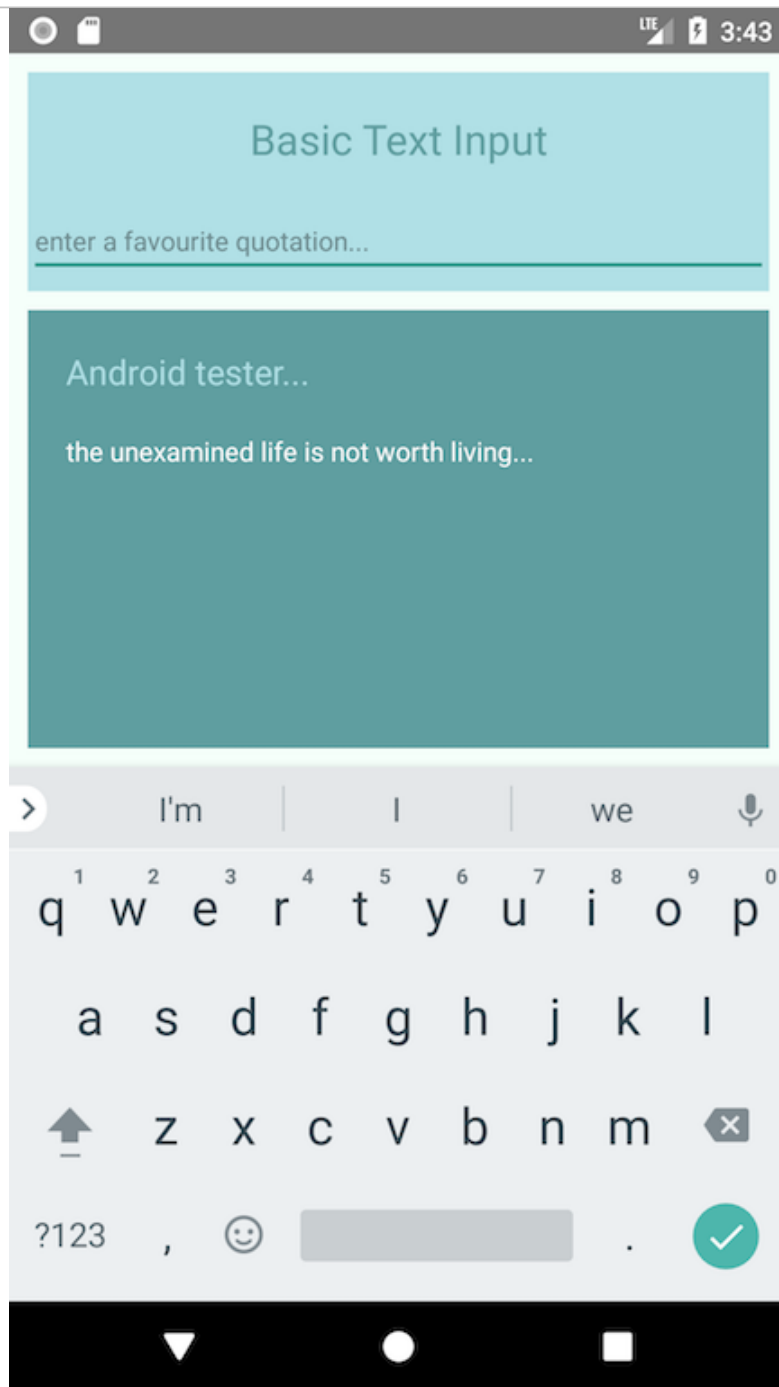


Image - React Native - Component Usage

text input



React Native - text input

Image - React Native - Component Usage

text input - use setNativeProps

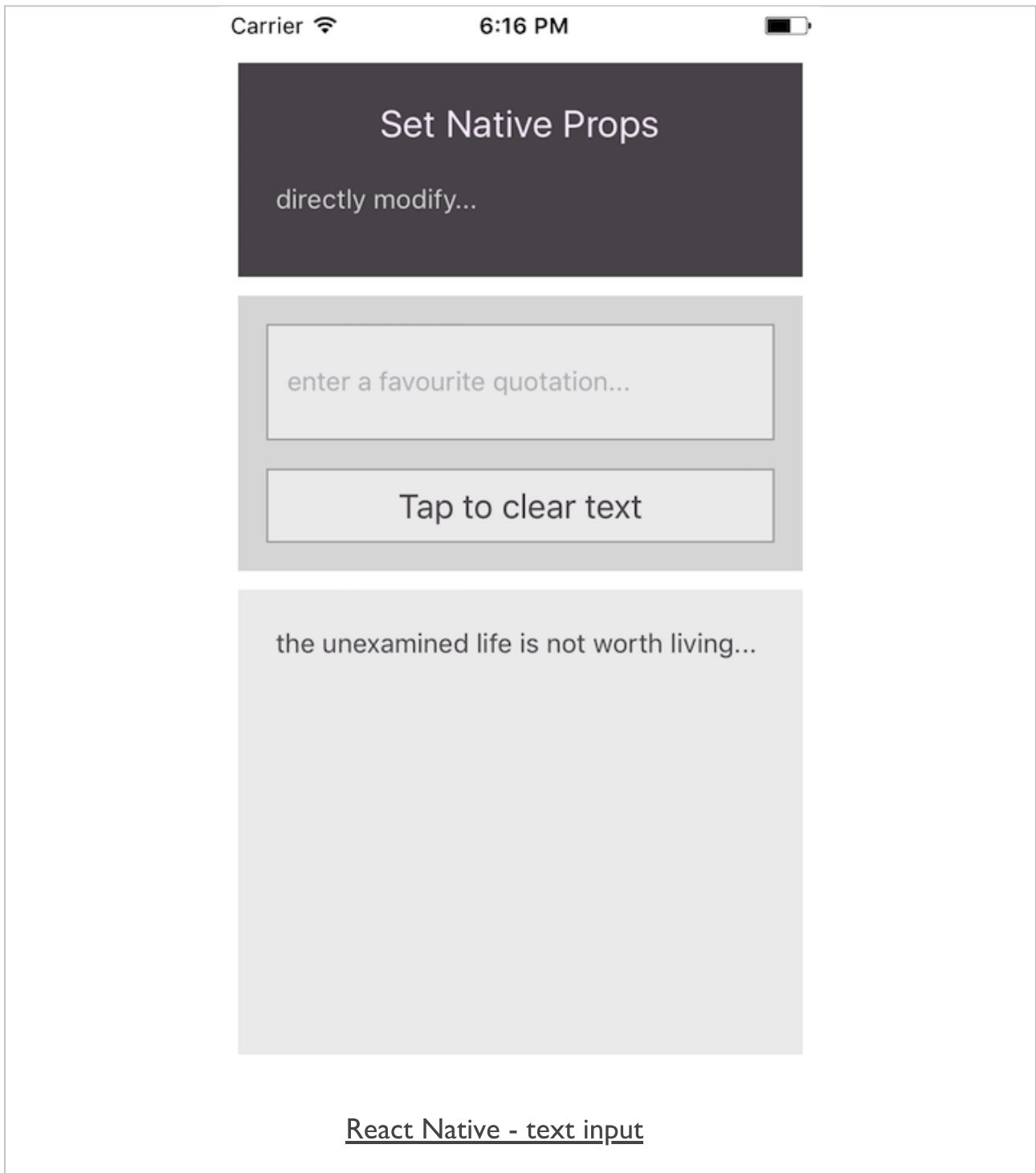
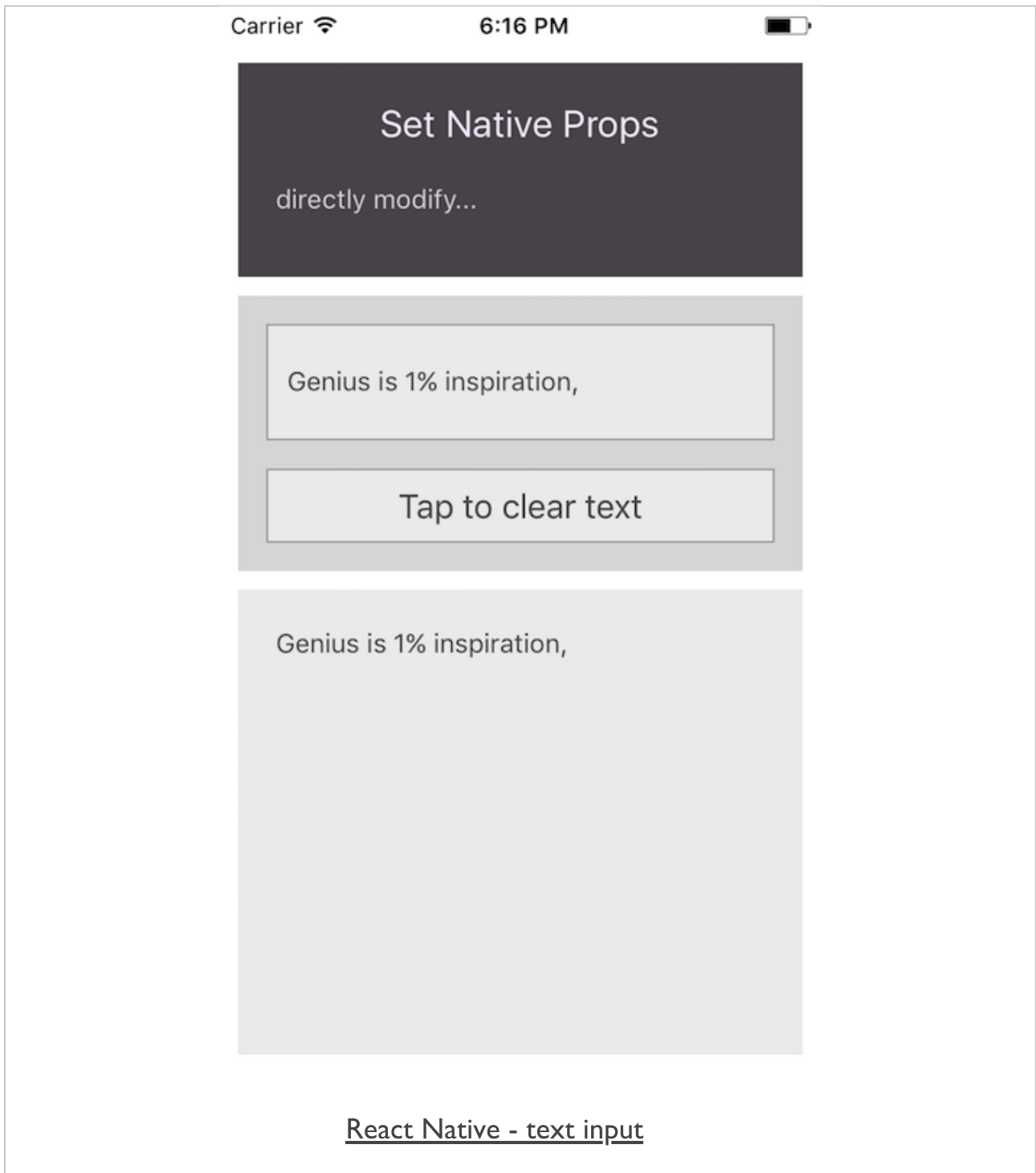


Image - React Native - Component Usage

text input - use setNativeProps



React Native - component usage

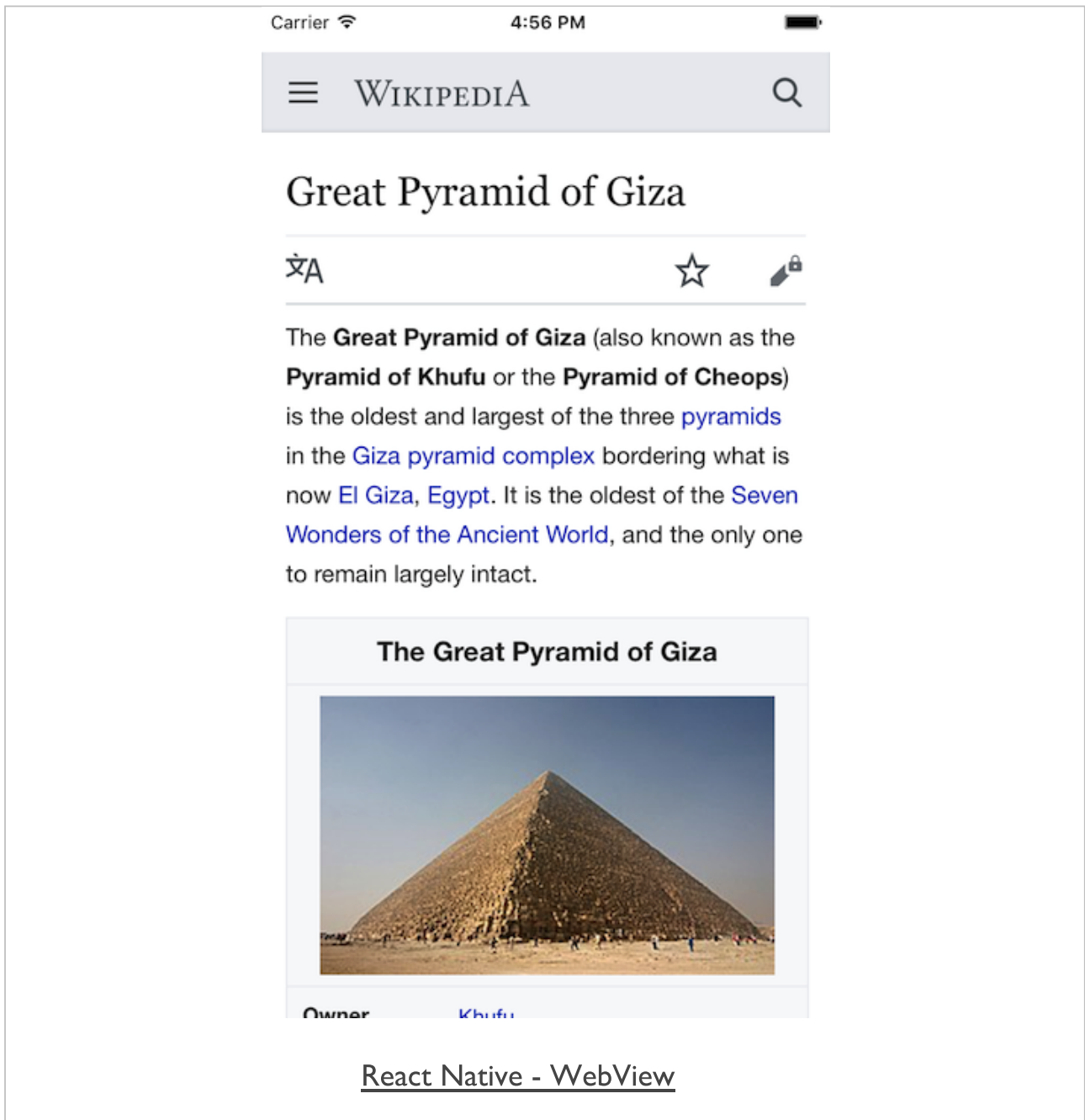
embed web content

- React Native offers a component solution for embedding web content
 - *embedded directly in a WebView*
 - *as a child to an existing view &c.*
- similar functionality to native WebView modules
- `WebView` component provides developers with a variety of props
 - *to help manipulate and structure a rendered web page*
- also use various available callbacks
 - *provide an option to register to specific events*
 - *e.g. error handling, message responses, navigation state change...*

```
<WebView style={styles.web}
  scalesPageToFit
  automaticallyAdjustContentInsets
  source={{
    uri: 'https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Pyramid_of_Giza'
  }} />
```

Image - React Native - Component Usage

WebView - load external page &c.



React Native - component usage

iOS - SegmentedControlIOS

- some components in React Native may be specific to a given mobile OS
 - e.g. *Segmented Control* component is specific to iOS
- offers a simple split option to switch between two groupings of content
- e.g. we might use this component as follows

```
<SegmentedControlIOS
  values={['Giza', 'Luxor']}
  selectedIndex={this.state.selectedIndex}
  onChange={(event) => {
    this.setState({selectedIndex: event.nativeEvent.selectedSegmentIndex});
  }}
/>
```

- instead of passing expected `onValueChange` props
 - we can pass a callback prop for `onChange`
- prop will receive an event argument
 - e.g. from `nativeEvent` as shown in this example
- also abstract this usage to pass in required values for each segment

Mobile Design & Development - More UI Components & Usage

Fun Exercise

Four groups, two apps

- Music - <http://linode4.cs.luc.edu/teaching/cs/demos/422/gifs/music/>
- Travel Booking - <http://linode4.cs.luc.edu/teaching/cs/demos/422/gifs/travelbooking/>

For each app, consider the following

- define UI components for the app?
- how is the app using lists for various views?
- how is the app combining multiple components to create the required UI layout?
 - e.g. *various list views, scrolling, text input &c.*
- how are the UI components defining UX for the app?

~ 10 minutes

Cordova & React Native - Data

intro

- already seen data examples for Cordova
 - *including IndexedDB, Native Storage, various APIs...*
- React Native equally capable of accessing data stores
 - *a popular option for object based data storage is Firebase*
- useful to understand how React Native works
 - *with remote queries, fetching data, and authentication...*
- setup and add our own login and authentication for an app
- leverage an existing social provider
 - *e.g. Facebook, GitHub, Google, Microsoft, Twitter...*
- similar patterns and usage to web apps

Cordova & React Native - Data - Firebase

NoSQL options

- other data store and management options now available to us as developers
- depending upon app requirements consider
 - *Firebase*
 - *RethinkDB*
 - *AWS - including Amplify*
 - *MongoDB, Redis...*
- as a data store, Firebase offers a hosted NoSQL database
 - *data store is JSON-based*
 - *offering quick, easy development from webview to data store*
- syncs an app's data across multiple connected devices in milliseconds
 - *available for offline usage as well*
- provides an API for accessing these JSON data stores
 - *real-time for all connected users*
- Firebase as a hosted option more than just data stores and real-time API access
- Firebase has grown a lot over the last year
 - *many new features announced at Google I/O conference in May 2016*
 - *analytics, cloud-based messaging, app authentication*
 - *file storage, test options for Android*
 - *notifications, adverts...*

Cordova & React Native - Data - Firebase

Firestore - intro

- Cordova & React Native do not limit data stores or queries to just Firestore
- Firestore is hosted platform, acquired by Google
 - *provides options for data storage, authentication, real-time database querying...*
- it provides an API for data access
 - *access and query JavaScript object data stores*
 - *query in real-time*
 - *listeners available for all connected apps and users*
 - *synchronisation in milliseconds for most updates...*
 - *notifications*

Cordova & React Native - Data - Firebase

Firestore - Authentication

- **authentication** with Firestore provides various backend services and SDKs
 - *help developers manage authentication for an app*
 - *service supports many different providers, including Facebook, Google, Twitter &c.*
 - *using industry standard **OAuth 2.0** and **OpenID Connect** protocols*
- custom solutions also available per app
 - *email*
 - *telephone*
 - *messaging*
 - *...*

Cordova & React Native - Data - Firebase

Firestore - Cloud Storage

- **Cloud Storage** used for uploading, storing, downloading files
 - *accessed by apps for file storage and usage...*
 - *features a useful safety check if and when a user's connection is broken or lost*
 - *files are usually stored in a Google Cloud Storage bucket*
 - *files accessible using either Firebase or Google Cloud*
 - *consider using Google Cloud platform for image filtering, processing, video editing...*
 - *modified files may then become available to Firebase again, and connected apps*
 - *e.g. Google's Cloud Platform*

Cordova & React Native - Data - Firebase

Firestore - Real-time database

- **Real-time Database** offers a hosted NoSQL data store
 - *ability to quickly and easily sync data*
 - *data synchronisation is active across multiple devices, in real-time*
 - *available as and when the data is updated in the cloud database*
- other services and tools available with Firestore
 - *analytics*
 - *advertising services such as adwords*
 - *crash reporting*
 - *notifications*
 - *various testing options...*

Cordova & React Native - Data - Firebase

Firestore - basic setup

- start using Firestore by creating an account with the service
 - *using a standard Google account*
 - *Firestore*
- login to Firestore
 - *choose either Get Started material or navigate to Firestore console*
- at *Console* page, get started by creating a new project
 - *click on the option to Add project*
 - *enter the name of this new project*
 - *and select a region*
- then redirected to the *console dashboard* page for the new project
 - *access project settings, config, maintenance...*
- reference documentation for the Firestore Real-Time database,
 - <https://firebase.google.com/docs/reference/js/firebase.database>

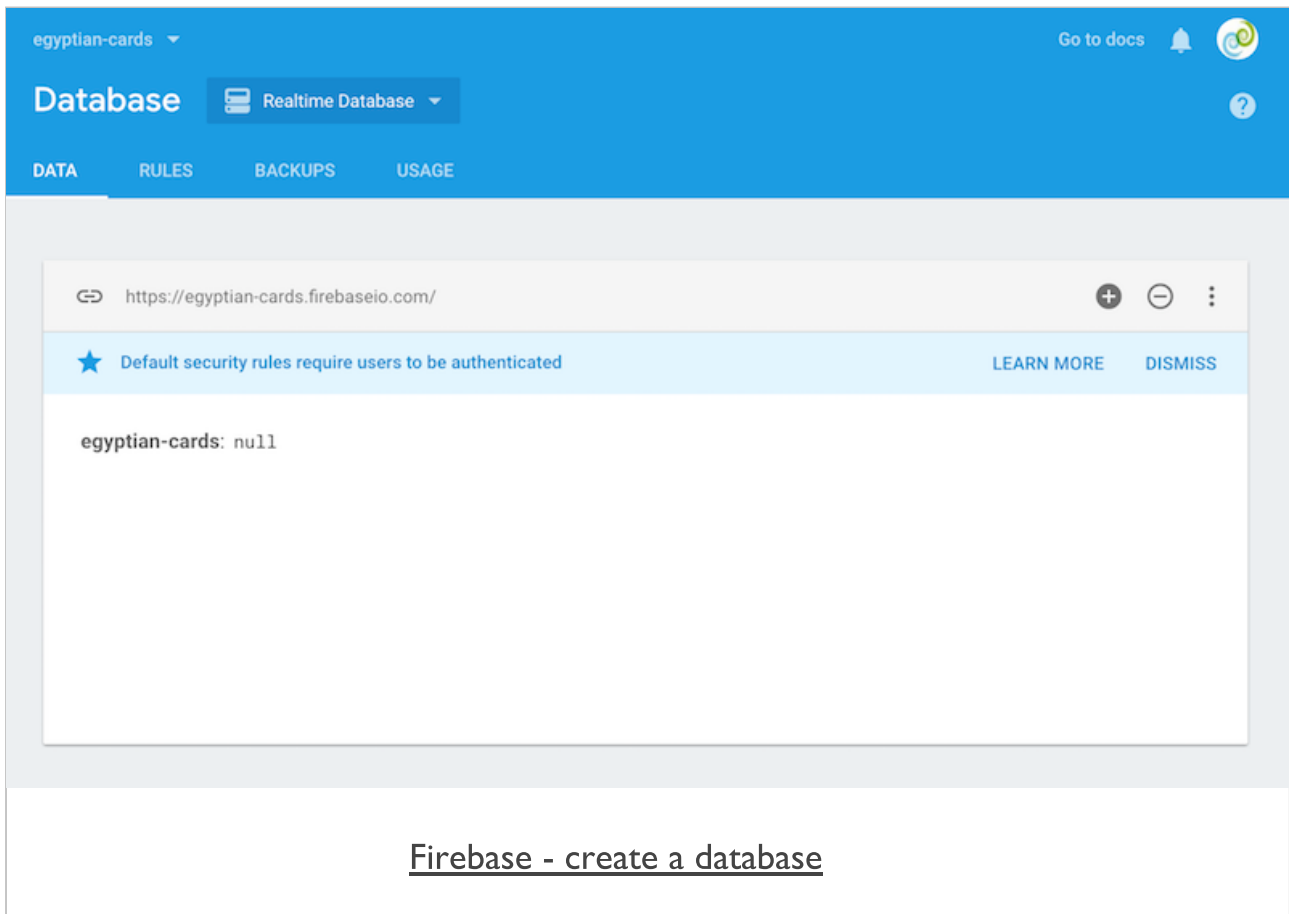
Cordova & React Native - Data - Firebase

Firestore - create real-time database

- now setup a database with Firestore for a test React Native app
- start by selecting *Database* option from left sidebar on the Console Dashboard
 - *available under the DEVELOP option*
- then select *Get Started* for the real-time database
- presents an empty database with an appropriate name to match current project
- data will be stored in a JSON format in the real-time database
- working with Firestore is usually simple and straightforward for most apps
- get started quickly direct from the Firestore console
 - *or import some existing JSON...*

Image - Firebase

create a database



Cordova & React Native - Data - Firebase

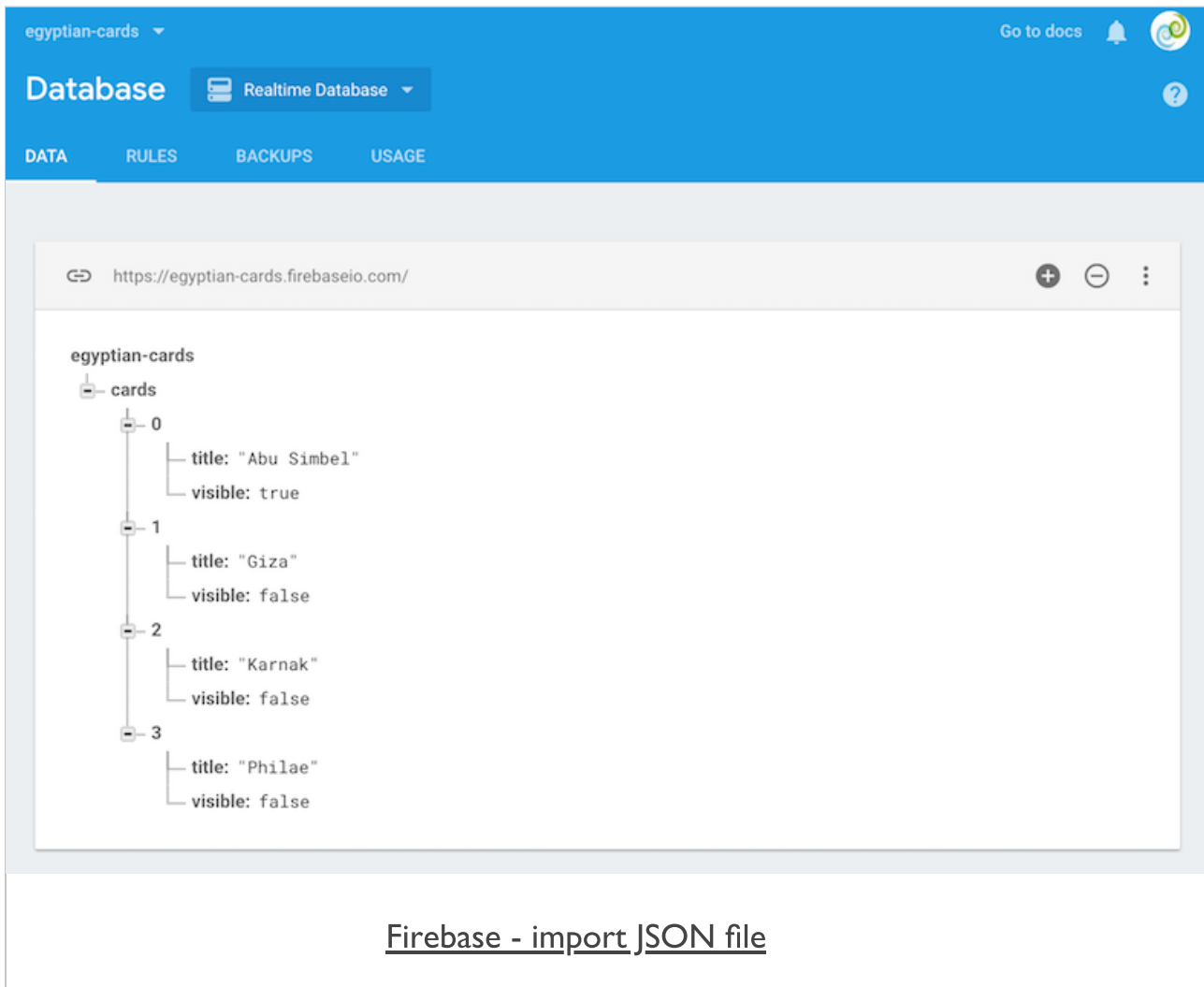
Firestore - import JSON data

- we might start with some simple data to help test Firestore
- import JSON into our test database
 - *then query the data &c. from the app*

```
{
  "cards": [
    {
      "visible": true,
      "title": "Abu Simbel",
      "card": "temple complex built by Ramesses II"
    },
    {
      "visible": false,
      "title": "Amarna",
      "card": "capital city built by Akhenaten"
    },
    {
      "visible": false,
      "title": "Giza",
      "card": "Khufu's pyramid on the Giza plateau outside Cairo"
    },
    {
      "visible": false,
      "title": "Philae",
      "card": "temple complex built during the Ptolemaic period"
    }
  ]
}
```

Image - Firebase

JSON import



The screenshot displays the Firebase Realtime Database interface for a project named 'egyptian-cards'. The 'Database' section is active, showing the 'Realtime Database' tab. The 'DATA' tab is selected, displaying a tree view of the database structure. The root node is 'egyptian-cards', which contains a child node 'cards'. The 'cards' node is expanded, showing four indexed entries (0, 1, 2, 3) with the following properties:

- 0: title: "Abu Simbel", visible: true
- 1: title: "Giza", visible: false
- 2: title: "Karnak", visible: false
- 3: title: "Philae", visible: false

Below the screenshot, the text [Firebase - import JSON file](#) is displayed.

Cordova & React Native - Data - Firebase

Firestore - permissions

- initial notification in Firebase console after creating a new database
 - *Default security rules require users to be authenticated*
- permissions with Firestore database
 - *select RULES tab for current database*
- lots of options for database rules
 - *Firestore - database rules*
- e.g. for testing initial React Native we might remove authentication rules
- change rules as follows

from

```
{
  "rules": {
    ".read": "auth != null",
    ".write": "auth != null"
  }
}
```

to

```
{
  "rules": {
    ".read": "true",
    ".write": "true"
  }
}
```


React Native - Data - Firebase

add Firebase to React Native - part I

- we can now test our new Firebase database with an app
- need to start by getting some useful information from Firebase
 - *select the Project Overview link in the left sidebar*
 - *then click on the icon for Add app*
 - *options for Android and iOS native, plus **JavaScript***
- we can take advantage of the provided JavaScript SDK with React Native
- Firebase console will show us a modal with initialisation settings
 - *config settings for adding Firebase usage to our app*

React Native - Data - Firebase

add Firebase to React Native - part 2

- start by copying these config values for use with our React Native app
- Firebase runs on a JavaScript thread
 - *certain complex applications, e.g. detailed animations &c.*
 - *may be adversely affected by this structure...*
- might consider using a community package called `react-native-Firebase`
 - *package acts as a wrapper around the Firebase SDK for Android and iOS*
 - *React Native Firebase*
- for most React Native apps we simply integrate Firebase JavaScript SDK
 - *install using NPM or Yarn*

```
npm install firebase --save
```

or

```
yarn add firebase
```

React Native - Data - Firebase

add Firebase to React Native - part 3

- after installing Firebase support for our app
 - *add a new file, `firebase.js`, to a `services` folder in the `src` directory*
- `firebase.js` - specify an initialisation function for working with Firebase services
- working with the initialisation config data provided by Firebase
 - *for the JavaScript SDK for our app*
- need to import the firebase module
 - *then setup a function to handle the initialisation config*

```
import * as firebase from "firebase";

export const initialize = () => firebase.initializeApp({
  apiKey: "__your-api-key__",
  authDomain: "egyptian-cards.firebaseio.com",
  databaseURL: "https://egyptian-cards.firebaseio.com",
  projectId: "egyptian-cards",
  storageBucket: "egyptian-cards.appspot.com",
  messagingSenderId: "__your-sender-id__"
})
```

React Native - Data - Firebase

add Firebase to React Native - part 4

- need to export the `initialize` function from `firebase.js`
 - *use in a central config file for API usage*
- create a new file for API config management in the `src/services` directory
- config file helps manage multiple services and APIs within a project's structure
- import the `initialize` function for Firebase

```
import { initialize } from './firebase';
```

- then export the functionality for Firebase

```
export const initApi = () => initialize();
```

React Native - Data - Firebase

add Firebase to React Native - part 5

- need to setup Firebase usage in our application root, `App.js`
- use the `componentDidMount` lifecycle hook to call the `initApi()` function
- ensure Firebase is ready and available for our app

```
export default class extends Component {
  componentDidMount() {
    initApi();
  }

  render() {
    return (
      ...
    )
  }
}
```

React Native - Data - Firebase

add Firebase to React Native - part 6

- after setup and initialisation, we can start to consider working with our Firebase database
- benefits of Firebase is that the SDK allows our apps and database to be in sync
 - *as and when updates are registered*
- we need to setup database listeners to ensure the state of our app is updated
 - *whenever a database is modified on Firebase...*
- add such listeners to our `firebase.js` file

```
// setup listener for firebase updates
export const setListener = (endpoint, updaterFn) => {
  firebase.database().ref(endpoint).on('value', updaterFn);
  return () => firebase.database().ref(endpoint).off();
}
```

- using this function to perform two key tasks
- after passing arguments for `endpoint` and `updateFn`
 - *get reference to endpoint for our Firebase database*

```
firebase.database().ref(endpoint)
```

- we can send other required endpoints for our app and Firebase database
 - *such as cards in our current example*
- then call the `on()` function allowing us to pass `updateFn`
 - *passed as we call the `setListener` function in our app*
- then return a function to allow us to remove the attached listener later in our app

React Native - Data - Firebase

add Firebase to React Native - part 7

- start to use such listeners and functionality in our app
- create a `getCards()` function in `api.js` file
 - use the `setListener` we created in `firebase.js`

```
// get cards from current firebase database
export const getCards = (updaterFn) => setListener('cards', updaterFn);
```

- then import this function for a given screen in our app, such as the Card screen,

```
import { getCards } from '../services/api';
```

- then set our state to use this function, and the cards from the database

```
componentDidMount() {
  this.unsubscribeGetCards = getCards((snapshot) => {
    this.setState({
      messages: Object.values(snapshot.val())
    })
  })
}
```


React Native - Data - Firebase

add Firebase to React Native - part 8

- in `componentDidMount()` lifecycle hook
 - use `Object.values` on `Firebase snapshot.val()`
 - `FlatList` component we're using for rendering expects an array
 - `Firebase` returns an object for the values
- `getCards` is calling `setListener`
 - returns a function for a remove listener

```
firebase.database().ref(endpoint).off();
```

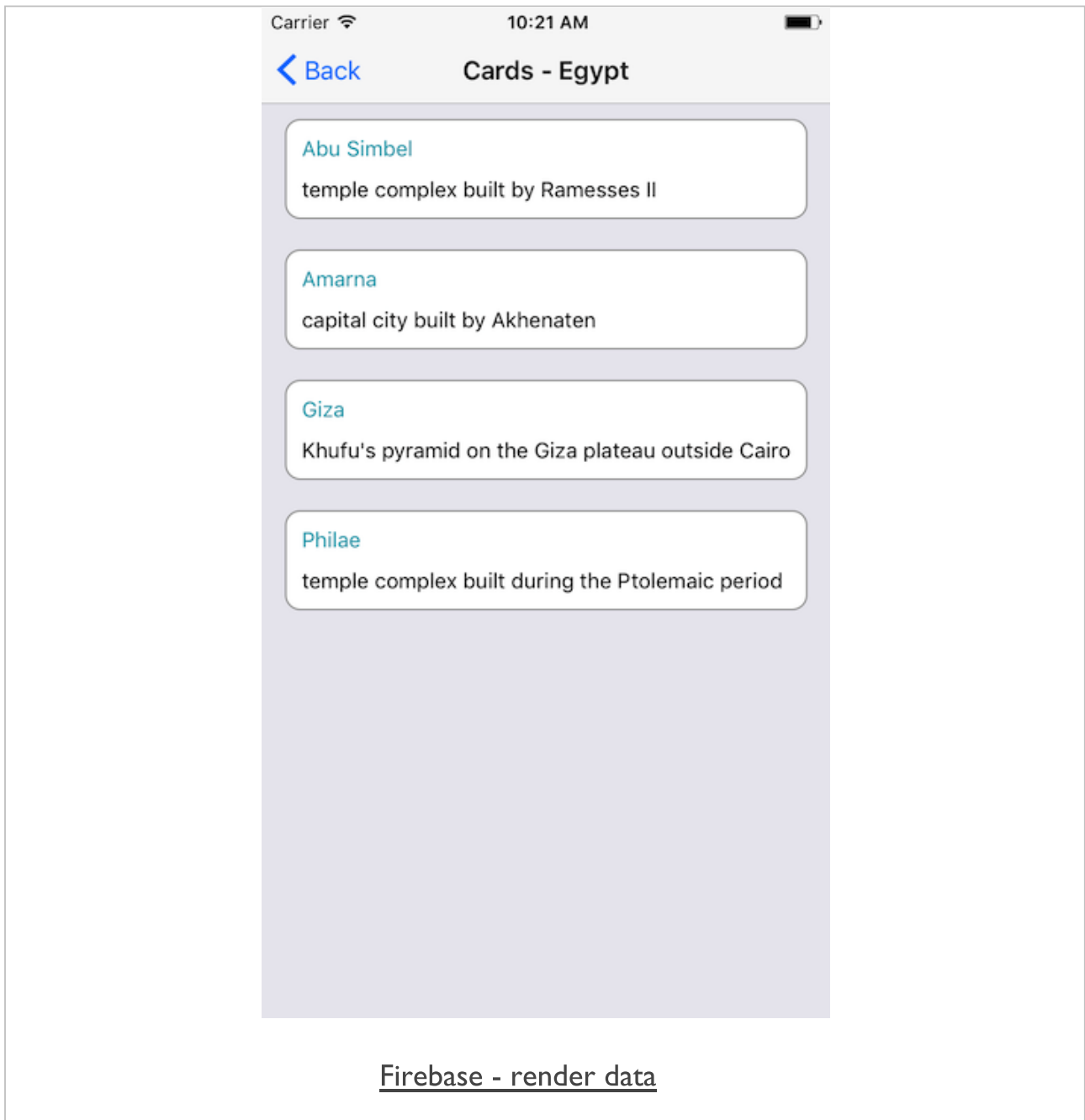
- set the result for `getCards` to `this.unsubscribeGetCards`
- then later call it as necessary in the lifecycle hook for `componentWillUnmount`
- might also add a single call, instead of constantly checking for updates

```
firebase.database().ref(endpoint).once('value')
```

- returns a *promise*
 - we can use in a standard manner, or chain with `then()`...

Image - Firebase

render data from database



Cordova & React Native - Data - Firebase

add data with plain JS objects

- plain objects as standard Firebase storage
 - *helps with data updating*
 - *helps with auto-increment pushes of data...*

```
{
  "egypt": {
    "code": "eg",
    "ancient_sites": {
      "abu_simbel": {
        "title": "abu simbel",
        "kingdom": "upper",
        "location": "aswan governorate",
        "coords": {
          "lat": 22.336823,
          "long": 31.625532
        }
      },
      "date": {
        "start": {
          "type": "bc",
          "precision": "approximate",
          "year": 1264
        },
        "end": {
          "type": "bc",
          "precision": "approximate",
          "year": 1244
        }
      }
    }
  },
  "karnak": {
    "title": "karnak",
    "kingdom": "upper",
    "location": "luxor governorate",
    "coords": {
      "lat": 25.719595,
      "long": 32.655807
    }
  },
  "date": {
    "start": {
      "type": "bc",
      "precision": "approximate",
```

```
    "year": 2055
  },
  "end": {
    "type": "ad",
    "precision": "approximate",
    "year": 100
  }
}
}
```

Image - Firebase

JSON import

```
egyptian-cards
├── egypt
│   ├── ancient_sites
│   │   ├── abu_simbel
│   │   │   ├── coords
│   │   │   │   ├── lat: 22.336823
│   │   │   │   └── long: 31.625532
│   │   │   ├── date
│   │   │   │   ├── end
│   │   │   │   │   ├── precision: "approximate"
│   │   │   │   │   ├── type: "bc"
│   │   │   │   │   └── year: 1244
│   │   │   │   └── start
│   │   │   │       ├── precision: "approximate"
│   │   │   │       ├── type: "bc"
│   │   │   │       └── year: 1264
│   │   │   ├── kingdom: "upper"
│   │   │   ├── location: "aswan governorate"
│   │   │   └── title: "abu simbel"
│   │   └── karnak
│   │       ├── coords
│   │       │   ├── lat: 25.719595
│   │       │   └── long: 32.655807
│   │       ├── date
│   │       │   ├── end
│   │       │   │   ├── precision: "approximate"
│   │       │   │   ├── type: "ad"
│   │       │   │   └── year: 100
│   │       │   └── start
│   │       │       ├── precision: "approximate"
│   │       │       ├── type: "bc"
│   │       │       └── year: 2055
│   │       ├── kingdom: "upper"
│   │       ├── location: "luxor governorate"
│   │       └── title: "karnak"
│   └── code: "eg"
```

[Firebase - import JSON file](#)

Cordova - Data - Firebase

add to app's index.html

- start testing Cordova setup with default config in app's index.html file
 - e.g.

```
<!-- JS - Firebase app -->
<script src="https://www.gstatic.com/firebasejs/5.5.8/firebase.js"></script>
<script>
  // Initialize Firebase
  var config = {
    apiKey: "YOUR_API_KEY",
    authDomain: "422cards.firebaseio.com",
    databaseURL: "https://422cards.firebaseio.com",
    projectId: "422cards",
    storageBucket: "422cards.appspot.com",
    messagingSenderId: "282356174766"
  };
  firebase.initializeApp(config);
</script>
```

- example includes initialisation information so the SDK has access to
 - Authentication
 - Cloud storage
- Realtime Database
- Cloud Firestore

n.b. don't forget to modify the above values to match your own account and database...

Cordova - Data - Firebase

customise API usage

- possible to customise required components per app
- allows us to include only features required for each app
 - e.g. the only **required** component is
- `firebase-app` - core Firebase client (required component)

```
<!-- Firebase App is always required and must be first -->  
<script src="https://www.gstatic.com/firebasejs/5.5.8/firebase-app.js"></script>
```

- we may add a mix of the following optional components,
- `firebase-auth` - various authentication options
- `firebase-database` - realtime database
- `firebase-firestore` - cloud Firestore
- `firebase-functions` - cloud based function for Firebase
- `firebase-storage` - cloud storage
- `firebase-messaging` - Firebase cloud messaging

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modify JS in app's index.html

```
<!-- Add additional services that you want to use -->
<script src="https://www.gstatic.com/firebasejs/5.5.3/firebase-auth.js"></script>
<script src="https://www.gstatic.com/firebasejs/5.5.3/firebase-database.js"></scr
<script src="https://www.gstatic.com/firebasejs/5.5.3/firebase-firestore.js"></sc
<script src="https://www.gstatic.com/firebasejs/5.5.3/firebase-messaging.js"></sc
<script src="https://www.gstatic.com/firebasejs/5.5.3/firebase-storage.js"></scri

<script src="https://www.gstatic.com/firebasejs/5.5.3/firebase-functions.js"></sc
```

- then define an object for the config of the required services and options,

```
var config = {
  // add API key, services &c.
};
firebase.initializeApp(config);
```


Cordova - Data - Firebase

initial app usage - DB connection

- after defining required config and initialisation
 - *start to add required listeners and calls to app's JS*

define DB connection

- we can establish a connection to our Firebase DB as follows,

```
const db = firebase.database();
```

- then use this reference to connect and query our database

Cordova - Data - Firebase

initial app usage - `ref()` method

- with the connection to the database
 - we may then call the `ref()`, or reference, method
 - use this method to read, write &c. data in the database
- by default, if we call `ref()` with no arguments
 - our query will be relative to the root of the database
 - e.g. reading, writing &c. relative to the whole database
- we may also request a specific reference in the database
 - pass a location path, e.g.

```
db.ref('egypt/ancient_sites/abu_simbel/title').set('Abydos');
```

- allows us to create multiple parts of the Firebase database
- such parts might include,
 - multiple objects, properties, and values &c.
- a quick and easy option for organising and distributing data

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

write data - intro

- also write data to the connected database
 - *again from a JavaScript based application*
- Firebase supports many different JavaScript datatypes, including
 - *strings*
 - *numbers*
 - *booleans*
 - *objects*
 - *arrays*
 - *...*
- i.e. any values and data types we add to JSON
 - *n.b. Firebase may not maintain the native structure upon import*
 - *e.g. arrays will be converted to plain JavaScript objects in Firebase*

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

write data - set all data

- set data for the whole database by calling the `ref ()` method at the *root*
 - e.g.

```
db.ref().set({
  site: 'abu-simbel',
  title: 'Abu Simbel',
  date: 'c.1264 B.C.',
  visible: true,
  location: {
    country: 'Egypt',
    code: 'EG',
    address: 'aswan'
  }
  coords: {
    lat: '22.336823',
    long: '31.625532'
  }
});
```

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

write data - set data for a specific data location

- also write data to a specific location in the database
- add an argument to the `ref ()` method
 - *specifying required location in the database*
 - e.g.

```
db.ref('egypt/ancient_sites/abu_simbel/location').set('near aswan');
```

- `ref ()` may be called relative to any depth in the database from the *root*
- allows us to update anything from whole DB to single property value

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

Promises with Firebase

- Firebase includes native support for Promises and associated chains.
 - *we do not need to create our own custom Promises*
- we may work with a return Promise object from Firebase
 - *using a standard chain, methods...*
- e.g. when we call the `set ()` method
 - *Firestore will return a Promise object for the method execution*
- `set ()` method will not explicitly return anything except for success or error
 - *we can simply check the return promise as follows,*

```
db.ref('egypt/ancient_sites/abu_simbel/title')
  .set('Abu Simbel')
  .then(() => {
    // log data set success to console
    console.log('data set...');
  })
  .catch((e) => {
    // catch error from Firestore - error logged to console
    console.log('error returned', e);
  });
```

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

remove data - intro

- we may also delete and remove data from the connected database
- various options for removing such data, including
 - *specific location*
 - *all data*
 - *set () with null*
 - *by updating data*
 - ...

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

remove data - specify location

- we may also delete data at a specific location in the connected database
 - e.g.

```
db.ref('egypt/ancient_sites/abu_simbel/kingdom')
  .remove()
  .then(() => {
    // log data removed success to console
    console.log('data removed...');
  })
  .catch((e) => {
    // catch error from Firebase - error logged to console
    console.log('error returned', e);
  });
```


Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

remove data - all data

- also remove all of the data in the connected database
 - e.g.

```
db.ref()
  .remove()
  .then(() => {
    // log data removed success to console
    console.log('data removed...');
  })
  .catch((e) => {
    // catch error from Firebase - error logged to console
    console.log('error returned', e);
  });
```

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

remove data - set () with null

- another option specified in the Firebase docs for deleting data
 - by using `set ()` method with a `null` value
 - e.g.

```
db.ref('egypt/ancient_sites/abu_simbel/kingdom')
  .set(null)
  .then(() => {
    // log data removed success to console
    console.log('data set to null...');
  })
  .catch((e) => {
    // catch error from Firebase - error logged to console
    console.log('error returned', e);
  });
```

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

update data - intro

- also combine setting and removing data in a single pattern
 - *using the `update()` method call to the defined database reference*
- meant to be used to update multiple items in database in a single call
- we must pass an object as the argument to the `update()` method

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

update data - existing properties

- to update multiple existing properties
 - e.g.

```
db.ref('egypt/ancient_sites/abu_simbel/').update({
  title: 'The temple of Abu Simbel',
  visible: false
});
```

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

update data - add new properties

- also add a new property to a specific location in the database

```
db.ref('egypt/ancient_sites/abu_simbel/').update({
  title: 'The temple of Abu Simbel',
  visible: false,
  date: 'c.1264 B.C.'
});
```

- still set new values for the two existing properties
 - *title and visible*
- add a new property and value for data
- `update ()` method will only update the specific properties
 - *does not override everything at the reference location*
 - *compare with the `set ()` method...*

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

update data - remove properties

- also combine these updates with option to remove an existing property
 - e.g.

```
db.ref('egypt/ancient_sites/abu_simbel/').update({
  card: null,
  title: 'The temple of Abu Simbel',
  visible: false,
  date: 'c.1264 B.C.',
});
```

- `null` used to delete specific property from reference location in DB
- at the reference location in the DB, we're able to combine
 - *creating new property*
 - *updating a property*
 - *deleting existing properties*

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

update data - multiple properties at different locations

- also combine updating data in multiple objects at different locations
 - *locations relative to initial passed reference location*
 - e.g.

```
db.ref().update({  
  'egypt/ancient_sites/abu_simbel/visible': true,  
  'egypt/ancient_sites/karnak/visible': false  
});
```

- relative to the root of the database
 - *now updated multiple title properties in different objects*
- *n.b.* update is only for child objects relative to specified ref location
 - *due to character restrictions on the property name*
 - *e.g. the name may not begin with ., / &c.*

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

update data - Promise chain

- `update()` method will also return a Promise object
 - *allows us to chain the standard methods*
 - e.g.

```
db.ref().update({
  'egypt/ancient_sites/abu_simbel/visible': true,
  'egypt/ancient_sites/karnak/visible': false
}).then(() => {
  console.log('update success...');
}).catch((e) => {
  console.log('error = ', e);
});
```

- as with `set()` and `remove()`
 - *Promise object itself will return success or error for method call*

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

read data - intro

- fetch data from the connected database in many different ways, e.g.
 - *all of the data*
 - *or a single specific part of the data*
- also connect and retrieve data once
- another option is to setup a listener
 - *used for polling the database for live updates...*

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

read data - all data, once

- retrieve all data from the database a single time

```
// ALL DATA ONCE - request all data ONCE
// - returns Promise value
db.ref().once('value')
  .then((snapshot) => {
    // snapshot of the data - request the return value for the data at the time o
    const data = snapshot.val();
    console.log('data = ', data);
  })
  .catch((e) => {
    console.log('error returned - ', e);
  });
```

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

read data - single data, once

- we may query the database once for a single specific value
 - e.g.

```
// SINGLE DATA - ONCE
db.ref('egypt/ancient_sites/abu_simbel/').once('value')
  .then((snapshot) => {
    // snapshot of the data - request the return value for the data at the time o
    const data = snapshot.val();
    console.log('single data = ', data);
  })
  .catch((e) => {
    console.log('error returned - ', e);
  });
```

- returns value for object at the specified location
 - `egypt/ancient_sites/abu_simbel/`

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

read data - listener for changes - subscribe

- also setup listeners for changes to the connected database
 - *then continue to poll the DB for any subsequent changes*
 - e.g.

```
// LISTENER - poll DB for data changes
// - any changes in the data
db.ref().on('value', (snapshot) => {
  console.log('listener update = ', snapshot.val());
});
```

- `on()` method polls the DB for any changes in `value`
- then get the current snapshot value for the data stored
- any change in data in the online database
 - *listener will automatically execute defined success callback function*

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

read data - listener for changes - subscribe - error handling

- also add some initial error handling for subscription callback
 - e.g.

```
// LISTENER - SUBSCRIBE
// - poll DB for data changes
// - any changes in the data
db.ref().on('value', (snapshot) => {
  console.log('listener update = ', snapshot.val());
}, (e) => {
  console.log('error reading db', e);
});
```

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

read data - listener - why not use a Promise?

- as listener is notified of updates to the online database
 - *we need the callback function to be executed*
- callback may need to be executed multiple times
 - *e.g. for many updates to the stored data*
- a Promise may only be resolved a single time
 - *with either `resolve` or `reject`*
- to use a Promise in this context
 - *we would need to instantiate a new Promise for each update*
 - *would not work as expected*
 - *therefore, we use a standard callback function*
- a callback may be executed as needed
 - *each and every time there is an update to the DB*

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

read data - listener for changes - unsubscribe

- need to *unsubscribe* from all or specific changes in online database
 - e.g.

```
db.ref().off();
```

- removes *all* current subscriptions to defined DB connection

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

read data - listener for changes - unsubscribe

- also *unsubscribe* a specific subscription by passing callback
 - *callback as used for the original subscription*
- abstract the callback function
 - *pass it to both `on()` and `off()` methods for database `ref()` method*
 - e.g.

```
// abstract callback
const valChange = (snapshot) => {
  console.log('listener update = ', snapshot.val());
};
```


Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

read data - listener for changes - unsubscribe

- then pass this variable as callback argument
 - *for both subscribe and unsubscribe events*
 - e.g.

```
// subscribe
db.ref().on('value', valChange);
// unsubscribe
db.ref().off(valChange);
```

- allows our app to maintain the DB connection
 - *and unsubscribe a specific subscription*

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

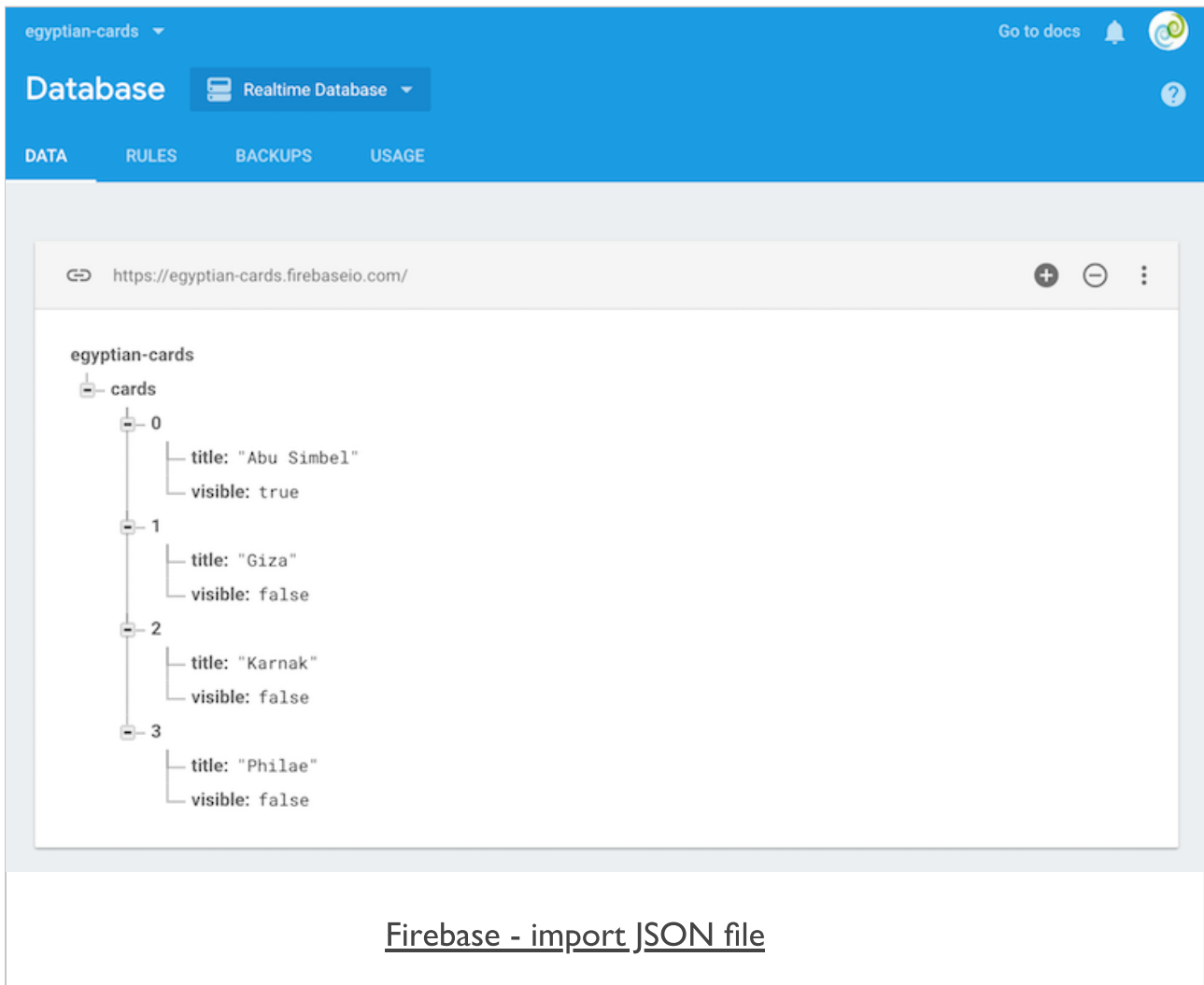
working with arrays

- Firebase does not explicitly support array data structures
 - *converts array objects to plain JavaScript objects*
- e.g. import the following JSON with an array

```
{
  "cards": [
    {
      "visible": true,
      "title": "Abu Simbel",
      "card": "temple complex built by Ramesses II"
    },
    {
      "visible": false,
      "title": "Amarna",
      "card": "capital city built by Akhenaten"
    },
    {
      "visible": false,
      "title": "Giza",
      "card": "Khufu's pyramid on the Giza plateau outside Cairo"
    },
    {
      "visible": false,
      "title": "Philae",
      "card": "temple complex built during the Ptolemaic period"
    }
  ]
}
```

Image - Firebase

JSON import with array



The screenshot displays the Firebase Realtime Database interface for a project named 'egyptian-cards'. The 'Database' section is active, showing the 'Realtime Database' configuration. The 'DATA' tab is selected, displaying a tree view of the database structure. The root node is 'egyptian-cards', which contains a child node 'cards'. The 'cards' node is an array with four elements, indexed 0 through 3. Each element is an object with 'title' and 'visible' properties.

```
egyptian-cards
├── cards
│   ├── 0
│   │   ├── title: "Abu Simbel"
│   │   └── visible: true
│   ├── 1
│   │   ├── title: "Giza"
│   │   └── visible: false
│   ├── 2
│   │   ├── title: "Karnak"
│   │   └── visible: false
│   └── 3
│       ├── title: "Philae"
│       └── visible: false
```

[Firebase - import JSON file](#)

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

working with arrays - index values

- each index value will now be stored as a plain object
 - *with an auto-increment value for the property*
 - e.g.

```
cards: {  
  0: {  
    card: "temple complex built by Ramesses II",  
    title: "Abu Simbel",  
    visible: "true"  
  }  
}
```

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

working with arrays - access index values

- we may still access each index value from the original array object
 - *without easy access to pre-defined, known unique references*
- e.g. to access the title value of a given card
 - *need to know its auto-generated property value in Firebase*

```
db.ref('cards/0')
```

- reference will be the path to the required object
 - *then access a given property on the object*
- even if we add a unique reference property to each card
 - *still need to know assigned property value in Firebase*

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

working with arrays - push() method

- add new content to an existing Firebase datastore
- we may use the push() method to add this data
- a unique property value will be auto-generated for pushed data
 - e.g.

```
// push new data to specific reference in db  
db.ref('egypt/ancient_sites/').push({  
  "philae": {  
    "kingdom": "upper",  
    "visible": false  
  }  
});
```

- new data created with auto-generated ID for parent object
 - e.g.

```
LPcdS31H_u9N0dIn27_
```

- may be useful for dynamic content pushed to a datastore
- e.g. notes, tasks, calendar dates &c.

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

working with arrays - Firebase snapshot methods

- various data snapshot methods in the Firebase documentation
- commonly used method with `snapshot` is the `val()` method
- many additional methods specified in API documentation for *DataSnapshot*
 - e.g. *forEach()* - iterator for plain objects from Firebase
 - *Firestore Docs - DataSnapshot*

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

working with arrays - create array from Firebase data

- as we store data as plain objects in Firebase
 - *need to consider how we may work with array-like structures*
 - *i.e. for technologies and patterns that require array data structures*
 - *e.g. Redux*
- need to get data from Firebase, then prepare it for use as an array
- to help us work with Firebase object data and arrays
 - *we may call `forEach()` method on the return snapshot*
 - *provides required iterator for plain objects stored in Firebase*
 - *e.g.*

```
// get ref in db once
// call forEach() on return snapshot
// push values to local array
// unique id for each DB parent object is `key` property on snapshot
db.ref('egypt/ancient_sites')
  .once('value')
  .then((snapshot) => {
    const sites = [];
    snapshot.forEach((siteSnapshot) => {
      sites.push({
        id: siteSnapshot.key,
        ...siteSnapshot.val()
      });
    });
    console.log('sites array = ', sites);
  });
```


Image - Firebase

snapshot forEach() - creating a local array

```
sites array = firebase.js:166
▼ (3) [{...}, {...}, {...}] ⓘ
  ▼ 0:
    id: "-LPcdS31H_u9N0dIn27_"
    ▶ philae: {kingdom: "upper", visible: false}
    ▶ __proto__: Object
  ▼ 1:
    ▶ coords: {lat: 22.336823, long: 31.625532}
    ▶ date: {end: {...}, start: {...}}
    id: "abu_simbel"
    kingdom: "upper"
    location: "aswan governorate"
    title: "Abu Simbel"
    visible: true
    ▶ __proto__: Object
  ▼ 2:
    ▶ coords: {lat: 25.719595, long: 32.655807}
    ▶ date: {end: {...}, start: {...}}
    id: "karnak"
    kingdom: "upper"
    location: "luxor governorate"
    title: "karnak"
    visible: false
    ▶ __proto__: Object
  length: 3
  ▶ __proto__: Array(0)
```

Firebase - local array.

- we now have a local array from the Firebase object data
 - use with options such as Redux...

Cordova & React - Data - Firebase

add listeners for value changes

- as we modify objects, properties, values &c. in Firebase
 - *set listeners to return notifications for such updates*
 - *e.g. add a single listener for any update relative to full datastore*

```
// LISTENER - SUBSCRIBE - v.2
// - get all data & then push return data to local array...
db.ref('egypt').on('value', (snapshot) => {
  const sites = [];
  snapshot.forEach((siteSnapshot) => {
    sites.push({
      id: siteSnapshot.key,
      ...siteSnapshot.val()
    });
  });
  console.log('sites array after update = ', sites);
});
```

- the `on()` method does not return a Promise object
 - *we need to define a callback for the return data*

References

- React Native
 - *React DevTools*
 - *React Native - Layout Props*
 - *React Native - StatusBar*
- Various
 - *Axios JS library*
 - *Firebase*
 - *Firebase - database rules*
 - *Firebase Docs - DataSnapshot*
 - *Firebase docs - on () events*
 - *Google's Cloud Platform*
 - *MDN - Fetch API*
 - *XMLHttpRequest*
 - *Yarn - Firebase*