AppSec ABCs

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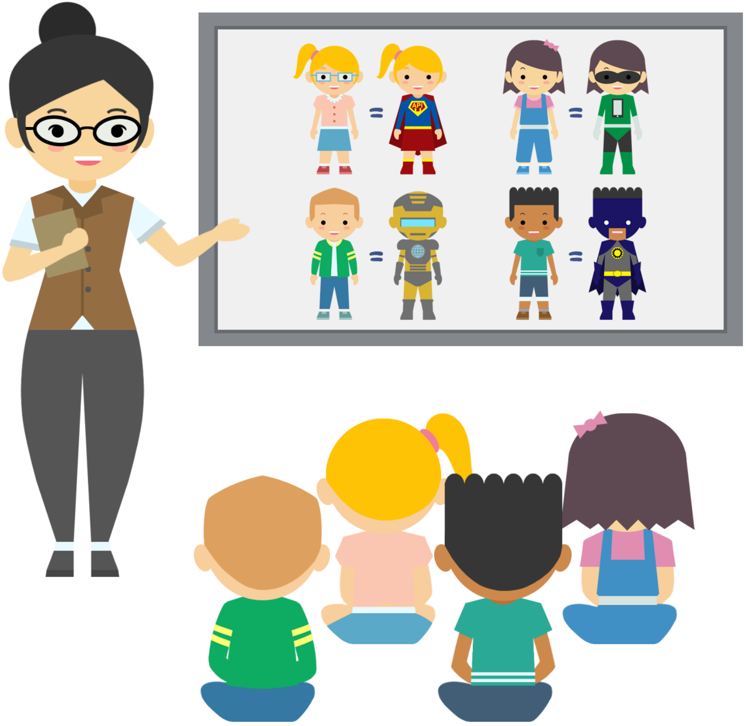


We use software all the time. From the smartphone alarm that rings when it's time to wake up, to the application that allows us to video chat with friends and family that live far away, software is an important part of our daily lives.

How do you become an application security superhero? What do you need to learn?

Let's start by learning the AppSec ABC's!

A

is for Application Security

AppSec is the practice of finding, fixing, and preventing security issues to protect a software application.

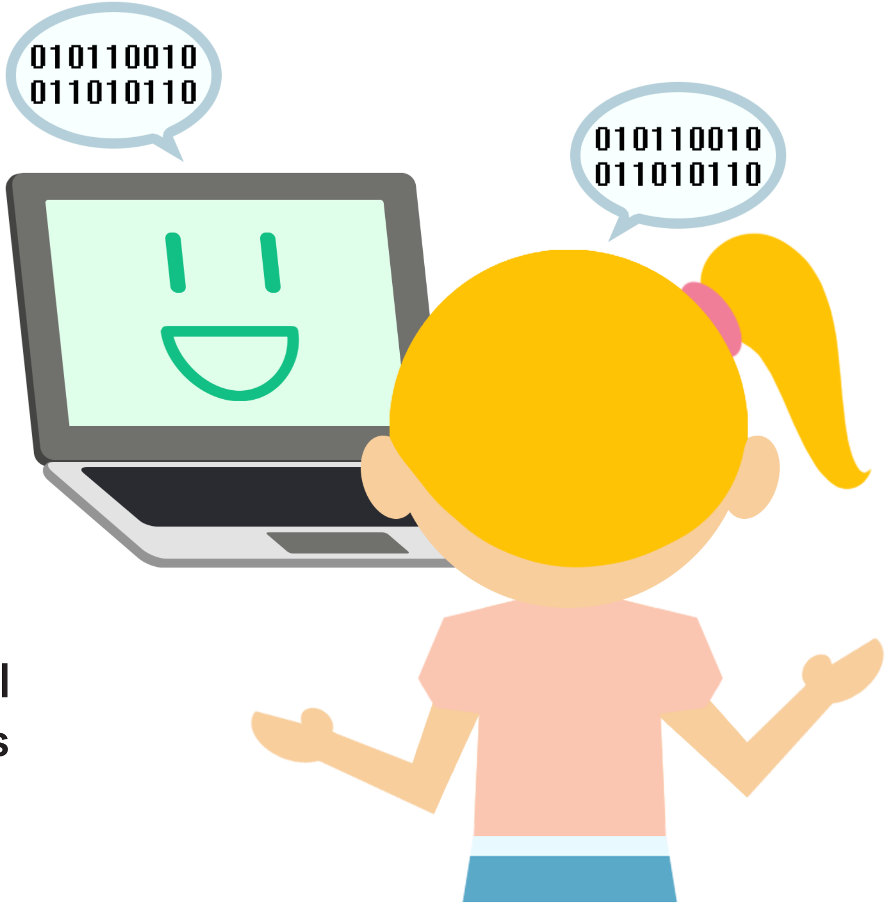
B is for Breach

A data breach happens when private information is stolen by someone who is not supposed to have it.

C

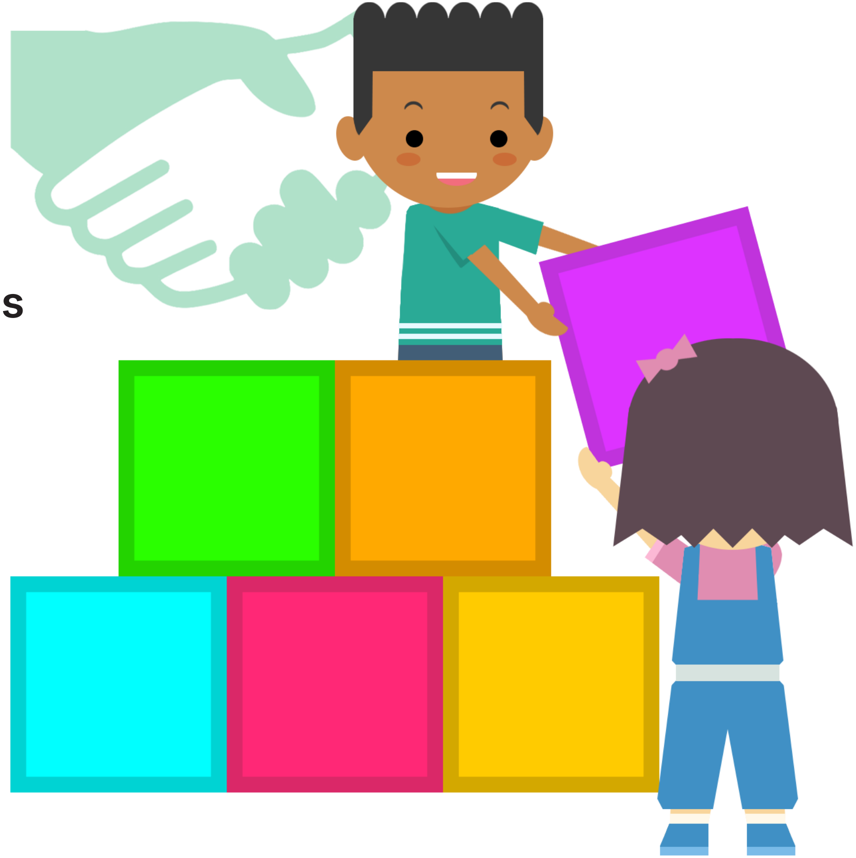
is for Code

Code is the language that people use to tell software applications what to do.



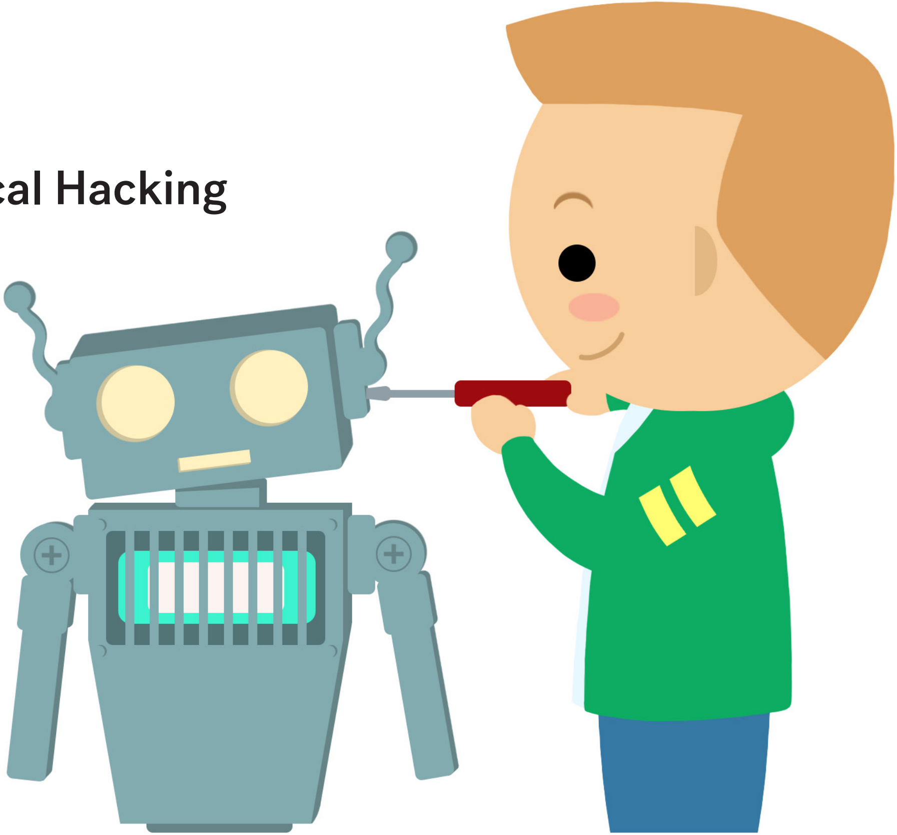
D is for DevOps

DevOps is a way to build software applications where teams work together to finish projects quickly.



E is for Ethical Hacking

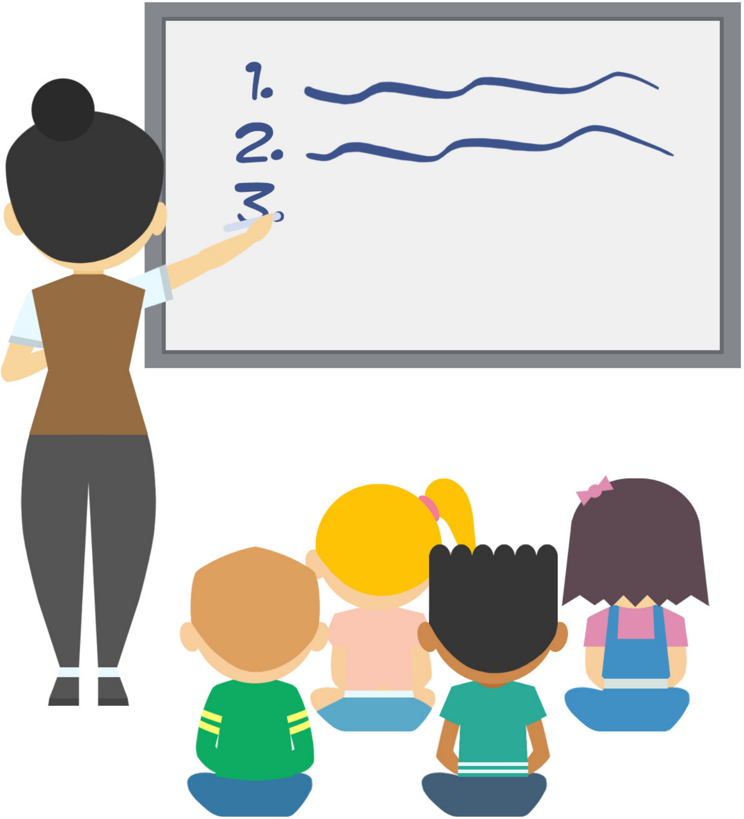
An ethical hacker tries to break into a software application and then fix it, so that someone else can’t break into it the same way.



F

is for False Positive

Sometimes security professionals use tools to help them find security problems in software. When those tools find a problem that turns out not to be a problem after all, it's called a false positive.



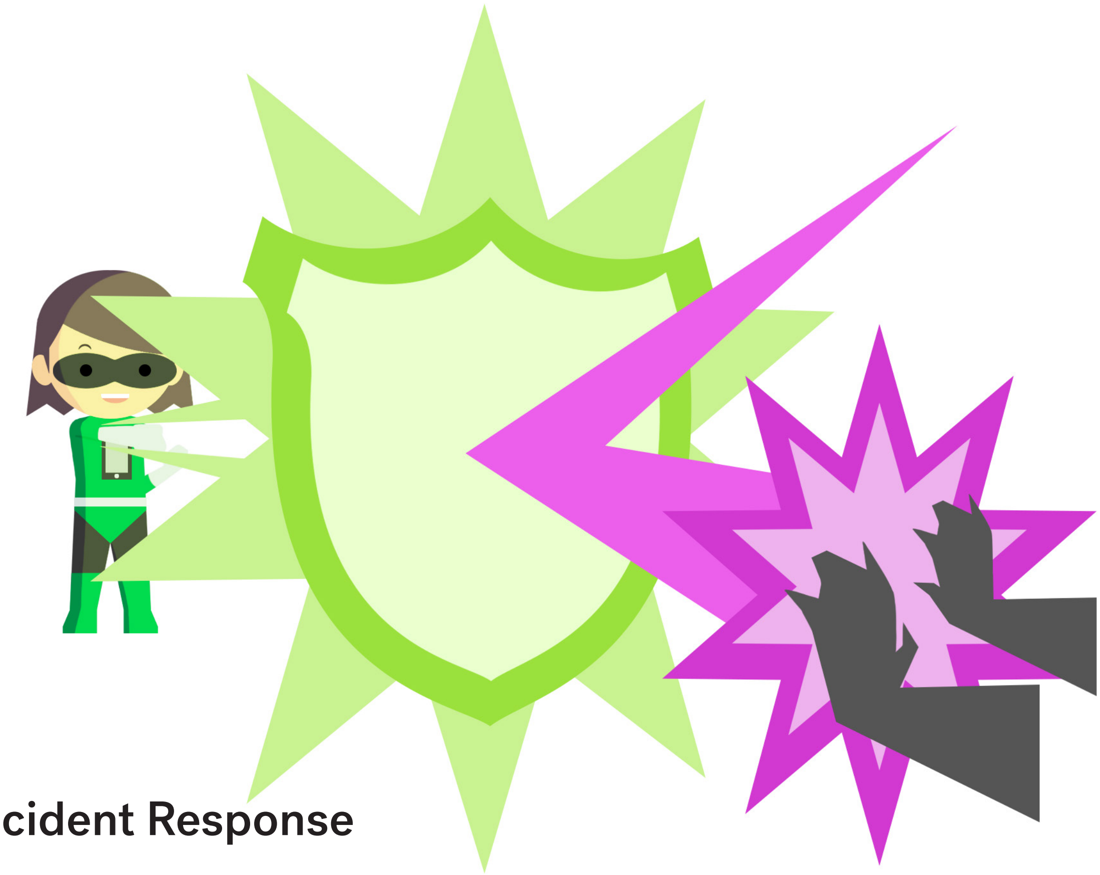
G

is for Governance

To do application security right, someone has to think about the rules.

H is for Honeypot

A honeypot is used to distract a bad person from finding the real treasure.



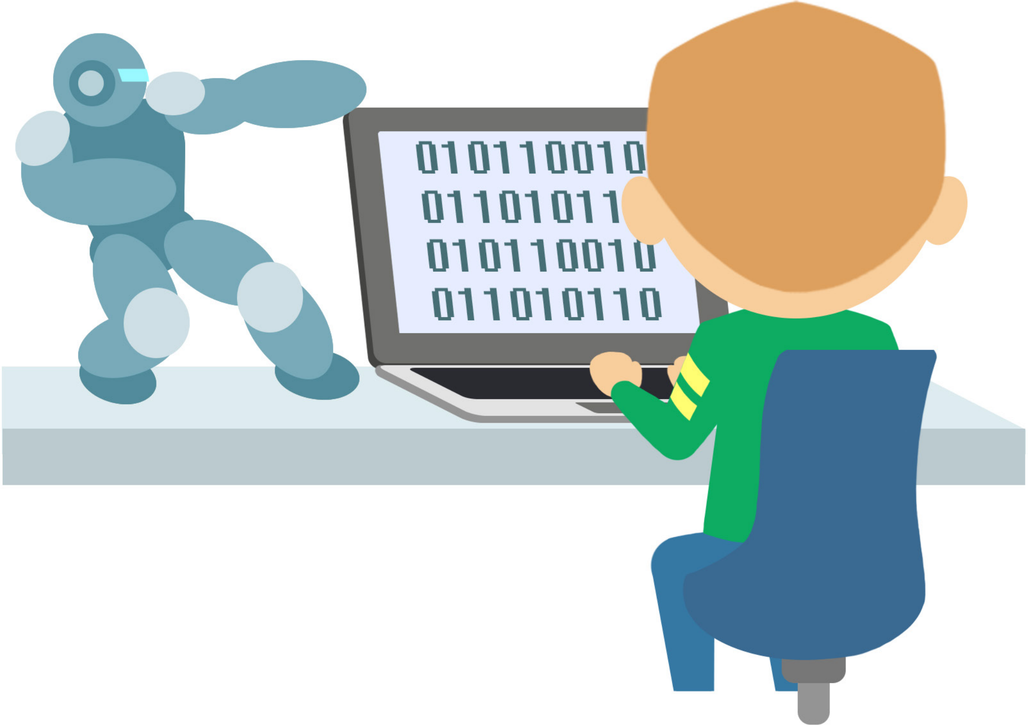
I is for Incident Response

When someone breaks into a software application, the team protecting that application steps in to try and stop the attack.

J

is for JavaScript

JavaScript is a computer language that can be used to program special things like flying robots!



K

is for Key Management

Just like it's important to protect the keys to your house, it's important to protect the keys that control access to digital information.

L is for Logging

Logging is when you keep track of what's happening. Computer logs can keep track of different things, like who tries to access what. This is similar to how a classroom attendance log keeps track of which students are present each day.

M is for Malware

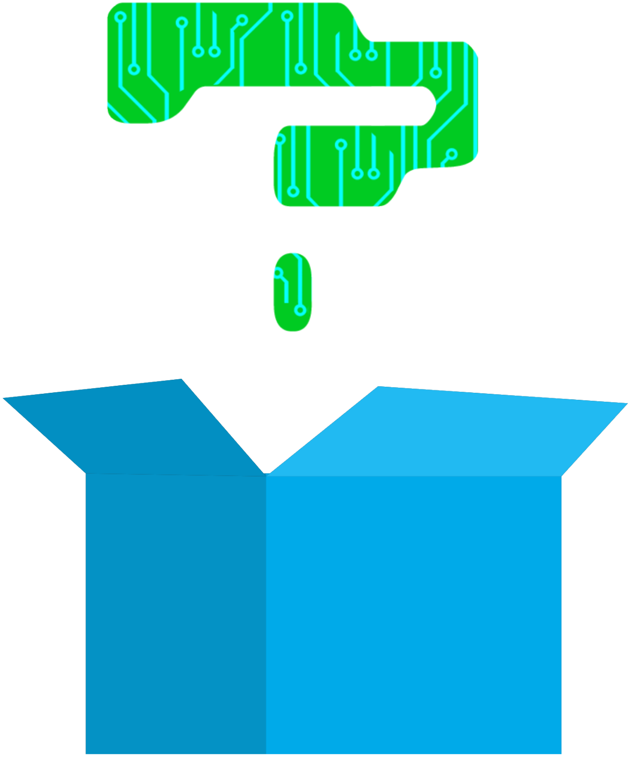
There are good software apps that you want to have, and bad software apps that you don’t want to have.

The bad software is called malware.

N

is for Null

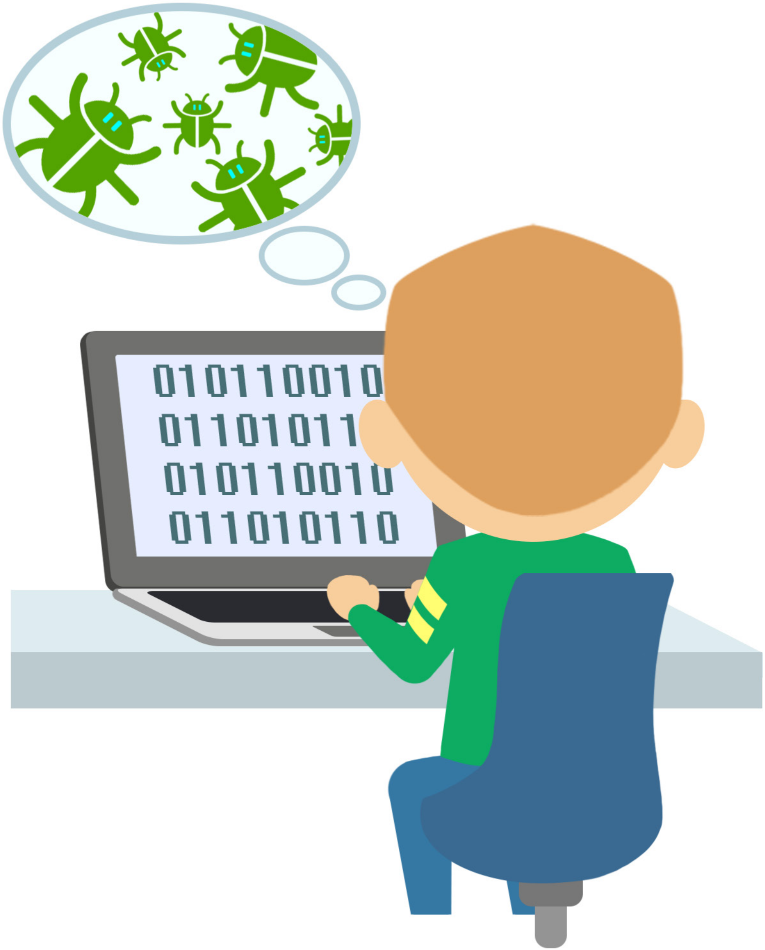
Null is a computer's way
of saying "I don't know."
Often we ask questions when
coding, and the answers might
include True, False, or another
value. When the answer is
"I don't know," the computer
will respond with Null.



O

is for OWASP Top 10

Santa makes a list,
and he checks it twice.
OWASP makes a list of
the most common ways
for people to attack
software. This is called
the OWASP Top 10.



P

is for Pentesting

Pentesting is when a team of security experts hacks an application to find problems so that they can be fixed before bad people attack the software.

Q

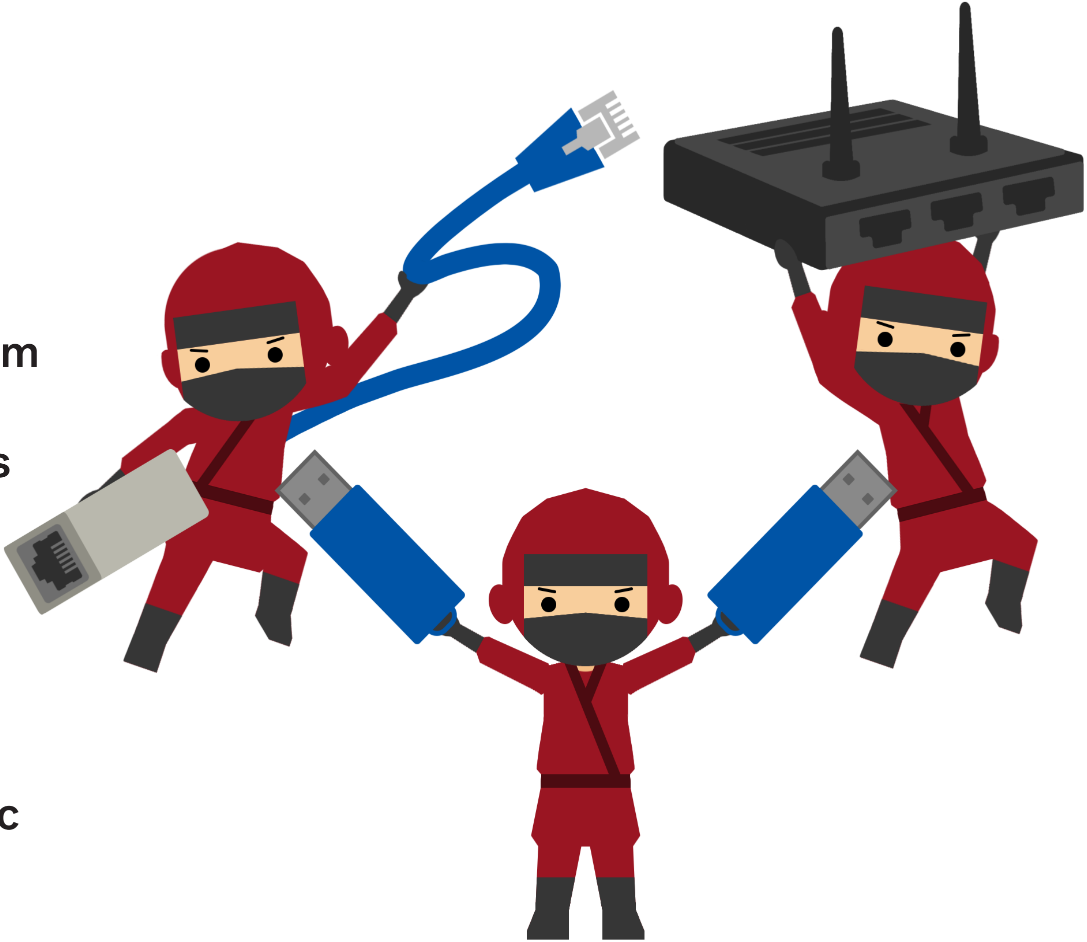
is for Questionnaire (Vendor Security)

When a company (buyer) wants to buy software from a vendor (seller), the buyer will ask the seller questions about their security program. This is called a vendor security questionnaire.

R

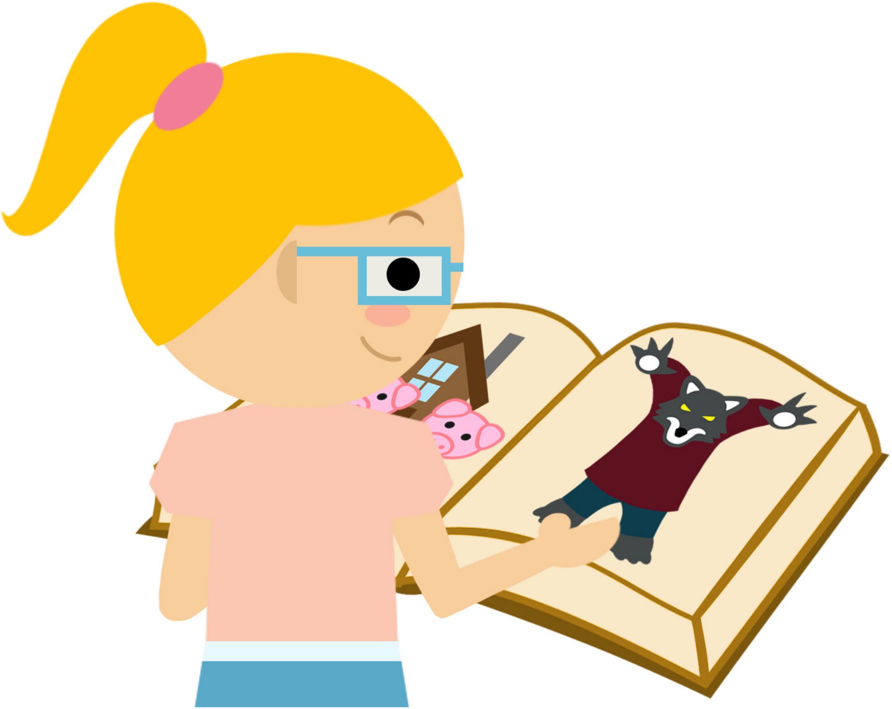
is for Red Team

A Red Team is a group of security experts that tries to hack into a system with a specific goal.



S is for SQL injection

SQL Injection is a type of software attack where a hacker asks a computer database to do something it is not supposed to do.



T

is for Threat

A Threat is anything that has the potential to cause serious harm to an application. In the story of the Three Little Pigs, the threat is the wolf.

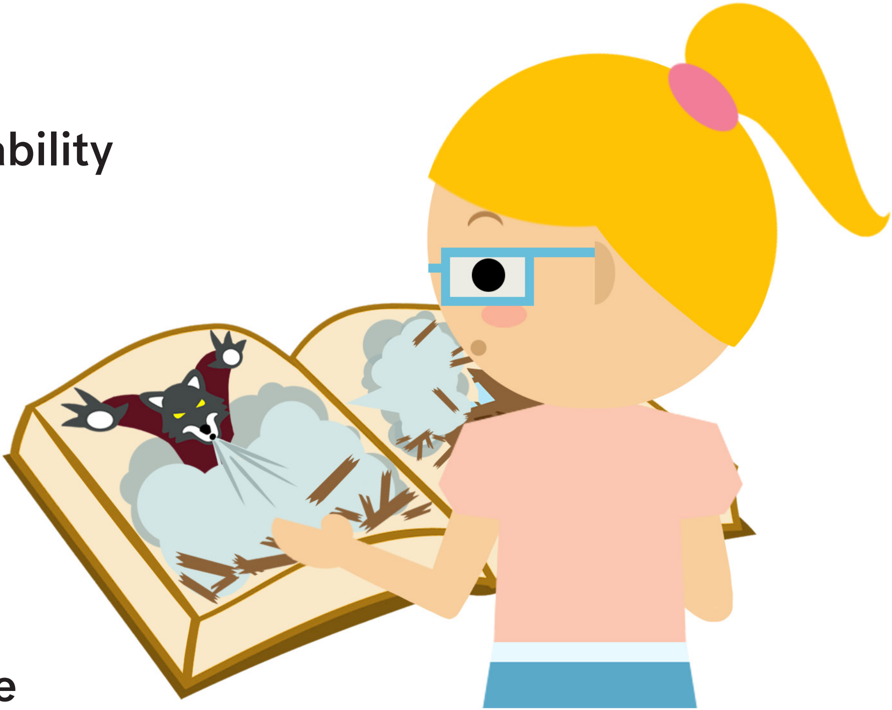
U

is for Unauthorized Access

When someone goes to a place where they are not supposed to be, it's called unauthorized access.

V is for Vulnerability

A vulnerability is a weakness. In the story of the Three Little Pigs, the vulnerabilities were the houses made of straw and sticks. These were vulnerable to attack by the threat, the Big Bad Wolf.



W

is for Whitelist

A whitelist is a list of things that are allowed.

X is for XSS

XSS (Cross-Site Scripting) is a type of vulnerability that allows an attacker to change the information that is viewed in a user's web browser.

Y is for Your Personal Data

It's important to keep Your Personal Data safe. Protect your data and be your own application security super hero!

Z

is for Zero Day

A Zero Day Vulnerability is a security problem that doesn't have a solution yet.

Now that you’ve learned the AppSec ABC’s, you’re on your way to becoming a security superhero!

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