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COP 1500

Field Report

Hi Mom,

Recently, I have had a lot going through my mind in terms of school. You and I have talked about it briefly. Things like where I am attending and what I want to do with my degree. It probably all sounds really confusing to you because the terms sound so similar, but each really has its own distinct meaning.

Computer Science has a lot to do with what exactly makes computers work. As a computer scientist, you observe the algorithms that are used by computers that let the computer know what to do with information, like storing it or processing it. Additionally, a computer scientist is extremely familiar with the design of computational systems.

Software engineering is a bit broad, but generally just details the development of software in a systematic method. Software is not tangible, so this engineering is centered on creating intangible structures.

Information Technology, or IT as you have most likely heard it called, examines the use of computers in relation to data. IT has a lot to do with how information is retrieved, stored, sent, or manipulated in connection to businesses.

Many careers branching from computer science are related to the development of software, but other areas include support specialist and systems analysis. One specific career is a computer programmer, which uses the knowledge on programming languages to take designs made by software engineers and convert it into instructions that computers read since they are completely different from one another. Another example would be a systems software developer

who would be tasked with the development of new operating systems, like Windows for

computers or iOS for iPhones, for devices such as phones, cars or computers. They may also be

tasked with creating the user interface, which is what allows you to interact with your phone or

computer. Web developers have the job of creating websites for all sorts of uses. They write the

code that makes websites display the way they do; the font, color, background, sound, images,

etc. There are many other jobs that are performed by computer scientists, but I just wanted to

name a few. If you wanted to take a look at more, I was using the website

https://www.computerscienceonline.org/careers/.

However, I am most interested in Game Development. Video games have always been a

passion of mine. Game development falls into several different categories, but I would be more

interested in the base code that makes everything work. I love to play them and experience

different worlds and to share that experience with others. I have always longed to understand

how they work and create my own. I also really used to enjoy writing and enjoy the idea of not

only creating a story but also bringing that story to life and being able to see others experience it

firsthand.