Lab: Sprint Closure and Backlog Refinement with GitHub

Estimated time needed: 20 minutes

In this hands-on lab, you will learn the essential end-of-sprint activities using GitHub to manage unfinished stories and prepare the backlog for the next sprint. You'll adjust story points for incomplete tasks, move completed stories to the "Done" column, and create new issues to document remaining work, ensuring smooth transition and continuity between sprints.

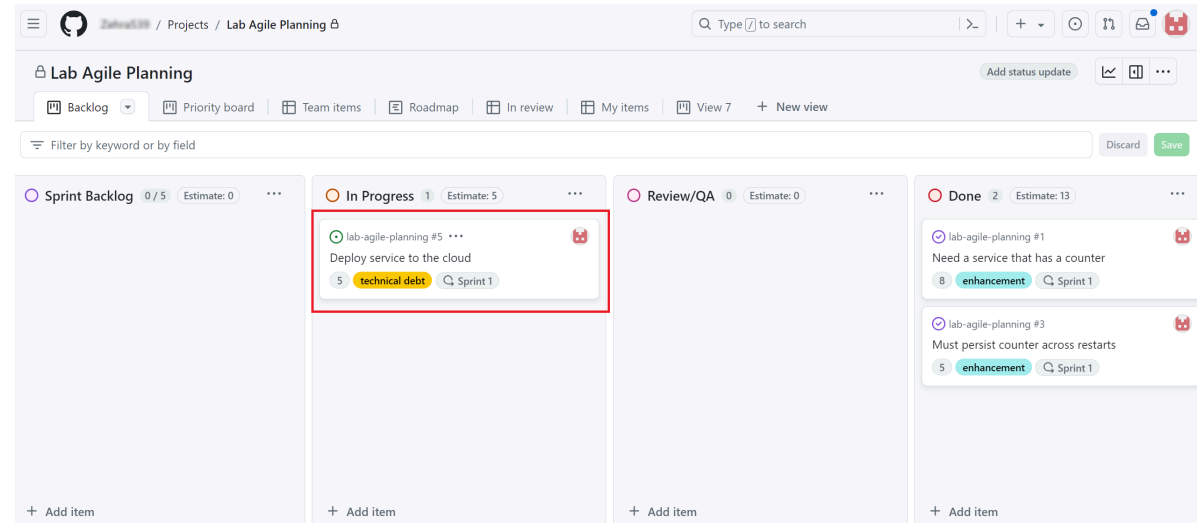**Objectives**

After completing this lab, you will be able to:

1. Adjust story points to accurately reflect expended effort.
2. Manage GitHub issues and columns to track sprint progress.
3. Create new issues to document technical debt and unfinished work.
4. Organize the product backlog to prioritize and plan for the next sprint effectively.

   Note: In the Kanban board, we don't have a "Closed" column because, in GitHub, when we move issues to the "Done" column, they automatically get closed due to GitHub's built-in feature.
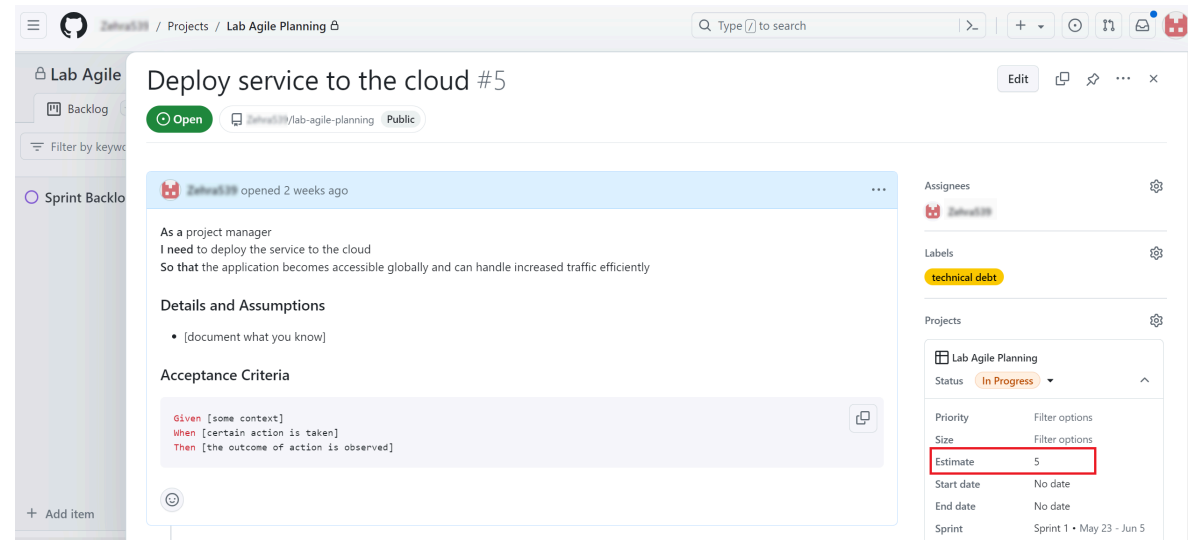
Exercise 1: Deal with unfinished work

In this exercise, you will deal with the unfinished stories in the sprint. These are stories that the team has started, but not completed. We want to adjust the estimate to take credit for the story points expended so that it is reflected in the teams velocity, and create a new story to finish the work in the next sprint.
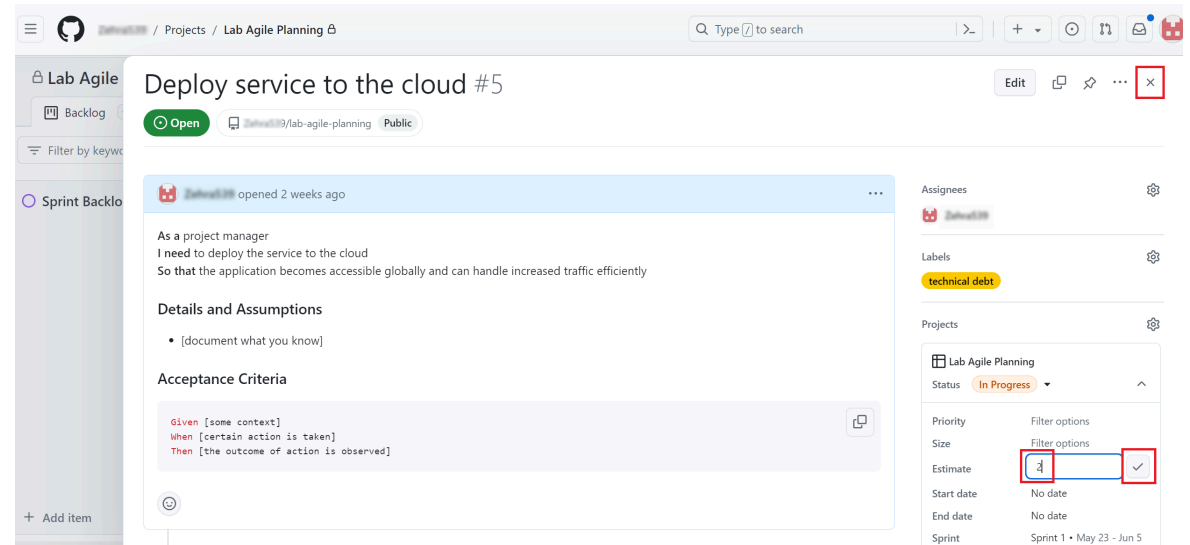
1. Select the story **Deploy service to the cloud** in the **In Progress** column to open it.

2. Click the **Estimate** option.

3. The developer has determined that they did not expend **5** story points of effort on this story and just ran out of time. They estimated that **2** story points were expended. Enter **2** in the text input to change the story points. We can see that the story points are now set to **2**. Then click the **x** to close the window.

4. Now that the story points have been adjusted to reflect the effort that was made in this sprint. Move this story to the **Done** column.

Type / to search

🔒 Lab Agile Planning

Add status update

| Backlog | Priority board | Team items | Roadmap | In review | My items | View 7 | + New view |

Filter by keyword or by field   Discard   Save

Sprint Backlog 0 / 5 Estimate: 0 ···

In Progress 1 Estimate: 2 ···

- lab-agile-planning #5
  Deploy service to the cloud
  2 technical debt Sprint 1

Review/QA 0 Estimate: 0 ···

→

Done 2 Estimate: 13 ···

- lab-agile-planning #1
  Need a service that has a counter
  8 enhancement Sprint 1

- lab-agile-planning #3
  Must persist counter across restarts
  5 enhancement Sprint 1

+ Add item

5. Your Kanban board will now resemble the screenshot shown below:

Sprint Backlog 0 / 5 Estimate: 0 ···

In Progress 0 Estimate: 0 ···

Review/QA 0 Estimate: 0 ···

Done 3 Estimate: 15 ···

- lab-agile-planning #5 ···
  Deploy service to the cloud
  2 technical debt Sprint 1

- lab-agile-planning #1
  Need a service that has a counter
  8 enhancement Sprint 1

- lab-agile-planning #3
  Must persist counter across restarts
  5 enhancement Sprint 1

+ Add item

6. We want to create a new story to document the remaining work. Return to your GitHub repository titled "lab-agile-planning." Navigate to the Issues tab and click on the New Issue button.

Zehra539 / lab-agile-planning

Type / to search

| <> Code | ⊙ Issues 4 | �Pull requests | ⊙ Actions | Projects 1 | Wiki | Security | Insights | Settings |

Filters ▾   is:issue is:open   Labels 10   Milestones 0   **New issue**

⊙ 4 Open ✓ 3 Closed   Author ▾ Label ▾ Projects ▾ Milestones ▾ Assignee ▾ Sort ▾

- ⊙ **Need the ability to update a counter to a new value** enhancement
  #7 opened 2 weeks ago by Zehra539

- ⊙ **Need the ability to remove a counter**
  #6 opened 2 weeks ago by Zehra539

- ⊙ **Counters can be reset** enhancement
  #4 opened 2 weeks ago by Zehra539

- ⊙ **Must allow multiple counters**
  #2 opened 2 weeks ago by Zehra539

💡 ProTip! Add no:assignee to see everything that's not assigned.

Please note: Choose the **User Story** Template and click on the Get Started button.

7. Complete the new issue by filling in the title and description to complete the story, as shown in the screenshot below. Assign the label technical debt, similar to the original story. Choose the **Project** as **Lab Agile Planning**. Once finished, click on the **Submit new issue** button.

Issue: User Story

This template is used for creating user stories. If this doesn't look right, choose a different type.

Add a title

Complete Deploy Service to the Cloud

Add a description

| Write | Preview |

**As a Service Provider.
I need the service to be deployed to the cloud.
So that I can scale capacity with user demand
Details and Assumptions

- Artifacts for the Cloud Foundry app have already been created in branch `cf-deploy`
- [ ] Database still needs to be provisioned
- [ ] App needs to be pushed and connected to the database

Acceptance Criteria
**
`gherkin

Markdown is supported   Paste, drop, or click to add files

Assignees
No one—assign yourself

Labels
technical debt

Projects
Lab Agile Planning

Milestone
No milestone

Development
Shows branches and pull requests linked to this issue.

Helpful resources
GitHub Community Guidelines

Submit new issue

8. Considering that this new issue will be added to the **Product Backlog** column, open the dropdown list next to the **Status** option and choose **Product Backlog**. Set the **Estimate** to 3, representing the remaining story points from the unfinished story.

Zehra539 / Projects / Lab Agile Planning

Type / to search

Lab Agile
Backlog

Filter by keywo

New issues

Complete Deploy Service to the Cloud #8

Edit

Open   2 tasks   Zehra539/lab-agile-planning   Public

Zehra539 opened 3 minutes ago

**As a Service Provider.
I need the service to be deployed to the cloud.
So that I can scale capacity with user demand

Details and Assumptions

- Artifacts for the Cloud Foundry app have already been created in branch `cf-deploy`
- [ ] Database still needs to be provisioned
- [ ] App needs to be pushed and connected to the database

Acceptance Criteria

**
`gherkin
Given I have deployed to the cloud
When a customer comes to our URL
Then our service will be available

Assignees
No one - Assign yourself

Labels
technical debt

Projects

Lab Agile Planning

Status	Product Backlog
Priority	Filter options
Size	Filter options
Estimate	3
Start date	No date
End date	No date

9. Be sure the story is at the top of the **Product Backlog** column to be selected for the next sprint.

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Type / to search

Lab Agile Planning

Add status update

Backlog   Priority board   Team items   Roadmap   In review   My items   View 7   + New view

Filter by keyword or by field   Discard   Save

/7	Estimate: 0	Icebox 2	Estimate: 0	Product Backlog 3/7	Estimate: 8	Sprint Backlog 0/5	Estimate: 0	In Progre

Icebox 2   Estimate: 0

lab-agile-planning #2
Must allow multiple counters

lab-agile-planning #6
Need the ability to remove a counter

Product Backlog 3/7   Estimate: 8

lab-agile-planning #8
Complete Deploy Service to the Cloud
technical debt

lab-agile-planning #4
Counters can be reset
3 enhancement

lab-agile-planning #7
Need the ability to update a counter to a new value
5 enhancement

+ Add item

Congratulations on successfully completing this lab!

Summary

In this lab, you learned the necessary skills to effectively wrap up a sprint using GitHub, ensuring that all tasks are appropriately accounted for and the backlog is refined for future iterations. By mastering these end-of-sprint activities, you'll enhance your team's agility and streamline the sprint-to-sprint transition process, ultimately contributing to improved project management and delivery efficiency.

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