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*Down To Earth Space* website report

WDD 130

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DTE Space is a website dedicated as a library of major space launch providers. It records and updates current information on launches, vehicles, engines, and more, all compiled in one easily navigated site. It also acts as a personal quick reference guide to avoid constant google searches; I rather have a single self-created site to quickly find information on demand. The primary audience would be myself as I will use it often to quickly find statistics on the recorded vehicles. However an audience of any fellow rocket nerds will find the site useful. It is easy to fill and stocked full of useful information. Several hours of research and prior knowledge was implemented into the creation of this site so that others don’t have to.

<https://carboaluminate67.github.io/wdd130/space/>

I had several goals in the creation of the website. The first was several stages of learning. I love computer science and am very interested in front and backend. During the creation of this website I learned how to efficiently and effectively create sites using html, CSS, and I was even exposed to some java script and learned some basic script coding which I found intriguing. I also love space and rocketry, so the huge amounts of content the I learned about such a fascinating subject was also an accomplished goal. In terms of use for the website my primary goal was to create a website that I could use to reference for statistics on my favorite launch providers without having to complete 3 different google searches. I would say this was also a well accomplished goal and I will have a much easier time finding this information in the future because of it.

To begin thinking of the design of the project I referenced several sites: First I looked at the design aspects that I liked about the white-water rafting project made earlier in this class. Many aspects from this site were used in this space project as well. I also took a close look at the websites of each individual launch provider listed in the site. I found several design pieces that I tweaked and used in my own site, such as the graph-image layout for each rocket. Likely the most major changes I implemented during the process was the addition of a contact us page toward the end. Upon discovering components, I changed the website to create a parallax scrolling effect on the homepage and used java script to make hide/show buttons on the provider pages.

Until this class I have always known farm more about back-end programming, but I learned a significant amount of front-end in this one class. I had already known some about html, but all CSS and java script exposure was completely new to me. I learned how to create site plans, color palettes, wireframes, website layouts, etc. I can see myself making another personal website in the future with these skills. I also gained a basic understanding of java script using components. As a back-end enjoyer, I found java script more familiar and very fascinating. I also acquired a large sum of knowledge on one of my favorite topics: spaceflight. The hours of research I did for this project gave me a large boost of knowledge on the subject in addition to what I already knew. The process of creating this project also introduced new kinds of problem-solving skills unique to programming, and furthermore to front-end programming which I had not yet done. Problem solving skills are always useful to have, even simply in day-to-day life.