

Lab 10. Call an external API from Flow with the HTTP action

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Learning objective: call an external REST API from Flow

Duration: 15 minutes

Prerequisites: calling an external api requires a Premium connector.

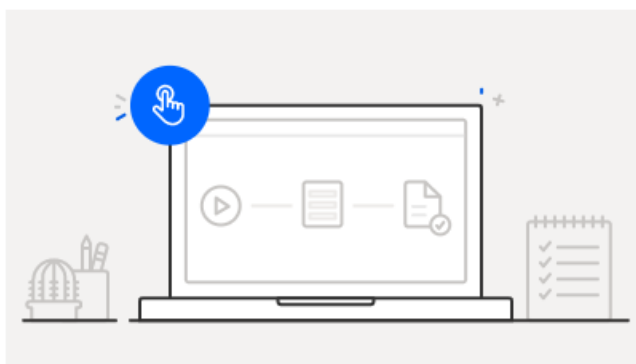
Tasks:

1. Go to the site <https://weatherstack.com/> and sign-up for a free account; you will get a key that you will use in Flow. The key shown in the lab has expired; you should generate a new one.
2. In your browser paste the following query (use your own key for the parameter access_key).
http://api.weatherstack.com/current?access_key=96380665c7c7dc1b14b87493ee253a0d&query=paris
3. You should get a response similar to this one:

```
{"request":{"type":"City","query":"Paris, France","language":"en","unit":"m"},"location":{"name":"Paris","country":"France","region":"Ile-de-France","lat":"48.867","lon":"2.333","timezone_id":"Europe/Paris","localtime":"2019-09-25 19:37","localtime_epoch":1569440220,"utc_offset":"+2.0"},"current":{"observation_time":"05:37 PM","temperature":18,"weather_code":116,"weather_icons":["https://assets.weatherstack.com/images/wsymbols01_png_64/wsymbol_0002_sunny_intervals.png"],"weather_descriptions":["Partly cloudy"],"wind_speed":19,"wind_degree":220,"wind_dir":"SW","pressure":1008,"precip":0.8,"humidity":68,"cloudcover":75,"feelslike":18,"uv_index":5,"visibility":10,"is_day":"yes"}}
```

4. Create Flow a started from a Button, name it **weather**:

Build an instant flow



Flow name

weather

Choose how to trigger this flow *

☒ From Microsoft Flow
Microsoft Flow

☐ From PowerApps
PowerApps

5. Add an HTTP action (this requires P1 licenses)
6. Copy and paste your query in the HTTP action; the value just after "key=" is your private key; the value after q= is the city. The key provided below is probably not valid anymore; you should regenerate a new key.

http://api.weatherstack.com/current?access_key=96380665c7c7dc1b14b87493ee253a0d&query=paris

The screenshot shows a workflow editor with a 'Manually trigger a flow' button at the top. Below it is an 'HTTP' action configuration panel. The 'Method' is set to 'GET'. The 'URI' field contains the URL 'http://api.weatherstack.com/current?access_key=96380665c7c7dc1b14b87493ee253a0d&query=paris', which is highlighted with a red rectangle. Below the URI field are sections for 'Headers', 'Queries', 'Body', and 'Cookie', each with input fields for key and value. At the bottom, there is a 'Show advanced options' link.

7. Save the Flow and run it.
8. Check the output of the HTTP action; you should have something like this:

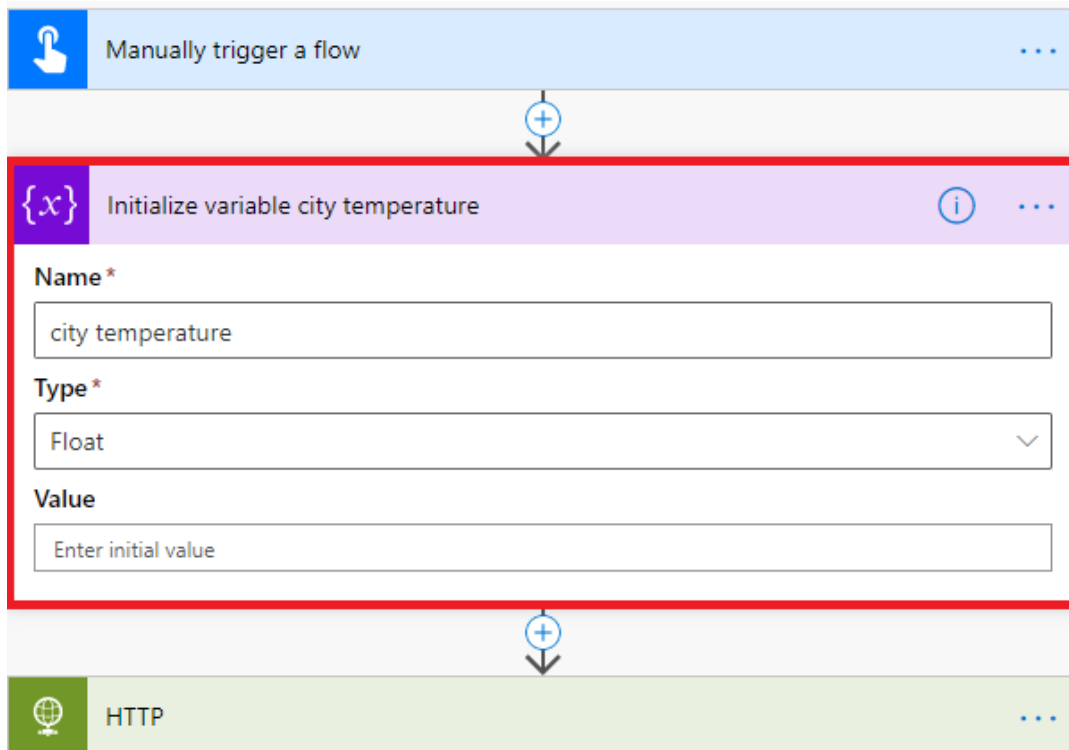
```
{
  "request": {
    "type": "City",
    "query": "Paris, France",
    "language": "en",
    "unit": "m"
  },
  "location": {
    "name": "Paris",
    "country": "France",
```

```

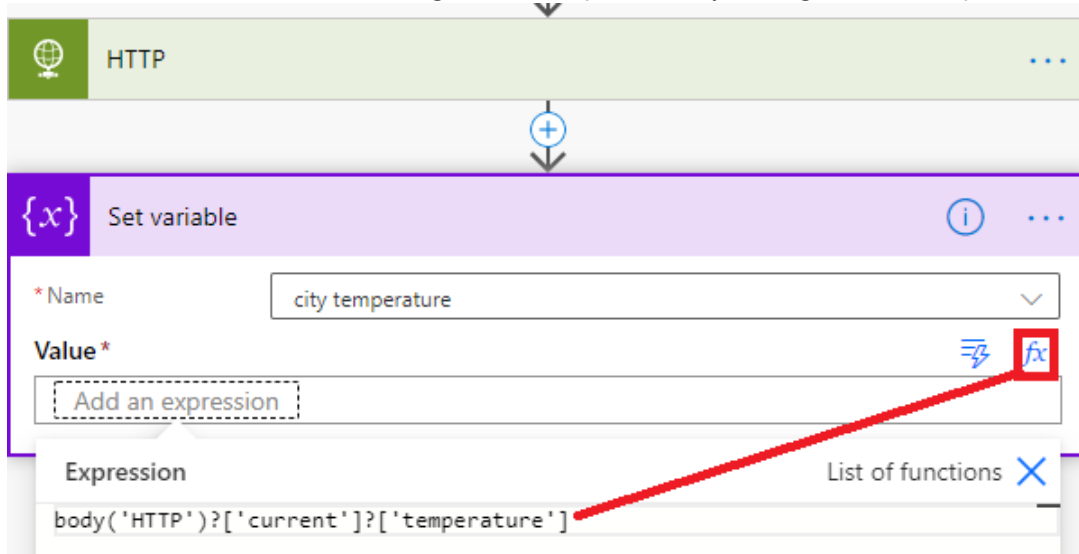
    "region": "Ile-de-France",
    "lat": "48.867",
    "lon": "2.333",
    "timezone_id": "Europe/Paris",
    "localtime": "2019-09-25 19:52",
    "localtime_epoch": 1569441120,
    "utc_offset": "2.0"
  },
  "current": {
    "observation_time": "05:52 PM",
    "temperature": 18,
    "weather_code": 116,
    "weather_icons": [
      "https://assets.weatherstack.com/images/wsymbols01_png_64/wsymb01_0004_black_low_cloud.png"
    ],
    "weather_descriptions": [
      "Partly cloudy"
    ],
    "wind_speed": 24,
    "wind_degree": 240,
    "wind_dir": "WSW",
    "pressure": 1008,
    "precip": 0.8,
    "humidity": 73,
    "cloudcover": 75,
    "feelslike": 18,
    "uv_index": 0,
    "visibility": 10,
    "is_day": "no"
  }
}

```

- Now we will store the current temperature in a variable. Create a string variable named **city temperature**:



10. Add a **Set variable** action that will grab the temperature, by adding a custom expression:



11. Run the Flow and check the variable content.

